



ArchivesSpace

Society for Individual Rights Collection

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Finding aid is in English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

James C. Hormel Gay & Lesbian Center

100 Larkin Street
San Francisco 94102

info@sfpl.org

URL: <http://sfpl.org/gaylesbian>

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Summary Information

Repository:	James C. Hormel Gay & Lesbian Center
Creator:	Society for Individual Rights
Title:	Society for Individual Rights Collection
ID:	GLC 80
Date [inclusive]:	1960-1969
Physical Description:	0.75 Cubic Feet (in 2 boxes)
Physical Location:	The collection is stored onsite.
Physical Location:	The collection is stored in L65.
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	Collections materials are in English.
Abstract:	Meeting minutes, flyers, bylaws, press releases, proposals, policy statements, articles, pamphlets, surveys, advertisements, clippings, event programs, constitution, and other material documenting the activities of the Society for Individual Rights (SIR), a homophile organization. Founded in San Francisco in 1964, SIR's goals included public affirmation of gay and lesbian identity, elimination of victimless crime laws, providing a range of social services (including legal aid) to "gays in difficulties," and promoting a sense of a gay and lesbian community.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Society for Individual Rights Collection (GLC 80), LGBTQIA Center, San Francisco Public Library.

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Biographical / Historical

Founded in San Francisco in 1964, the Society for Individual Rights (SIR)'s goals included public affirmation of gay and lesbian identity, elimination of victimless crime laws, providing a range of social services (including legal aid) to "gays in difficulties," and promoting a sense of a gay and lesbian community. SIR demanded equal rights and decried government-sanctioned discrimination.

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Scope and Contents

The collection contains meeting minutes, flyers, bylaws, press releases, proposals, policy statements, articles, pamphlets, surveys, advertisements, clippings, event programs, constitution, and other material documenting the activities of the Society for Individual Rights (SIR). The publications include brochures and two editions of the S.I.R. Pocket Lawyer which contained instructions on one's rights if arrested. Also of note are: the SIRlebrity Capades programs from the mid-1960s with photos and short biographies of performers; the Dorian Book Service catalogs from 1960; and, early issues of Vanguard.

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Arrangement

The collection is not arranged.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

James C. Hormel Gay & Lesbian Center

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URL: <http://sfpl.org/gaylesbian>

Access

The collection is available for use during San Francisco History Center hours.

Publication Rights

All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the City Archivist. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the San Francisco Public Library as the owner of the physical items.

Provenance

The collection combines 2 folders of SIR material that the library owned with two small accessions received from Lou Harrison and from Robert Berner before 1996. Harrison was a member of SIR and his donation did not contain any personal material. Berner was on the Publications Committee and some of the material he donated relates to drafts of SIR-published materials.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Gay organizations, centers, etc. -- California -- San Francisco.
- Society for Individual Rights -- Archives
- Society for Individual Rights

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances
Brochures: "Vote Today" and "Come On In" , November 2, 1965; [1967]	
The S.I.R. Pocket Lawyer; and, In Case of Arrest: The S.I.R. Pocket Lawyer (4 items), undated	
<i>The Armed Services & Homosexuality</i> (Essays on Homosexuality, Essay no. 1), [196-]	
SIR's Statement of Policy, undated	
<i>Sirlebrity Capades of 1965</i> [2 copies], 1965	

Sirlebrity Capades of 1966, 1966

Sticker: "Warning: Your Police Are Armed and Dangerous" ,
undated

SIR Ability Bank questionnaire, undated

Small Activities Interest sheet, undated

Meeting minutes, Articles of Incorporation, Constitution and
Bylaws, Agenda, 1965-1968

ARC (Association for Responsible Citizenship): a Homophile
Organization. Program: "The Homosexual 1967" Sacramento,
March 31, 1967

ONE Confidential, Tangents, ONE Letter, ONE Incorporated,
1963-1969

Slater, Don

Tangents, Committee to Fight Exclusion of Homosexuals from the
Armed Services brochure, 1966

*A Brief of Injustices: an Indictment of Our Society in its Treatment
of the Homosexual* (San Francisco, Calif.: the Council on Religion
and the Homosexual, Inc.), 1965

Dorian Book Service [4th annual listing]; and, *Dorian Book
Quarterly* (San Francisco) nos. 1, 2, 4, 1960

Confidentiality of Records of Public Health Venereal Disease
Clinics, undated

Founding of SIR 1964 (Correspondence) [Berner], 1964

SIR 1965 [Berner], 1965

Episcopal Diocese of California. Reprint and summation of report
submitted to the Diocesan Council by the Joint Committee on
Homosexuality [2 copies] [Harrison], [1966 or 1967]

Legg, W. Dorr. Notes and Questions taken from Lectures and
Discussions for "Introduction to Homophile studies" as given to
ONE Institute resident students [Harrison], 1964-1965

Cromey, Rev. R. W. "Ministry to the Homosexual" (Reprint of *The
Living Church*) [Harrison], January 8, 1967

Lucas, Donald S. [Report on the conference: "The Consultation on
the Church, Society and the Homosexual" (London" August 9-11,
1966)] [Harrison], October 3, 1966

Lucas, Donald S. "The Homosexuals Experience of the
Churches" [Harrison]

Town Talk (San Francisco, California: Tavern Guild), [v. 1], no. 4,
October 1964

Town Talk (San Francisco, California: Tavern Guild), v. 2, no. 3,
October/November 1965

Vanguard. V (San Francisco, California: Vanguard), v. 1, no. 1
[Statement of Purpose], [1966?]

General note

Some issues have subtitles: "The Magazine of the Tenderloin,"
"The Magazine of the San Francisco Tenderloin / Youth
Movement Incorporated," and "San Francisco Youth
Movement."

Vanguard. V (San Francisco, California: Vanguard), v. 1, no. 2 (2
copies), October 1966

Vanguard. V (San Francisco, California: Vanguard), v. 1, no. 4,
February 1967

Vanguard. V (San Francisco, California: Vanguard), v. 1, no. 5,
[1967?]