



Sondra Stein Papers (S0508)

Collection Number: S0508

Collection Title: Sondra Stein Papers

Dates: 1969-1978, 2000-2001

Creator: Stein, Sondra

Abstract: The Sondra Stein Papers contain correspondence, newsletters, newspapers, and flyers documenting Stein's experiences as a graduate student in Washington University's English Department and her involvement as a political activist with the Washington University Liberation Front.

Collection Size: 0.5 cubic foot
(16 folders)

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: The Donor has given and assigned to the Society all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Sondra Stein Papers* (S0508); 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 State Historical Society of Missouri by Sondra Stein on July 17, 2023 (Accession No. SA4666).

Processed by: Processed by Zack Palitzsch, March 2024

Biographical Note:

Sondra Stein received her bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where she was also introduced to political activism and began participating in anti-war and economic inequality demonstrations. Stein came to St. Louis in 1968 to attend Washington University in pursuit of her master's degree and PhD in English. She became involved in the Washington University Liberation Front, a student-led anti-war activist group, and other activist groups in the area. She also taught in Washington University's nascent Women's Studies program and led the Feminist Coalition on campus. Following the completion of her PhD in 1976, Stein began teaching at New Hampshire College's School of Human Services. In 1980, she founded the Women's Educational and Vocational Enrichment program in Boston, Massachusetts, which taught adult literacy and job readiness to low-income minority women. While in Boston she was part two different socialist feminist groups, the Abortion Action Coalition, and the Campaign for Antiracist Education.

In the late 1980s, Stein became the director for Massachusetts' Commonwealth Literacy Campaign under Governor Mike Dukakis where she established literary initiatives in Massachusetts and other states. Following Dukakis' retirement from office in 1991, Stein went to work with National Governors' Association's State Literacy Exchange until 1993, when she moved to Washington D.C. to become a Senior Research Associate at the National Institute for Literacy (NIFL). There, she developed standards for nation-wide adult literacy programs and served as director for NIFL's Equipped for the Future program, a standards-based, collaborative adult literacy system reform initiative.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into alphabetically into 16 folders.

Scope and Content Note:

The Sondra Stein Papers contain correspondence, newsletters, newspapers, and flyers regarding Stein's activities as a women's rights, peace, political, and LGBTQ+ activist as well as her involvement in several such organizations and movements. Materials of note include booklets regarding issues such as women's rights, abortion, social conditions for women, LGBTQ+ rights, labor, and the Vietnam War. The materials date from 1969 to 1978 and from 2000 to 2001 and are arranged alphabetically.

Container List:

- f. 1 Biography and resume, no date
- f. 2 *Female Studies VII: Do-It-Yourself Women's Studies*, 1975
- f. 3 Feminist Coalition and women's programing, 1974-1975
- f. 4 General Electric strike, 1969-1970
- f. 5 *The Liberated Woman's Appointment Calendar*, 1975
- f. 6 *Moonstorm*, vol. 1, issue 2 and 5, 1973-1974
- f. 7 Nine Seven 6 event calendars, 1976
- f. 8 *Prime Time*, vol. 2, no. 5 and 6, 1976
- f. 9 *Science for the People*, vol. 6, no. 5; vol. 10, no. 3 and 4, 1974, 1978
- f. 10 Socialist Feminist Movement, 1972-1975
- f. 11 *St. Louis Outlaw*, vol. 3, no. 13, 1973

- f. 12 St. Louis Socialist Feminist Group, no date
- f. 13 Washington University Liberation Front, 1970, 2000-2001
- f. 14 Women's liberation publications, 1969-1973
- f. 15 *Women's Resources*, vol. 2, 1973
- f. 16 Women's Studies Planning Group, 1974-1976

Index:

Index Term	Folder
Abortion--Law and legislation	14
Feminism	2-3, 5-6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16
Gay community--Missouri--Saint Louis	6, 8
Gay liberation movement--Missouri--Saint Louis	6, 8
Gays--Missouri--Saint Louis--Periodicals	6, 8
General Electric Company	4
Know, Inc.	14
Lesbian community--Missouri--Saint Louis	6, 8
Lesbians--Missouri--Saint Louis--Periodicals	6, 8
Mechanic, Howard Lawrence	13
Science--Moral and ethical aspects	9
Science--Political aspects	9
Science--Social aspects	9
Sexual minorities--Missouri--Saint Louis	3, 6, 8
Socialist feminism	10, 12
Stein, Sondra	1-13
St. Louis Socialist Feminist Group	12
Strikes and lockouts	4
Student movements--Missouri--Saint Louis	13
Vietnam War, 1961-1975--Protests and movements--Missouri--Saint Louis	4, 13
Washington University Liberation Front	13
Washington University (Saint Louis, Mo.)	4, 13, 15-16
Women--Legal status, laws, etc.	14
Women--Missouri--Saint Louis	3, 6, 8, 12-15
Women political activists	1, 3, 5-6, 8, 10, 12-14
Women--Social conditions	3, 6, 10, 14
Women's rights	2-3, 5-6, 8, 10, 14
Women's studies	2, 16