



Young Socialist Alliance Collection (S0096)

Collection Number: S0096

Collection Title: Young Socialist Alliance Collection

Dates: 1974-1975

Creator: Young Socialist Alliance (St. Louis, Mo.)

Abstract: The Young Socialist Alliance Collection contains flyers, posters, newspaper clippings, court briefs, and issues of the *Young Socialist* from the St. Louis chapter of the Young Socialist Alliance from 1974-1975. The Young Socialist Alliance was the youth group within the Socialist Workers Party from 1960-1992 and promoted causes and candidates representing the Socialist Workers Party.

Collection Size: 0.01 cubic foot
(1 folder)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at stlouis@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Rights & Reproductions](#) on the Society's website for more information about reproductions and permission to publish.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Young Socialist Alliance Collection* (S0096); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-St. Louis].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection by Pat Haynes on January 21, 1975 (Accession No. SA0524).

Processed by: Processed by Rachael Heriford, May 2023

Historical Note:

The Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) was founded in 1960 to regroup younger members of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) and the Young Socialist League (YSL) in the aftermath of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956. The founding conference occurred in Philadelphia in April 1960. Two rival leadership parties emerged from its founding, with Tim Wohlforth, Shane Mage, and James Robertson representing the former YSL and Nora Roberts and Bert Deck representing the SWP. At the second annual YSA convention in Chicago, Wohlforth, and Roberston were removed from leadership positions due to their age and were replaced by Barry Sheppard and Peter Camejo, who would serve as national chairman and national secretary of YSA, respectively.

St. Louis had a local chapter of the YSA and held an annual conference at the Jefferson Hotel in 1974. Notable activities of the group included a national campaign defending Tom Morgan, Ralph Levitt, and Jim Bingham, who were Indiana University students and members of the YSA who were found guilty of violating the anticommunist statute in Indiana State Law in 1963. The YSA also supported the anti-Vietnam War movement from 1965 to the early 70s, which saw a substantial increase in membership in the YSA. However, by the end of the Vietnam War, YSA saw a massive drop off in membership throughout the 1980s, with the group formally dissolving by 1992. By 1994, the Social Workers Party created a new youth group, the Young Socialists, who are still active as of 2023.

Arrangement:

The collection has been maintained in its original order.

Scope and Content Note:

The Young Socialist Alliance Collection contains flyers, posters, court briefs, and issues of the *Young Socialists* from 1974-1975. The flyers, newspaper clippings, and posters advertising Young Socialist Alliance events, including the 14th Annual Young Socialist National Convention in St. Louis, and the 1974 National Student Conference Against Racism in Boston, Massachusetts. The collection also includes materials supporting Socialist Workers Party candidates in 1976 elections including Peter Camejo, and Willie Mae Reid for president and vice president of the United States, and Barbara Bowman for St. Louis Board of Aldermen. The court briefs are from a 1974 court case involving the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance suing the United States Government for activities including spying, harassment, integrating, and discrimination against members of the SWP and YSA. Finally, there are two issues of the *Young Socialists* from November and December of 1974 discussing the Boston desegregation busing crisis. The collection has been arranged into one folder. Materials in this collection have been maintained in its original order.

Container List:

- f. 1 Young Socialist Alliance materials, 1974-1975

Index:

Index Terms	Folder
Bowman, Barbara	1

Index Terms	Folder
Camejo, Peter, 1939-2008	1
Civil rights--United States--History--20th century	1
Mutnick, Barbara	1
Protest movements--United States--History--20th century	1
Radicalism--Missouri--Saint Louis	1
Reid, Willie Mae, 1928-	1
Ring, Harry, 1918-2007	1
Student movements--United States--History--20th century	1
Socialism and youth--Missouri--Saint Louis	1
Socialist Workers Party	1
Socialist Workers Party--Trials, litigation, etc.	1
Socialism--Missouri--Saint Louis	1
Socialism--Periodicals	1
Young Socialist Alliance (U.S.)	1
Young Socialist Alliance (U.S.)--Trials, litigation, etc.	1
United States. Department of Justice--Trials, litigation, etc.	1
United States. Federal Bureau of Investigation	1