

Collection 0022

**American Civil Liberties Union, Greater Philadelphia Branch  
Book production files for “Lesbians and Gay Men: The Law in Pennsylvania”**

1970-1982 [inclusive]  
1980-1981 [bulk]

1 linear foot

Processed by Steven Duckworth  
August 28, 2013

**American Civil Liberties Union, Greater Philadelphia Branch**  
**Book production files for “Lesbians and Gay Men: The Law in Pennsylvania”**  
SC0022

### Collection Summary

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<b>Title</b>	American Civil Liberties Union, Greater Philadelphia Branch Book production files for "Lesbians and Gay Men: The Law in Pennsylvania"
<b>Creator</b>	American Civil Liberties Union, Greater Philadelphia Branch
<b>Dates (inclusive)</b>	1970-1982
<b>Dates (bulk)</b>	1980-1981
<b>Size</b>	1 linear foot
<b>Language of material</b>	English
<b>Repository location</b>	John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives Philadelphia, PA
<b>Identification</b>	SC0022

### Administrative History

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The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) was founded in 1920 to defend and protect the “individual rights and personal freedoms” of all Americans. Members consist of attorneys, advocates, and volunteers who advocate, educate, and litigate to “preserve and promote civil liberties.” These liberties include the freedom of speech, privacy rights, reproductive rights, and others. The ACLU defends against bigotry and bias in any form. They advocate for the equal rights of workers, minorities, women, and gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people.

The ACLU of Pennsylvania takes part in a broad range of “legal, legislative, and public education” initiatives in active support of “lesbian and gay civil rights.”

“Lesbians and gay men: The law in Pennsylvania” (Hilda Silverman, editor) was published in 1981 in Philadelphia, PA by the American Civil Liberties Foundation of Pennsylvania, American Civil Liberties Union Greater Philadelphia Branch (distributor).

### Scope and Content Note

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This collection consists of records relating to the writing, editing, and publication of the book “Lesbians and Gay Men: The Law in Pennsylvania,” published in 1981 by the ACLU of Greater Philadelphia. Records in the collection include drafts of the book chapters, various correspondence with chapter contributors, applications for grants and other funding materials, as well as correspondence with potential funders, budgets and other financial records (including book orders), various notes and memos, and background research.

### Arrangement

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The records are arranged in five series: “Series 1. Book Chapters,” “Series 2. Fundraising,” “Series 3. Correspondence,” “Series 4. Hilda Silverman,” and “Series 5. Research Files.”

## Access

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This collection is open for research use.

## Acquisition and Appraisal

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### Appraisal Note

Copies of draft chapters were discarded when found to be identical to already processed copies. Some matching copies may be retained due to marginalia or from limitations in processing time.

## Detailed Description of the Collection

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### Series 1: Book Chapters (1979-1981)

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**Series Abstract:** This series consists of various incarnations of the chapters of "Lesbians and Gay Men: The Law in Pennsylvania." Included here are many draft chapters and the [apparently] final versions sent for publishing. Draft chapters can be traced through many edits and frequently include handwritten notes and suggestions. Also included in this series are memos, notes, and correspondence primarily relating to the editing of the chapters.

Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	Draft chapters
1	2	Draft chapters, memoranda, correspondence
1	3	Draft chapters, memoranda, notes
1	4	Draft chapters, memoranda, correspondence
1	5	Draft chapters, book flyers, event flyers
1	6	Labeled "To Printer 4/28/81" Draft chapters, notes
1	7	Labeled "Lesbian & Gay Rights Book" and "All proofread" Draft chapters, notes, proof of book cover, table of contents
1	-	One 15.25" x 11.25" book cover proof, on poster board (located in box, no folder)

### Series 2: Fundraising (1980-1981)

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**Series Abstract:** This series contains correspondence with funders, potential and actualized, for the book project. Funders of note include Playboy and the William Penn Foundation. Additional records include news clippings, advertisements, budgets, the book prospectus, agendas, and newsletters.

Box	Folder	Contents
1	8	Funder correspondence: Preliminary attempts to secure funding Award letters Rejection letters Prospectus, meeting agendas, project budget, AFSC Newsletters with book advertisement (Spring-Summer 1981), News clippings

### Series 3: Correspondence and Book Orders (1980-1982)

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**Series Abstract:** This series consists of records relating to publishing and selling the book, including correspondence with publishers, order forms, publication press release, and orders placed for copies of the book.

Box	Folder	Contents
1	9	Correspondence, order forms, press release
1	10	Correspondence, press clippings, correspondence with publishers
1	11	Book orders

### Series 4: Hilda Silverman (1980-1981)

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**Series Abstract:** This series consists of Hilda Silverman's copies of book chapters with her notes. Additionally, there are handwritten notes, along with various memos and correspondence. Hilda Silverman was the book's editor and the Executive Director of the ACLU Greater Philadelphia Branch during the time of the book project.

Box	Folder	Contents
1	12	Labeled "Hilda's Copies" Draft chapters, correspondence, notes
1	13	Labeled "Hilda Silverman L/G Rights handbook misc." Correspondence, memoranda, notes

### Series 5: Research Files (1970-1981)

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**Series Abstract:** This series consists of other writings on laws and rights, and some news clippings and related correspondence, likely used for background research during writing of the book.

Box	Folder	Contents
1	14	"Who's Behind the Gay Rights Movement?," National Gay Task Force, published 1981 "Custody Rights of Fathers in Divorce Litigation: Advocacy for a Socio-legal Perspective," Priscilla VanBuskirk, 1981 Footnotes to an unknown paper, news clippings, correspondence and press releases relating to gay rights/laws and earlier legal rulings

## Subject Headings

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### Organization Names

American Civil Liberties Union. Greater Philadelphia Branch  
American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania

### Personal Names

Silverman, Hilda, 1939-2008

### Geographic Name(s)

Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia (Pa.)

### **Subject Terms**

Gays--Legal status, laws, etc.--Pennsylvania  
Homosexuality--Law and legislation--Pennsylvania  
Lesbians--Legal status, laws, etc.--Pennsylvania  
Sex and law--Pennsylvania

## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Archival Materials Note**

Princeton University, Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library, Public Policy Papers: American Civil Liberties Union records.

## **Processing and Other Information**

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### **Processing Information**

This collection was processed and the finding aid prepared by Steven Duckworth in 2013. This finding aid is an expansion of a summary descriptive aid that was compiled in 2011-2012 as part of a pilot project conducted by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania to make better known and more accessible the largely hidden collections of small, primarily volunteer run repositories in the Philadelphia area. The Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories was funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

### **Descriptive Rules Used**

Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

### **Sources Consulted**

American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania. "About the ACLU" and "LGBT Rights."  
<http://www.aclupa.org/home/abouttheaclu/>

Marquard, Bryan. "Hilda Silverman; activist sought peace for Israelis, Palestinians." *Boston Globe*. 2008, May 11.  
[http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/obituaries/articles/2008/05/11/hilda\\_silverman\\_activist\\_sought\\_peace\\_for\\_israelis\\_palestinians/?page=full](http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/obituaries/articles/2008/05/11/hilda_silverman_activist_sought_peace_for_israelis_palestinians/?page=full)

OCLC: WorldCat.

[http://www.worldcat.org/search?qt=worldcat\\_org\\_all&q=%22Lesbians+and+Gay+Men%3A+The+Law+in+Pennsylvania%2C%22](http://www.worldcat.org/search?qt=worldcat_org_all&q=%22Lesbians+and+Gay+Men%3A+The+Law+in+Pennsylvania%2C%22)

## **Administrative Information**

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### **Preferred Citation**

Box #, folder #, ACLU, Greater Philadelphia Branch, Book production files for "Lesbians and Gay Men: The Law in Pennsylvania," SC0022, John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives.

### **Contact Information**

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