

C Missouri National Organization for Women, Records, 1967-1982
781 5.5 linear feet, 2 video cassettes

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

INTRODUCTION

Records of Missouri state chapter of the National Organization for Women. Contains financial records, conference materials, meeting minutes, city chapter materials, membership lists, correspondence, newsletters, publicity materials, and project files.

DONOR INFORMATION

The records were placed on contract with the University of Missouri by the Missouri National Organization for Women on 30 November 1981 (Accession No. 4381). An addition was made on 22 April 1982 by the Missouri National Organization for Women (Accession No. 4424). Additional material was donated by Eva Moseley in 1977 to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection-St. Louis (Accession No. 4481).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The records have been arranged into the following seven series: **State Coordinator's Reference Manual, Administrative Files, Correspondence, Projects, Public Relations, Newsletters, and Video Cassettes.**

These records provide a limited view of the organization's involvement in issues of state-wide, national, and international importance to women—feminists and non-feminists. No material is available on the origins of the organization. The emphasis of the collection is the campaign for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. The collection is arranged topically, then chronologically within, with undated items at the end of each section.

More complete series descriptions are located in the folder list.

FOLDER LIST

State Coordinator's Reference Manual Series

- f. 1-7 1980. This manual was produced by the national office of the National Organization for Women (NOW) for the use of state coordinators. It contains a statement of purpose, information on policy and administrative matters, state and chapter bylaws, organizational scheme of the national board and its committees, budget forms and procedures, and various NOW publications.

Administrative Files Series

The administrative files contain materials relating to the operation of the Missouri NOW and its chapters. Financial records, conference materials, meeting minutes,

recruitment materials, membership lists, and administrative forms are included. The material is arranged alphabetically by topic then chronologically.

- f. 8-13 Administrative Forms, 1970-1982. Guidelines for various procedures, master copies of newsletters, various forms and parliamentary procedure rule books.
- f. 14-17 Conference materials, 1977-1981. Brochures, announcements, and reports on national, Midwest regional, and state conferences.
- f. 18-37 Financial Records, 1973-1981. Budgets, check stubs, deposit slips, and bank statements for regular and Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) fund accounts set up with two different banks.
- f. 38-46 Meeting Minutes, 1972-1981. Minutes from national board meetings, state council meetings, and regional meetings and memos from the regional coordinator.
- f. 47-59 Membership Lists, 1972-1981. Chapter and state membership lists, state membership dues, and membership lists from other states.
- f. 60 Recruitment Materials, 1980. Brochures, buttons, and advertisements aimed at recruiting members for both state and national chapters of NOW.

Correspondence Series

- f. 61-96 1972-1982. File contains correspondence between: national officers and state coordinators, chapter members and their state coordinator, state coordinators, political and corporate leaders and NOW personnel. Material deals with internal problems, meetings, events, projects, and some personal matters. Arranged chronologically.

Projects Series

Contains materials of interest to the Missouri NOW. Pamphlets, newsletters, newspaper clippings, memos, announcements, and correspondence pertaining to boycotts, the ERA campaign, reproductive rights, and other important national and local issues. The material is arranged alphabetically by topic and, within each topic, chronologically.

- f. 97-98 Boycotts, 1977-1981. Materials on NOW boycotts against the Nestle Company, J.P. Stevens Company, Sanderson Farms, and Campbell Soup Company.
- f. 99-125 City Chapters, 1969-1982. Announcements, memos, and charters from nineteen city chapters—Camdenton, Cape Girardeau, Central Missouri, Columbia, Jolene Sharp, Joplin, Kansas City Urban, Kirksville, Maryville, Metropolitan St. Louis, North County St. Louis, Northland Kansas City, Rolla, St. Charles, St. Joseph, South/West St. Louis, Springfield, Vernon County, and Warrensburg.
- f. 126 Dump Dempster Campaign, 1977-1979. Newspaper clippings, speeches, and announcements from campaign to have University of Missouri Board of Curators member removed for his sexist comments.

- f. 127-174 ERA Campaign, 1968-1982. Materials from ratification campaign and extensions of the ratification deadline. Includes information on Medicaid abortion funding, the ERA economic boycott, sex discrimination, Missouri ERA Coalition, and ERA vigils. Also contains speeches, pamphlets, flyers, correspondence, and reports on Missouri legislators' stands on the ERA. Photographs of Missouri headquarters. Posters.
- f. 175-176 ERA Campaign kit, 1980-1981. Guidelines, phone bank forms, and explanations of what the ERA is and what it will accomplish.
- f. 177-178 Hunt Commission, 1981. Reports, testimony, and speeches from commission on presidential nominations.
- f. 179-187 Legal Cases, 1979-1981. Court case between State of Missouri and Missouri NOW over economic boycott.
- f. 188-190 Legal Defense and Education Fund, 1971-1981. Reports on projects sponsored by LDEF and general information on its functions.
- f. 191 McDonnell Douglas Corporation, 1980-1981. Newspaper clippings and reports on dispute between the corporation and three of its workers, members of the Socialist Workers Party.
- f. 192 Media Action, 1980. Critiques of films and television shows depicting women, the family, and lesbians.
- f. 193-197 Miscellaneous Action, 1967-1982. Action to be taken on such projects as a rape crisis center, family abuse counseling, leadership programs for women, and nuclear disarmament.
- f. 198 Political Action Committee, 1980. Reports of contributions made to candidates' campaign funds.
- f. 199-201 Political Activities, 1972-1982. League of Women Voters, Capitol Women's Political Caucus, and Missouri Women's Political Caucus pamphlets, announcements, and reports.
- f. 202-210 Reproductive Rights, 1978-1982. Newspaper clippings, articles, reports, speeches, and cartoons on the right-to-life issue and NOW's stand on the issue.
- f. 211-212 Right-to-work, 1979. Report by the United Auto Workers on the 1978 Missouri right-to-work campaign.
- f. 213-214 Right Wing Movements, 1971-1981. Pamphlets, articles, and newsletters printed by such right wing leaders as Phyllis Schlafly and Jerry Falwell containing antifeminist and racist commentaries.
- f. 215 Sex Equity Programs, 1981. Programs threatened or eliminated by Reagan administration.
- f. 216-217 Susan B. Anthony Day, 1974-1976. Notices, reports, and letters from campaign to establish a Susan B. Anthony Day.

Public Relations Series

Materials relating to the Missouri NOW's fund raising activities and press relations. Includes pamphlets, flyers, catalogs, and announcements on such fund raising activities as walkathons, concerts, and memorabilia sales. Also contains issues of the *NOW Times*

and press releases. The material is arranged alphabetically by topic and, within each topic, chronologically.

- f. 218-227 Fund Raising Activities, 1973-1982. Materials on memorabilia sales, magazine subscriptions, newspaper advertisements, radio broadcasts, walkathons, and concerts.
- f. 228-229 *NOW Times*, 1978-1982. Issues of the national NOW's monthly publication.
- f. 230-232 Press Releases, 1973-1982. Announcements pertaining to ERA campaign activities.

Newsletters Series

- f. 233-256 1972-1982. Newsletters pertaining to feminist issues, including the ERA, family violence, leadership, rape, and civil rights. Published by Missouri NOW city chapters, other NOW chapters, Center for Women Policy Studies, and other organizations. Arranged in chronological order.

Video Cassettes Series

Video cassettes produced by the National NOW Action Center for private use, 1981.

- v. c. 1 "Cemetery" and "Politicians."
- v. c. 2 "Countdown."

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