

THE CARL COHEN COLLECTION

Papers, 1966-1974  
(Predominantly, 1971-1974)

5.5 linear feet

Accession No. 663

The papers of Carl Cohen were placed in the Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs in August of 1974 by Mr. Carl Cohen and were opened for research in

Carl Cohen was born in 1931. He graduated summa cum laude in 1951 from the University of Miami. He later received his M.A. from the University of Illinois, and his Ph.D. from U.C.L.A. . In 1961 Mr. Cohen was a Fulbright Lecturer in Peru. Since 1955 he has taught courses in political and social philosophy at the University of Michigan, where he was Associate Professor of Philosophy and Associate Director of the Residential College. Mr. Cohen served as the Chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union of Ann Arbor, Michigan, until the Spring of 1971, when he was elected Chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) was founded in 1920 by Roger Baldwin, and, as of 1976, has a staff of 330, a membership of 275,000, with 50 state affiliates. The primary purpose of the ACLU is to champion the rights of man as set forth in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution: freedom of inquiry and expression, speech, press, assembly, and religion for everybody; due process of law and fair trial for all; equality before the law for all, regardless of race, color, national origin, political opinion or religious belief. In pursuit of these ends, the ACLU is active in test court cases, opposition to repressive legislation, and protests on every inroad of human rights. The one Division of the ACLU is the American Civil Liberties Foundation, which was established as a tax deductible arm of the ACLU. Its main purposes are legal defense and research, and education on behalf of civil liberties.

The papers of Mr. Cohen reflect his work with the Michigan ACLU, as well as the stance of the ACLU on various issues on both the Michigan and National levels.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Abortion, 1971-74  
Amnesty, 1970-73  
Businr, 1971-72  
Conscientious Objectors, 1966-72  
Impeachment of Nixon, 1973-74  
Prisoner's Rights, 1971-74  
Women's Rights, 1967-74

Among the correspondents are: (an index to the location of these letters will be found on the last page of the guide)

Gary Brown  
John Conyers  
Marvin Esch  
Jack Faxon  
Gerald Ford  
Martha Griffiths  
Robert Griffin

Milton Marovich  
Ernest Mazey  
William Milliken  
Aryeh Neier  
Rolland O'Hare  
Alan Reitman  
Robert Richardson

Contents

11 manuscript boxes

Series I, Boxes 1-3

Correspondence, memos, press releases, clippings, dealing with various civil liberty issues, both Michigan and National.

Series II, Boxes 4-8

Correspondence, memos, agendas, minutes, notes and other materials relating to ACLU organizational matters. Part A deals with the Michigan ACLU, while Part B deals with the ACLU on the National level.

Series III, Boxes 8-9

Correspondence, clippings, memos, dealing with Michigan ACLTU Branches and Chapters. Organizational matters, rather than issues, are emphasized.

Series IV, Boxes 9-10

Correspondence files dealing mainly with personal or non-official matters, mostly on the Michigan ACLU level.

Series V, Box 11

Items of a non-substantive and non-organizational nature, which are peripherally related to the ACLU.

Non-manuscript material

Numerous publications, pamphlets, ACLU newspapers, newsletters, and annual reports which relate to many issues covered in the body of the collection. Most of these items have been placed in the Archives Library; those of special interest would include the following: SP.

ACLU Reports: The Nixon Administration and the Press  
Public Television: A Question of Survival  
Corrooral Punishment in Public Schools

pamphlets: Prayer in Public Schools  
Sexual Equality  
Busing  
Conscientious Objectors

Series I Issues File  
"Boxes 1-3

Series I is the issues file dealing with civil liberty matters on both the Michigan ACLU and National ACLU levels. The files are arranged alphabetically by topic, and chronologically within each topic, and cover the period of January 1966 to April 5, 1974.

Box 1

folder

1. Abortion; March, 1971-March 12, 1974
2. Academic Freedom; June, 1969-Sept. 23, 1971
3. Access to Media; Sept. 1971-June 27, 1974
4. Activity Reports; July, 1971-Nov. 1972
5. Afro-American Cultural Center (U-M); Feb. 28, 1972-April 12, 1972
6. Amnesty; Oct. 13, 1970-July 24, 1973
7. Anti-Vietnam War File; Nov. 23, 1971-Jan. 15, 1973
8. "Argus" (Ann Arbor, Mi.) "Drug Raid; Jan. 19, 1971
9. Panic Records Confidentiality; Sept. 12, 1972-Nov.28, 1973
10. Bill of Rights Day; Oct. 27, 1969- Dec. 1973
11. Book Burning; April 10, 1973-April 12, 1973
12. Busing; Sept. 28, 1971-Dec. 13, 1972
13. Church-State Issues; Sept. 1, 1972-June 11, 1973
14. Civil disobedience; April, 1968-Feb. 1, 1969
15. Congressional Issues; March 23, 1971-1973
- 16-17. Conscientious Objectors; Jan. 1966-July 28, 1972
- 18-19. Conscription; Nov. 17, 1966-May 31, 1973
20. Criminal Code Revisions; Dec. 9, 1971-Sept. 11, 1973
21. Death Penalty; Jan. 16, 1973-April 5, 1974
22. Due Process Issues; 1970-Jan.17, 1972

Box 2

1. Equal Rights; "Dec. 17, 1970-Feb. 5, 1974
2. Fleming, R.W. (U-M President) File; March 11, 1953-Dec. 6, 1970

3. Flynn (Elizabeth Gurley) Exclusion Controversy; Dec. 28, 1973-Feb. 1, 1974
- 4-5. Free-Speech/Association Issues; Jan. 18, 1970-Feb. 25, 1973
6. Freedom of the Press; March 29, 1971-April 2, 1973
7. Governmental Classification of Information; Nov. 8, 1971-Oct. 25, 1973
8. Grand Jury Controversy; Aug. 2, 1971-July 5, 1972
9. Hair Length; July 8, 1971-Sept. 4, 1973
10. Impeachment (Nixon); July 18, 1973-Feb. 15, 1974
11. Insurance Company Investigation Controversy; Oct. 23, 1972-Nov. 2, 1973
12. Judicial Reform; Nov. 9, 1971-April 6, 1974
13. Juvenile Rights; Jan. 14, 1972-June 12, 1972
14. Legal Services Legislation; April 27, 1973-Oct. 19, 1973
15. Marijuana; Oct., 1959-June 7, 1972
- 16-17. Mental Health; June 1, 1972-Nov. 21, 1973

Box 3

1. Mentally Handicapped-Education; Oct. 12, 1971-Aug., 1973
2. Movie Censorship; June 10, 1971-March 19, 1972
3. Parochialism; April 15, 1972-Oct. 11, 1972
4. "Politics and the ACLU;" Dec, 1971-March, 1972
5. Population Control; Nov. 19, 1971-Jan. 19, 1972
6. Poverty; March 9, 1959-Nov. 1, 1973
- 7-8. Prisoner's Rights; July 23, 1971-June 11, 1972
9. Public Assembly; April 25, 1972
10. Public Broadcasting; Oct. 1, 1971-March 22, 1972
11. Refusal to Salute Flag; Oct. 28, 1971-March 26, 1972
12. School Prayers; Sept. 23, 1971-Nov. 9, 1971
13. South End (Wayne U. newspaper); Feb. 13, 1973-March 6, 1973
14. Subversive Activities Control Board; July 2, 1971-Aug. 19, 1971
15. Surveillance; Oct., 1971-March 1, 1974
16. Wage-Price Freeze; Oct. 19, 1971-March 14, 1972
17. Watergate; March 8, 1973-Oct. 10, 1973
- 18-20. Women's Rights-Sexism; Feb. 11, 1967-Feb. 23, 1974
21. Zoning; June 11, 1972-Dec. 1, 1972

Series II Organization File  
Boxes 4-8

Series II is the Organizational File for both the Michigan ACLU and the National ACLU. Part A covers the Michigan ACLU and includes the bulk of the material in this series. Organizational issues, functions, and committees are covered, with special emphasis on the Board of Directors Meetings, Material covering the formation of the Michigan ACLTU Foundation (Fund) is also of interest. Part B covers organizational matters on the National level, with special attention given to legal action, as seen in the Dockets and Briefs files. The files are arranged alphabetically by topic, and chronologically within each topic, and cover the period Nov. 23, 1968 to June 1, 1974.

Box 4 Part A-Michigan ACLU  
folder

1. Access to Membership; Nov., 1969-March, 1973
2. Administrative Committee; Sept. 19, 1971-Oct. 23, 1971
3. Advisory Committee; June 18, 1971 -Jan. 17, 1974
- 4-5. Annual Dinner; Dec. 3, 1971-Feb. 11, 1973
- 6-14. Board of Directors Meeting Piles; Nov. 23, 1968-Dec. 15, 1973

Box 5

- 1-5. Board of Directors Meeting; Piles; Jan. 21, 1974-June 1, 1974
6. Branches and Chapters; Jan. 1, 1969-May 20, 1974
7. Budget and Finance; Jan. 1, 1969-May 23, 1974
8. By-Laws and Revisions; June 3, 1971-Jan. 21, 1974
- 9-10. Fund (ACLU of Mich.) Piles; July 6, 1972-June 1, 1974
11. Lawyer's Committee; June 20, 1972-April 18, 1974

Box 6

1. Liason Members; Oct. 31, 1971-Dec. 18, 1972
- 2-3. Legislative Action Council; Feb. 8, 1969-March 14, 1974
4. Michigan Development Council; Oct. 25, 1969-May 5, 1972

Part B-National ACLU

5. Advisory Council; Nov., 1971-Nov. 2, 1972
6. Affiliates; Jan. 22, 1971-April 24, 1974
7. Biennial Conference; Aug. 19, 1969-May 9, 1974
- 8-9. Board of Directors Piles; June 22, 1971-Feb., 1973
10. Budget; Sept. 21, 1971-Nov. 27, 1972
11. Committees; Sept., 1971

Box 7

1. Constitution and By-Laws; March, 1965-June 30, 1973
2. Constitution Committee; Sept. 17, 1971-June 11, 1972
3. Executive Committee; June 11, 1971-July 21, 1972
4. Legal Dockets and Briefs; Aug. 13, 1971-Feb. 1, 1973
- 5-10. Legal Dockets and Briefs, Cumulative; June 1973-June 1974

Box 8

1. Legal Dockets and Briefs, Government Surveillance and Data Collection Cases; Nov., 1972
2. Legal Dockets and Briefs, Sexual Privacy Project; Dec. 1973
- 3-5. Legal Dockets and Briefs, Women's Rights Projects; Jan., 1973-early 1974
6. Litigation Guide; July 15, 1969-March 29, 1972
7. Steering Committee; July 2, 1971-Jan. 21, 1972

Series III Michigan ACLU Branches and Chapters File  
Boxes 8-9

Series III is mainly an organization file dealing with Michigan ACLU Branches and Chapters. Organizational issues, meeting notes, agendas, minutes, and other organizational items are included, with relatively little coverage of civil liberty issues. The files are arranged alphabetically by name of branch or chapter, and are arranged chronologically within each branch or chapter, and cover the Period from June 1971 to August 1974.

Box 8

folder

8. Ann Arbor-Washtenaw; June 23, 1971-April, 1974
9. Central Michigan; Dec. 6, 1972-April 23, 1974
10. Flint; Oct. 28, 1971-Nov. 29, 1973
11. Kalamazoo; July 8, 1973-April 14, 1974
12. Lansing; Aug. 3, 1972-Kay 2, 1974
- 13-15. Metropolitan Detroit; June, 1971-Oct. 24, 1973

Box 9

1. Northwest Michigan; April 24, 1973-July 20, 1973
2. Saginaw Valley; June, 1971-May 19, 1972
3. Upper Peninsula; Oct. 13, 1973
4. Western Michigan; June, 1971-July, 1974

Series IV Correspondence File  
Boxes 9-11

Series IV is the correspondence file of Mr. Cohen, which deals mainly with personal or non-official matters, or the day-to-day operation of the Michigan ACLU. A small amount of material also relates to a few issues not extensively covered in the issues file. The files are arranged chronologically and cover the period from September 11, 1969 to June 21, 1974.

Box 9 folder

- 5-16. Correspondence; Sept. 11, 1969-Nov. 30, 1972

Box 10 1-12. Correspondence; Dec. 1, 1972-Dec. 31, 1973

Box 11 1-5. Correspondence; Jan. 6, 1974-June 21, 1974

Series V Miscellaneous Items  
Box 11

Series V covers those items which are related to the ACLU but are non-substantive or non-organizational in nature. This series covers a diverse range of subjects which are arranged alphabetically by topic, and chronologically within each topic, and covers the period July 1, 1971 to September, 1973.

Box 1 1

folder

6. Cooperating Attorneys; July 1, 1971-June, 1972
7. Donors; 1971
8. Fund-Raising Films; Sept. 17, 1971
9. Literature (ACLU) Available; June, 1971-Sept., 1973
10. Observer Instructions
11. Politician's Biographies; 1973

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Conyors, John, 1-12; 10-6  
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Mazey, Ernest, 1-1,12,20,21; 2-12,16,17; 3-7,12,17;. 4-2,3,6,8; 5-2,6,7,  
9th11; 6-1,3,4,7; 8-9; also many letters in the correspondence  
files of Series IV.  
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