

Abram J. Jaffe papers11613677

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

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Summary Information

Repository: Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Creator: Jaffe, A. J., 1912-1997

Title: Abram J. Jaffe papers

ID: 11613677

ID: MS#1778

Date [inclusive]: 1950s-2015

> **Physical** 31.25 linear feet 23 record cartons

Description:

Language of the

English. **Material:**

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Abram J. Jaffe Papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Jaffe was a statistician, employment expert and anthropologist who for more than two decades directed the Manpower and Population Program of Columbia's Bureau of Applied Social Research.

Biographical / Historical

Analyzing labor statistics, economic trends and population movements, he reported a number of unexpected findings: in 1967, that living standards of retired workers were deteriorating and that poverty stalked one half of all retired persons; in 1975 that socially and economically,

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native Puerto Ricans living in New York State lagged considerably behind those living in other states, and in 1976 that, contrary to a common assumption then, women did not tend to move in and out of the labor force but were a stable part of it. Jaffe was born Feb. 28, 1912, in Chelsea, Mass. His family moved to Chicago soon after, and he grew up there, earning his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Chicago, studying under William F. Ogburn. From 1939 to 1950 he was a demographer and statistician at the U.S. Bureau of the Census. He took a leave from 1942 to 1945 to survey the morale of soldiers for the U.S. War Department. He joined Columbia in 1950 as a lecturer in sociology and began a 26-year term as director of the manpower and population program of the Bureau of Applied Social Research. He studied labor productivity, pension systems, employment patterns of college educated workers and the integration of migrant Spanish Americans. He discovered that people of the 6,000-year-old LaJolla Culture, the earliest North American society, had a life expectancy of 17. And he found that population growth was a result, not a cause, of the transition from hunting to farming on the North American continent He retired from Columbia in 1979 but continued as a special senior research associate in business and anthropology.

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Summary

Correspondence, manuscripts, research files, teaching materials, memoranda, etc.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

Material is unprocessed. Please contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

Processing Information

Collection-level record describing unprocessed material made public in summer 2018 as part of the Hidden Collections initiative.

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This collection is located on-site.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

2015.2016.M073: Source of acquisition--Anne Jaffe. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--10/26/2015.

Accrual

Additional material is not expected at this time

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Sociology
- Statistics
- Clippings (Information Artifacts)

- Correspondence Photographs Programs (documents)
- Reprints Syllabi
- Jaffe, A. J., 1912-1997