

C Estevez, Victor, Collection, 1982-1996  
4261 0.5 cubic feet (17 folders), 1 oversize scrapbook

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri). If you would like more information, please contact us at [research@shsmo.org](mailto:research@shsmo.org).

## INTRODUCTION

The papers of Victor Estevez contain material from organizations Estevez was a member of, newspaper clippings related to HIV/AIDS and LGBTQ+ activism, and personal papers. It also contains the papers of Carl Megl, a friend of Estevez and the first student at the University of Missouri, Columbia, to die of AIDS related complications.

## DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Victor Estevez on 25 November 1996 (Accession No. 5678). An addition was made by Michael V. Golden on 6 August 2003 (Accession No. 5678.01)

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Victor Estevez was born August 23, 1938, in Bayonne, New Jersey, to Victor Estevez y Lemos and Ofelia Martinez. Estevez joined the Society of Jesus in 1956 with the intention of becoming a Jesuit priest. He received his BA in classics and MA in Latin from Fordham University and taught at Fordham Prep School in New York City from 1963 to 1966. Estevez left the Jesuits in 1969 and married Patricia Coulter, with whom he had two children. Although they divorced in 1977, the two remained close. In 1974 Estevez earned his PhD in classics from the University of Wisconsin and became an assistant professor at the University of Missouri in 1975.

Estevez was a prominent social justice activist and a major voice in calls for LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender), anti-discrimination policies both at the university and for the city. He served on Columbia's Human Rights Commission for two years, was a founding member of the Missouri Task Force for Lesbian and Gay Concerns, and sat on the boards of the Mid-Missouri AIDS Project and the Gay and Lesbian Community Services of Columbia.

During his time as a professor, Estevez befriended the sociology student Carl Megl. Megl's death on January 7, 1988, was especially hard for Estevez, who took great pains to ensure the continuation of Megl's memory and redoubled his efforts in HIV/AIDS activism. In 1992 Estevez exchanged mutual vows with Michael Golden, and remained spousal partners until Estevez's death on August 16, 1998. Even in death, Estevez remained a staunch advocate of LGBT rights, and requested that memorial contributions be made to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection includes papers supporting the activities of Estevez in the LGBT community. This includes material related to Estevez and other LGBT activists' efforts to add sexual orientation to Columbia's non-discrimination ordinance and a collection of letters both for and against the measure. It also includes his work with the "Columbians for American Values," an organization formed after a homophobia-motivated hate crime

calling for stronger protection for the city's LGBT community. There is also a collection of newspaper clippers related to LGBT and HIV/AIDS issues and the copy of a student's masters' thesis that Estevez had approved.

Estevez came into the possession of the Carl Megl's papers following Megl's death due to their close friendship. This collection includes papers collected by Megl related to Alcoholics Anonymous, an organization he was active in, and a series of essays he had written on various topics in his capacity as a sociology student. The collection also includes a manuscript written by Estevez shortly after Megl's death detailing the events of his friend's final days titled *When Darkness Comes*, materials related to Megl's funeral arrangements, letters of condolences from Estevez's friends, and a scrapbook Estevez made of Carl Megl. The scrapbook includes photos of Megl, a copy of the eulogy Estevez read at the funeral, and photos of the patch Estevez had made for Megl for the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt.

There is also a miscellaneous folder containing informational pamphlets on HIV/AIDS and a letter a friend of Estevez had written regarding anti-LGBT legislation being considered in Colorado.

#### FOLDER LIST

f. 1	Human Rights Commission
f. 2	Letters to the Human Rights Commission
f. 3	Columbians for American Values
f. 4	Clippings 1982-1993
f. 5	The Effects of Family Upon Gay Men and the Coming Out Process (Masters)
f. 6	Estevez's Will
f. 7	Carl Megl—Alcoholics Anonymous
f. 8	Megl Papers—Religion and Philosophy
f. 9	Megl Papers—Rehabilitation
f. 10	Megl Papers—Society and History
f. 11	Megl Papers—the Family
f. 12	Megl Papers—HIV/AIDS
f. 13	<i>When Darkness Comes</i> pp 1-106
f. 14	<i>When Darkness Comes</i> pp 107-221
f. 15	<i>When Darkness Comes</i> pp 222-312
f. 16	Carl Megl Commemorations
f. 17	Miscellaneous

#### OVERSIZE Location Mezzanine, Row 4, Shelf V-26

v. 1	Carl Megl scrapbook
------	---------------------

## INDEX TERMS

Index Term	Folder	Other	Image
AIDS (Disease)	4, 12-16		
Columbia Human Rights Commission	1, 2		
Estevez, Victor (1938-1998)	1-6, 17		
Gay rights	1-17	v. 1	
LGBT affairs	1-17		
Megl, Carl (1944-1988)	7-16	v. 1	
Megl, Carl (1944-1988)		v. 1	Yes
Names Project Aids Memorial Quilt		v.1	Yes