INTRODUCTION
The papers of the editor of COMMENT, a publication that disseminated information on research about women, include correspondence, issues of COMMENT, grant applications and reports, and notes from conferences Hartley attended.

DONOR INFORMATION
The Jo Hartley Papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Jo Hartley on 25 May 1988 (Accession No. 4853). The papers are part of the National Women and Media Collection.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
Joanne Trimble Hartley was born in Phoenix, Arizona, on 28 October 1921, to William and Helen Trimble. She received her B.S. degree in journalism from Northwestern University in 1943, and her M.S. degree from UCLA’s Graduate School of Communications in 1964.

She held creative positions at advertising agencies in Los Angeles and San Francisco in the early 1960s and then worked at Claremont Colleges in Claremont, California, as assistant to the provost and consultant for public relations and development. At Claremont she started editing Continuing Comment, a publication of the Office of Continuing Education at the college.

In 1973 she was appointed a Radcliffe Institute Fellow and moved operations of the publication to Radcliffe College in Boston with the help of the National Coalition for Research on Women’s Education and Development. At Radcliffe she changed the name of the publication to COMMENT. From 1974 to 1976 she served as research director for the Business and Professional Women’s Foundation and then arranged an agreement between herself and the American Council on Education to help publish COMMENT.

In 1981 Hartley was appointed Affiliated Scholar, Program for the Study of Women and Men in Society at the University of Southern California and moved publication of COMMENT back to the West Coast. Three years later she returned to Claremont Colleges to continue publishing COMMENT and act as Assistant to the Headmistress at the Vivian Webb School, a preparatory school for young women.

Hartley was active in Women in Communications and won two awards from that organization for COMMENT. She was a member of the Women’s Equity Action League and National Women’s Studies Association. Among the conferences she attended was the United Nation’s Mid-Decade Conference on Women in 1980. Hartley also edited two books: Dialogue of Higher Education in 1966 and Hours of Work When Workers Can Choose in 1975.

In 1944 she married John Hartley and divorced him in 1971. They had one child, John Trimble Hartley.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE
The Jo Hartley Papers consist of correspondence, notes from conferences, issues of COMMENT, and grant applications and reports. The papers are arranged into seven series:
Correspondence, COMMENT, Grants, Affiliated Organizations, Conferences, Subject Files, and Audio Cassettes.

The Correspondence series contains letters that document the planning and subsequent operation of COMMENT. They discuss funding sources and other forms of support for the publication as well as its purpose, goals, and appearance. This series is arranged chronologically.

The COMMENT series consists of issues of the publication, a business plan, story and column ideas, transcripts of interviews of women involved in higher education, and records concerning the operation of COMMENT at both Radcliffe and USC. The correspondence of Mickey Wapner, Hartley’s partner during the planning stages of the publication, is also included in this series. This series is arranged alphabetically by topic.

The Grants series contains numerous grant applications, correspondence with foundations, and reports on the use of grant money for the continued maintenance of COMMENT. This series is arranged alphabetically by foundation name.

The Affiliated Organizations series consists of correspondence between Hartley and the various organizations with which she was involved and is arranged alphabetically by organization name. These organizations include the Business and Professional Women’s Foundation, the American Council on Education, the National Coalition for Research on Women’s Education and Development, and the National Association for Women’s Studies.

The Conferences series includes correspondence and notes pertaining to several of the conferences Hartley attended or participated in such as the Stephens College Symposium on the future of women’s education and the United Nation’s conference on women in 1980. This series is arranged alphabetically by conference title or conference sponsor.

The Subject Files series contains personal information, publicity clippings, some of Hartley’s writings and speeches, and information on the start up of Ms. Magazine and New Woman. A mock-up of a proposed magazine, Woman Unlimited, is also included. This series is arranged alphabetically by topic.

The Audio Cassettes series consists of recordings from a conversation concerning women employed as police officers and corrections officers and taped notes from meetings with the Business and Professional Women’s Foundation and the Ford Foundation. The keynote address at the National Association of Independent Schools’ 1985 conference, which discusses gender equity in the classroom, is also included in this series.
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