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Joanne Grant research files 6892009

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Grant, Joanne
Title:	Joanne Grant research files
ID:	6892009
ID:	UA#0141
Date [inclusive]:	1963-1968
Physical Description:	1.44 linear feet 3 document boxes
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	This collection consists of the working materials Joanne Grant, a journalist and activist, collected for the research and publication of her 1969 book <i>Confrontation on Campus: Columbia Pattern for the New Protest</i> (New York: New American Library, 1969).

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Joanne Grant Research Files, Box and Folder; University Archives, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical Note

Joanne Grant, born in 1930 in Ithaca, New York to a biracial mother and white father, graduated from Syracuse University with a degree in history and journalism. At 27, Grant traveled throughout the Soviet Union and China, defying state bans on travel to Communist countries, seeking alternatives to an American political system that perpetuated segregation and class divides. Grant was deeply interested in finding organizing and mobilizing tools through which to address the racial and economic inequities of American democracy. Upon her return, the young journalist briefly assisted W.E.B. DuBois, noted black scholar, intellectual, and activist. DuBois, who had left the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), an organization he had founded, as the leadership became more mainstream,

sought increasingly more radical alliances for his activism. Undoubtedly, DuBois' mounting frustrations with the unfulfilled promises of equality through integration and his profound interest in creating international Communist alliances, influenced Grant.

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Biographical Note

With DuBois' referral, Grant took a position as a journalist at the Leftist New York weekly *The National Guardian* in 1960 and traveled throughout the South to detail Civil Rights struggles for the paper, writing on Freedom Summer, the Citizenship School movement, marches and voter registration drives. Her reporting connected to her to the folks of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), a militant student organization that used direct action to protest segregation, and to SNCC's founder, Ella Baker. Baker, who had gotten her start as an activist in the NAACP some twenty-five years before, had persuaded Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to hold a college conference in 1960, on the heels of sporadic youth action to desegregate college campuses. The symposium birthed SNCC, and Baker left the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) to become the young organization's advisor. Impressed by the expansive direct action program SNCC was implementing, Grant joined the organization, both as a journalist and activist. Her journalism for *The Guardian* provided a platform for SNCC to publicize their work and the repressive responses of politicians, law enforcement and white citizens.

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Biographical Note

She married Victor Rabinowitz in 1967, a New York lawyer and activist who defended many Leftist organizations throughout the various freedom struggles of the 1960s including leaders of the Weather Underground, SNCC, and high-profile communists. Grant's experiences with SNCC and the Black freedom movement informed her comprehensive document-based history of the black struggle against oppression entitled *Black Protest: 350 Years of History, Documents, and Analyses* (New York: Fawcett, 1968). Her involvement with SNCC also led her to cover and participate in the student uprisings at Columbia University in 1968. The result was her history and analysis of the strike in *Confrontation on Campus: The Columbia Pattern for the New Protest*. Evident in her writings is Ms. Grant's overwhelming desire to find new means through which to fight oppression and inequality within the American democratic system.

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Biographical Note

Grant and Rabinowitz traveled extensively, including a trip to Cuba where Grant charmed Castro into allowing them to accompany the Cuban president on a leg of a speaking tour throughout the country. Her later work, a film entitled *Fundi* (1981) and later book, *Ella Baker: Freedom Bound* (New York: Wiley, 1998), were both dedicated to exploring the life and grassroots activism of SNCC founder Ella Baker.

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Summary

This collection is a repository of Joanne Grant's research materials for her 1969 book *Confrontation on Campus: The Columbia Pattern for the New Protest*. The collection contains both Grant's notes taken throughout the Columbia revolt, as well as collected research materials. These materials consist of Strike Coordinating Committee fliers, agendas, leaflets and official statements. In addition, the collection includes the responses of faculty, administration and community members to the strike. The collection also contains materials from the Independent Committee on Vietnam at Columbia University, student protest files against Columbia's involvement in the war. The materials consist of fliers, letters, telegrams and pictures.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in three series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

File created. xml document instance created by Carrie Hintz EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2009-03-05 2009-04-16 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located offsite. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions. Some personal material may be restricted due to the presence of personal names and information.

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Processing Information

Collection, processed by Megan French GSAS, 2013.

Processing Information

Finding aid witten by Megan French, June, 2008.

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Controlled Access Headings

- College students -- Political activity -- New York (State) -- New York
- Civil rights movements -- United States -- History -- 20th century
- Draft resisters -- Vietnam War, 1961-1975
- Peace movements
- Social movements
- Student-administrator relationships
- Student movements -- New York (State) -- New York
- Vietnam War, 1961-1975
- Articles
- Clippings (Information Artifacts)
- Correspondence
- Ephemera (general object genre)
- Handbills
- Newsletters
- Press releases
- Grant, Joanne
- Kirk, Grayson L. (Grayson Louis), 1903-1997
- Rudd, Mark
- Columbia University -- Administration
- Columbia University -- History
- Columbia University -- Student strike, 1968
- Columbia University -- Students
- Columbia University -- Alumni and alumnae -- Societies, etc.
- Columbia University -- Students -- Political activity
- Columbia University. Students' Afro-American Society
- Columbia Daily Spectator (Organization)
- Student Coordinating Committee
- Columbia-Barnard Citizenship Council
- Committee for the Defense of Property Rights
- Community Action Committee
- Black Panther Party
- December Fourth Movement
- Employees for March 25th
- Faculty Peace Action Committee
- Morningside Housing Committee
- Progressive Labor Party
- Radical Faculty Group
- Student Mobilization Committee (U.S.)
- Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam a.k.a. SMC

- Students for a Democratic Society (U.S.)
- Students for a Free Campus
- Students for a Reconstructed University a.k.a. SRU

Collection Inventory

Series I: Columbia University Student Uprisings, 1963-1968

Scope and Contents

This series contains materials that document the issues leading up to the uprising and provides a chronology of student, faculty, community and administrative involvement in the 1968 strike. The folders within each subseries are arranged alphabetically.

Subseries I.1. Pre-uprising, 1963-1968

Scope and Contents

This subseries provides early documentation of anti-Vietnam War sentiment on Columbia University's campus including the official documentation of the Independent Committee on Vietnam as well as student responses to Columbia's class ranking and draft policies. Finally there are five spiral bound notebooks of handwritten notes taken before and during the student strikes.

Title/Description	Instances	
Draft Ranking--Student Responses, circa, 1963-1968	box 1	folder 1
National Reserve Officers Training Corps, 1963-1968	box 1	folder 2
Notebooks, 1968 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 1	folder 3 to 4
Vietnam--Independent Committee at Columbia University, 1965-1967 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 1	folder 5 to 6

Subseries I.2. Uprising, 1966-1968

Scope and Contents

contains a compilation of fliers, SCC memoranda, meeting minutes, and statements, press releases, correspondence, and public statements documenting the student uprisings. A full chronology is followed by the materials of various student groups: the Strike Coordinating Committee, black students and students from Barnard College. Many of the student newsletters are addressed to Morris Grossner, a Columbia University student at the time and a leader in Columbia's chapter of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS). These materials are followed by letters of support and various other responses of those involved in the strike, as well as plans for the restructuring of the University. Also included are submissions, addressing racism, black students and the labor movement, by Columbia University students to the magazine *China Features* in Peking.

Title/Description	Instances	
<i>China Features</i> --Submissions, 1968		

	box 1	folder 7
Chronology		
Student Uprisings, 1966-1967	box 1	folder 8
Student Uprisings, 1968 March-June (1 of 2), 1968 March-June	box 1	folder 9
Student Uprisings, 1968 March-June (2 of 2), 1968 March-June	box 2	folder 1
Involvement		
Barnard, 1968 April-May	box 2	folder 2
Black Students, 1968 April	box 2	folder 3
Responses		
Administration, 1968 April-May	box 2	folder 4
Community, 1968 April-May	box 2	folder 5
Faculty, 1968 March-May	box 2	folder 6
Parents, 1968 May	box 2	folder 7
Students, 1968 April-May	box 2	folder 8
Restructuring of Columbia University, 1968 May	box 2	folder 9
Strike Coordinating Committee		
Meeting Minutes, 1968 March - June, 1968 March	box 2	folder 10
Official Statements and Pamphlets, 1968 March-June	box 2	folder 11
Strike Education Committee, 1968 May-June	box 2	folder 12
Surveys--Anthropology Department, 1968 April	box 2	folder 13

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Series II: Materials Collected from Laura Foner, 1968

Scope and Contents

This series contains research materials collected from Laura Foner, a Columbia University graduate student and member of SNCC. The papers that were contributed by Foner are marked in the top right hand corner of each page with her initials: LF.

Title/Description	Instances	
Administration, 1968 April-May	box 3	folder 1
Columbia Students for a Democratic Society (SDS)--Working Materials,, 1968	box 3	folder 2
Graduate Student Union--Support and Responses, 1968	box 3	folder 3

Strike Coordinating Committee		
Press Releases, 1968 April- May, 1968	box 3	folder 4
"The Rational Inquirer", 1968	box 3	folder 5
Support and Responses, 1968 April-May	box 3	folder 6
Strike Education Committee--Class Schedules, 1968 April-May	box 3	folder 7

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Series III: Photographs, 1968

Scope and Contents

Photographs used by Grant in her 1969 book on Columbia University student uprisings *Confrontation on Campus*. Most of the images are annotated on the back.

Title/Description	Instances	
Photographs--Columbia University Student Uprisings, 1968	box 3	folder 8

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