



ArchivesSpace

Guide to the Ruth Milkman Papers LP002097

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Walter P. Reuther Library

5401 Cass Avenue

Detroit, MI 48202

URL: <http://reuther.wayne.edu>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Walter P. Reuther Library
Creator:	Milkman, Ruth, 1954-
Title:	Ruth Milkman Papers
ID:	LP002097
Date [inclusive]:	1975-1994
Date [bulk]:	bulk
Physical Description:	6.75 Linear Feet (5 SB, 2 OS), 1 photograph. Includes 103 audiocassettes.
Physical Location:	2S-F-14(2), 3W-N-2(5), 3W-Z-1(1)
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	Material entirely in English.
Abstract:	Ruth Milkman (1954-) is a professor of sociology at the CUNY Graduate Center and the academic director at the Joseph F. Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies. Her professional focus is labor and labor movements, and she has published on a variety of topics revolving around work and organized labor in the United States. She received her B.A. from Brown University and her M.A. from the University of California, Berkley. Milkman's early research focused on women workers during the economic and war crisis of the 1930s and 1940s. Her next period of research focused on the restructuring of the U.S. automobile industry and its impact on its workers and unions. She also studied Japanese-owned factories in California at this time. Her studies now focus on low wage immigrant workers, including their working conditions and labor organizations. The Ruth Milkman Papers are predominantly research materials for her published reports on the employee buyouts at the GM Linden Plant in New Jersey. Included are various articles, studies, clippings, and UAW published materials she used in her research. Of particular note are Milkman's interviews with plant workers, which were critical to her reports on the GM Linden Plant.

Citation Style

“Ruth Milkman Papers, Box [#], Folder [#], Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University”

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History

Ruth Milkman (1954-) is a professor of sociology at the CUNY Graduate Center and the academic director at the Joseph F. Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies. Her professional focus is labor and labor movements, and she has published on a variety of topics revolving around work and organized labor in the United States. She received her B.A. from Brown University and her M.A. from the University of California, Berkley. Milkman’s early research focused on women workers during the economic and war crisis of the 1930s and 1940s. Her next period of research focused on the restructuring of the U.S. automobile industry and its impact on its workers and unions. She also studied Japanese-owned factories in California at this time. Her studies now focus on low wage immigrant workers, including their working conditions and labor organizations.

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Scope and Content

The Ruth Milkman Papers are predominantly research materials for her published reports on the employee buyouts at the GM Linden Plant in New Jersey. Included are various articles, studies, clippings, and UAW published materials she used in her research. Of particular note are Milkman’s oral history interviews with plant workers, which were critical to her reports on the GM Linden Plant.

Seventy-three oral history interviews were recorded with individuals or groups. Some of the group interviews are with groups of named individuals and others include the following general groups: Linden Workers and AGU Apprentices; Clark Workers; Focus Groups #1 and #2; and Plant Tour. Recordings exist for all 73 interviews.

Transcripts exist for all but 12 interviews: Linden Workers and AGU apprentices, Plant Tour, and 10 interviews with individuals.

In conducting and publishing her research, Ruth Milkman assigned pseudonyms to all of her interviewees. Interviewees are identified by real name in the papers and recordings. Consult the Use Restriction Note for guidance.

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Arrangement

Folders in this collection are not necessarily arranged in any particular order. The box folder listing provides an inventory based on their original order. Subjects may be dispersed throughout the collection. Audiotapes are arranged alphabetically by last name of the interviewee.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Walter P. Reuther Library

5401 Cass Avenue

Detroit, MI 48202

URL: <http://reuther.wayne.edu>

Revision Description

Added and expanded oral history information. 2015-09-10

Acquisition

Donated to the Walter P. Reuther Library by Ruth Milkman on December 23, 2009.

Processing History

Processed and finding aid written by Kaitlyn Jedro on July 2, 2013. Oral history materials processed and finding aid revised by Rebecca Bizonet on September 10, 2015.

Access

Collection is open for research.

Use

Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library "Rules for Use of Archival Materials" .

RESTRICTIONS: Researchers may encounter records of a sensitive nature – personnel files, case records and those involving investigations, legal and other private matters. Privacy laws and restrictions imposed by the Library prohibit the use of names and other personal information which might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.

Due to the personal nature of oral history, the Library prohibits use of the material in any way that infringes on individual right to privacy, or results in libelous statements or slander, in accordance with U.S. law. Permission to quote from or publish oral history interviews or identify any interviewee by name must be obtained from the Library Director, donor, and/or interviewee.

Copies

Duplicate tapes exist for 30 interviews.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

UAW Local 595 Records

Transfers

Audiotapes (Boxes 6-7) and one photograph (see AV Material) were transferred to the Reuther's Audiovisual Department.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Oral histories
- Transcripts
- Sound recordings
- Automobile industry workers

- Labor movement
- Labor unions
- Strikes and lockouts
- Automation
- Automobile industry and trade
- Milkman, Ruth, 1954-
- General Motors Corporation
- International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America
- International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America. Local 595 (Linden, N.J.)

Other Access Aids

Finding aid is also available as a PDF file. <http://reuther.wayne.edu/files/LP002097.pdf>

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Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Anti-Concessions Movement in the UAW	box 1	folder 1
Interviews and Transcripts Contains sensitive materials - please refer to Use restrictions on page one.	box 1	folder 2-33
80 hour training curriculum information	box 1	folder 34
Interviews and Transcripts. Contains sensitive materials - please refer to Use restrictions on page one.	box 1	folder 35-47
Buyout interviews/consent forms, 6/89	box 1	folder 48
Interviews and Transcripts. Contains sensitive materials - please refer to Use restrictions on page one.	box 1	folder 49-65
Clippings	box 2	folder 1
GM Linden publications	box 2	folder 2
NLRB materials, post 1978	box 2	folder 3
EEOC GM case	box 2	folder 4
NLRB cases from Field collection correspondence, post 1978	box 2	folder 5
Delays and related correspondence, 1978	box 2	folder 6

settlement, 1978	box 2	folder 7
Environmentalists for Full Employment	box 2	folder 8
Trip to Detroit, 1986	box 2	folder 9
Linden study	box 2	folder 10
Detroit trip, 6/87	box 2	folder 11
Final version preliminary report master copy	box 2	folder 12
Buyout report	box 2	folder 13
Buyout report	box 2	folder 14
Research materials	box 2	folder 15
Transcript. Contains sensitive materials - please refer to Use restrictions on page one.	box 2	folder 16
Linden history	box 2	folder 17
Articles on Linden	box 2	folder 18
NLRB docs re Linden, ca.1940	box 2	folder 19
NYT clips on Linden, 1937-74	box 2	folder 20
Interviewing/field work articles	box 2	folder 21
Notebook	box 2	folder 22
Statement, 4/28/82	box 2	folder 23
Third buyout leads	box 2	folder 24
Union materials	box 2	folder 25
Union materials	box 2	folder 26
J&J Workers Leaflets	box 2	folder 27
Correspondence	box 2	folder 28
GM materials	box 2	folder 29
Linden field work	box 2	folder 30
Maps	box 2	folder 31
Relevant to Linden, 1988-89	box 2	folder 32
Access requests	box 2	folder 33
Katz materials	box 2	folder 34
Competitive and secure employment program	box 2	folder 35
UAW jobs, retraining, etc.	box 3	folder 1
Jobs bank information	box 3	folder 2
Jobs bank information		

	box 3	folder 3
Jobs bank information	box 3	folder 4
GM jobs bank information, 1987	box 3	folder 5
Milkman publications	box 3	folder 6
Research articles	box 3	folder 7
Dislocated workers	box 3	folder 8
Technological change and job security report	box 3	folder 9
Technological change and job security preliminary report	box 3	folder 10
Survey of Linden-GM buyout report	box 3	folder 11
Technological change report revisions	box 3	folder 12
MacLennan	box 3	folder 13
Mahwah study	box 3	folder 14
McAlinden study	box 3	folder 15
Buyout talk	box 3	folder 16
Wells v. GM, 1989	box 3	folder 17
Bluestone study	box 3	folder 18
Lead hazzards in the workplace	box 3	folder 19
GM-Linden leaflets	box 3	folder 20
Pay problems	box 3	folder 21
GM clippings	box 3	folder 22
Operation work assignment	box 3	folder 23
Health safety leaflets	box 3	folder 24
GM-Linden materials	box 3	folder 25
Linden clippings	box 3	folder 26
Information regarding SQS publicitiy	box 3	folder 27
Leaflets	box 3	folder 28
Mt. Sinai lead program	box 3	folder 29
Safety data	box 3	folder 30
Non-traditional job requests	box 3	folder 31
SM bus failure rates	box 3	folder 32
Grievance data	box 3	folder 33
Grievance data	box 3	folder 34

UAW data on productivity	box 4	folder 1
Data on productivity and man power	box 4	folder 2
VTEP data and mutuals	box 4	folder 3
Democracy and Dues Committee meeting minutes	box 4	folder 4
Poems to be printed	box 4	folder 5
NLRB field documents, post 1978	box 4	folder 6
GM denial letters in 1978 cases	box 4	folder 7
NLRB case documents, 1978	box 4	folder 8
NLRB order, 1975	box 4	folder 9
NLRB (FOIA) affidavits	box 4	folder 10
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Interviews and data	box 4	folder 14
Wages	box 4	folder 15
Election related flyers	box 4	folder 16
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UAW SQS flyers	box 4	folder 18
Union related leaflets	box 4	folder 19
Deposition of John Field	box 4	folder 20
Continued deposition of John Field	box 4	folder 21
Continued deposition of John Field	box 4	folder 22
Continued deposition of John Field	box 4	folder 23
Continued deposition of John Field	box 4	folder 24
Clippings and notes	box 4	folder 25
Linden plant health and safety	box 4	folder 26
GM clippings	box 4	folder 27
Union related materials	box 4	folder 28
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Grievance appeal cases	box 4	folder 30
Institute for Labor Educaton and Research- Jane Field	box 4	folder 31
Institute for Labor Educaton and Research- Jane Field	box 4	folder 32

Compensation	box 5	folder 1
Union education materials	box 5	folder 2
Shop News bulletins	box 5	folder 3
Layoffs and strikes	box 5	folder 4
Women	box 5	folder 5
Song sheets	box 5	folder 6
GM clippings	box 5	folder 7
Article lists	box 5	folder 8
Minor interest union flyers	box 5	folder 9
EEOC case, 1981	box 5	folder 10
GM Linden Plant case study	box 5	folder 11
Shop committee minutes	box 5	folder 12
Linden plant research materials	box 5	folder 13
Notebook	box 5	folder 14
Notebook	box 5	folder 15
Personal interests and cards	box 5	folder 16
John Field election leaflets	box 5	folder 17
Linden Auto Workers cacaus	box 5	folder 18
National contract	box 5	folder 19
Education	box 5	folder 20
OSHA materials	box 5	folder 21
Health and safety information	box 5	folder 22
Information on union procedures	box 5	folder 23
Information on union procedures	box 5	folder 24
Union leaflets and publications	box 5	folder 25
Union leaflets and publications	box 5	folder 26
GM planned leadership program	box 5	folder 27
Linden plant leaflets	box 5	folder 28
Linden plant layoffs	box 5	folder 29
Linden report master copy	box 5	folder 30
Linden plant memos	box 5	folder 31
Gas crisis	box 5	folder 32

Autoworkers and Alienaton study	box 5	folder 33
Autoworkers and Alienaton study	box 5	folder 34
Linden buyout study sample letter	box 5	folder 35
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Linden plant hours available	box 5	folder 41
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Oral History Audiotapes. Contains sensitive materials - please refer to Use restrictions on page one.	box 6	case 1-32
Oral History Audiotapes. Contains sensitive materials - please refer to Use restrictions on page one.	box 7	case 33-60
Photograph; UAW Local 595 group	box AV	object 1