

**GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**Florence “Conrad” Jaffy Papers
1952 - 1984**

Call Number: GLC 33

Extent: 1.25 linear feet

Acquisition: The Papers (#97-23) were given to GLHS in 1993 as part of the Del Martin/Phyllis Lyon Papers (#93-13).

Access: The Papers are open for research.

Audio-Visual Materials: The Papers contain photographs. The photographs are housed at the GLBT Historical Society.

Processed by: Barbara Blinick, July 1997

Biographical Sketch

Florence Jaffy was the Research Director for the Daughters of Bilitis (DOB) from 1960 (?) to 1970, where she worked under the alias of Florence Conrad. She appears to have been in charge of gathering information, handling a variety of correspondence, working with groups who wanted research questionnaires submitted to DOB membership, and maintaining a file of newsclippings, among other work. She also contributed book reviews to *The Ladder*, especially for non-fiction and psychology books. She was an active correspondent with a variety of prominent lesbian and gay activists, including Barbara Gittings, Barbara Grier (aka Gene Damon) and Frank Kameny. She was also quick to respond to any negative portrayal of lesbians in the media, and the files include numerous letters to editors, authors and academics critiquing their work.

In her public life Jaffy was a professor of Economics at the College of San Mateo (CSM), in San Mateo, California. The Personal Reference File shows an interest in issues such as comparable worth, affirmative action, discrimination, Title IX, wage differentials, women and employment and psychology, among other topics. She appeared to be an avid reader and someone who was quick to voice her opinion. Upon her death in the fall of 1986 a scholarship was started in her memory at CSM.

Scope and Content Note

The Papers (1.25 linear feet) consists of three series. The first series includes materials from when Jaffy was the DOB research director. The second series is a Personal Reference File. The third series is a very limited set of photographs. The DOB series consists of bibliographies, general correspondence and correspondence specific to her work as research director, and series of letter between herself and Barbara Gittings, Barbara Grier and Frank Kameny. The Gittings letters from 1963 to 1971, and the Grier letters from 1968 to 1970, focus primarily on *The Ladder*, and are of particular interest for their insight into the inner workings of DOB. They also include commentary about a variety of actions taken by the group as well as discussions about personal relations between some of the members of the groups. The Kameny letter (and clippings) comment on Kameny's work, and are not personal in nature. The collection also includes a long series of letters concerning DOB's participation in responding to a questionnaire by the Gender Identity Research Clinic at UCLA, as well as the actual questionnaire, its results and subsequent articles written about the results. There is also a small file of newsclippings, a brief history of DOB, and a group of research papers on homosexuality. Finally, there is a survey of psychologists about their views on homosexuality, which Jaffy and DOB helped to prepare as well as disseminate.

Jaffy's personal papers are largely reflective of her professional life as an economics professor and her interest in issues relating to women and equal rights. They include a large amount of clippings and articles about comparable worth, affirmative action, the Bakke case, the Equal Rights Amendment and international women's issues. It also includes files on the legal aspects of discrimination and affirmative action, protective laws, psychology, religion, Title IX, wage differentials and the Women's Equity Action League. Finally there is a series of folders relating to women and economics, employment, discrimination and social security.

Related Collections at GLHS

Del Martin/Phyllis Lyon Papers (#93-13).

Materials Removed from the Collection

Association for Responsible Citizenship (ARC) Newsletter (Sacramento Homophile group's newsletter).

Homosexuality and Psychological Functioning, Freedman, Mark, Wadsworth Publishing Co., 1971.

Various homophile newsletters and Council on Religion and the Homosexual printed materials.

Photographs are in the photo room at the GLBT Historical Society.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1 DOB Research Director Files

Association for Responsible Citizenship (ARC) (Sacramento homophile group)

Bibliographies

Book notes

Albany Trust (British group)

Correspondence: 1952 – 1972

Correspondence concerning research: 1964 – 1970

Gender Identity Research Clinic Questionnaire and correspondence

Gittings, Barbara: correspondence

Grier, Barbara (aka Gene Damon): correspondence

History of Daughters of Bilitis

Kameny, Frank: correspondence and articles

National Legal Defense Fund

News clippings

Religion/Council on Religion and the Homosexual (CRH)

Research papers

Sex Information and Education Council of the United States (SEICUS)

Survey of Psychologists about homosexuality/correspondence

Personal Reference Files

Bakke Case

Comparable Worth

Course Listings on Women and Sex Roles: U.C. Berkeley/1983

Death and Dying

Equal Rights Amendment

France

Hemlock Society

International Women's Issues

Legal Aspects of Discrimination and Affirmative Action

Lesbian and Gay History Projects

Pensions

Political Science/Liberalism

Protective Laws

Psychology

Religion

Title IX

Wage Differentials

Women and Economics: general information

Women and Employment

Women and Employment Discrimination

Women and Social Security

Women's Equity Action League

Photographs [located in photo room at GLBT Historical Society]