

Guide to the Cynthia Cunningham Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Cunningham, Cynthia
Title:	Cynthia Cunningham Papers
ID:	MS-00277
Date [inclusive]:	1970-1979
Physical Description:	1.48 Cubic Feet (4 boxes)
Physical Description:	1.67 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Cynthia Cunningham Papers date from 1970 to 1979 and document Cunningham's career as an English instructor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) and as a member of the Nevada State of Board of Education. Included are Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) materials, audio tapes, posters, newspaper clippings, survey results, and reports that explore the issue of gender bias in schools. Materials on the Health Systems Agency contain organization by-laws, memberships, agendas, minutes, correspondence, and publications.

Preferred Citation

Cynthia Cunningham Papers, 1970-1979. MS-00277, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) English instructor Cynthia Cunningham was born January 21, 1929 in El Paso, Texas. She received her B.A. in English from New Mexico State University, Las Cruces in 1949 and her M.A. in English from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 1968. She was an English instructor at UNLV from 1968 to 1971.

Cunningham served on the Nevada State of Board of Education from 1971 to 1979, and was elected as a Democrat for the Nevada Assembly District 8 in 1976. She was active in numerous organizations including the American Association of University Women, Nevadans for the Equal Rights Amendment, Planned Parenthood of Southern Nevada, a Red Cross volunteer, and a sustaining member of Junior League of Las Vegas. Cunningham was a founder of Young Audiences, Inc. of Las Vegas, Nevada and served as

this organization's president from 1962 to 1964. She was also a member of the Health Systems Agency, located in the District Health Center in Las Vegas, to provide a meeting place for persons interested in the improvement of the medical services to the Clark County area. of member of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Her husband, Harold Cunningham, retired as president from Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Company. After living in Las Vegas for thirty-four years, the Cunninghams relocated to Santa Fe, New Mexico in 1986. Cynthia Cunningham passed away in Albuquerque, New Mexico on January 13, 1988.

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Scope and Content Note

The Cynthia Cunningham Papers (1970-1979) document Cunningham's career as an English instructor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) and as a member of the Nevada State of Board of Education. Included are Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) materials, audio tapes, posters, and newspaper clippings, survey results, and reports that explore the issue of gender bias in schools. Materials on the Health Systems Agency contain organization by-laws, memberships, agendas, minutes, correspondences, and publications. Miscellaneous items are composed of business cards and a ticket to a 1966 Service League of Las Vegas event belonging to Cynthia's husband Harold Cunningham.

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Arrangement

Collection remains in original order.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

This collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Reproductions and Use](#) on the UNLV Special Collections website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1979 by Cynthia Cunningham; accession number 87-036.

Processing Note

Material was processed in 1995 by Marie Imus. In 2017 Joyce Moore revised and enhanced the collection to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

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Related Materials

Separated Materials

Some of the publications that were acquired as part of this collection have been separated and described individually in the University Libraries catalog.

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Names and Subjects

- Equal rights amendments -- United States
- Sex discrimination in education -- Nevada
- Public health -- Nevada -- Clark County
- Women -- Legal status, laws, etc. -- United States
- Women's rights -- United States
- Sex discrimination against women -- Law and legislation -- United States
- College teachers -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- Biography
- Women -- Societies and clubs -- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Clark County (Nev.). Health Systems Agency -- Records and correspondence

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers	
Health Systems Agency (HSA) of Clark County By-laws, undated	box 1	folder 1
Health Systems Agency minutes, 1976 June 29 to 1976 September 15	box 1	folder 2
Health System Agency reports, memorandums, reviews and recommendations, 1970s	box 1	folder 3
Health care correspondence, 1976 February 4 to 1976 July 13	box 1	folder 4
Proposed Contents Outline for Health Systems Plan and HSA Volunteers Manual, undated	box 1	folder 5
Health Systems Agency of Clark County publications, undated	box 1	folder 6
Health Systems Agency planning grants, 1976-1977	box 1	folder 7
Health Systems Agency related materials-studies, issues, notes, and map, 1975-1978	box 1	folder 8
Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) campaign posters-male/female, undated	box 2	
Reports and memorandums on sexism in Clark County Schools, 1974-1975	box 3	folder 1
Report to Nevada Board of Education to Consider Sexism in Schools, undated	box 3	folder 2
Results of Sex Discrimination Survey in Nevada Public Schools and memo from J. R. Gamble, Superintendent, 1976	box 3	folder 3
Papers for committee work, Nevada Department of Education, undated	box 3	folder 4
National Foundation for the Improvement of Education Publications, undated	box 3	folder 5
Newspaper clippings on sexism, ERA, discrimination, and corporate executives, 1974-1976	box 3	folder 6
Booklet: "Affirmative Action Program for Equal Employment Opportunities", 1974-1975	box 3	folder 7
Miscellaneous items, business card, charity event, undated	box 3	folder 8
Audiovisual recordings		
Misc. Tape 4 (Labeled BPW), undated Physical Description: 1 U-Matic Videotapes	box 4	folder 20
Misc. Tape 3 (Labeled BPW), undated Physical Description: 1 U-Matic Videotapes	box 4	folder 19
Misc. Tape 1 (Labeled BPW), undated Physical Description: 1 U-Matic Videotapes	box 4	folder 18
"Virgo Rising- The Once and Future Women", undated Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	box 4	folder 17
ERA Debate on Las Vegas Christian Radio, undated	box 4	folder 16

Physical Description: cassette		
Liz and Ely on ERA, undated	box 4	folder 15
Physical Description: cassette		
Dr. Bruce Thielemann: Three Talks on the Bible and the Status of Women, undated	box 4	folder 14
Physical Description: cassette		
Phyllis Schlafly, undated	box 4	folder 13
Physical Description: cassette		
Barbara Smith with Phil Donahue, undated	box 4	folder 12
Physical Description: cassette		
Lloyd Mann Statement, undated	box 4	folder 11
Physical Description: reel to reel audiotape		
"Women in Nevada", undated	box 4	folder 10
Physical Description: reel to reel		
11 News broadcasts, 1977 November 31 to 1977 December 23	box 4	folder 9
Physical Description: reel to reel audiotapes		
ERA Spot Package 2, 1976 September	box 4	folder 8
Physical Description: film		
ERA Spot Package 2, 1976 September	box 4	folder 7
Physical Description: film		
Bailey Deardorff, ERA, 1976 March 10	box 4	folder 6
Physical Description: multi-reel film		
Bailey Deardorff, ERA, 1976 March 10	box 4	folder 5
Physical Description: multi-reel film		
ERA UC 12, 1977 January 19	box 4	folder 4
Physical Description: film		
ERA meter tag, undated	box 4	folder 3
Physical Description: film		
ERA UC 93: Go Jack, 1977 January 19	box 4	folder 2
Physical Description: film		
ERA UC 100: Go Jack Sawyer, 1977 January 19	box 4	folder 1
Physical Description: film		