Finding aid to the Jon W. Davidson papers, 1985-1995 Coll2013.022

Finding aid prepared by Loni Shibuyama
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Title: Jon W. Davidson Papers
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Contributing Institution: ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California
Language of Material: English
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Date (inclusive): 1985-1995
Abstract: Correspondence, notes, intake logs, flyers and other material, 1985-1995, of Jon W. Davidson, former senior staff counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Southern California. As former head of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Project of the ACLU of Southern California, Davidson was instrumental in numerous ACLU legal actions on behalf of gay and lesbian civil rights. The bulk of the material consists of requests for assistance submitted to the ACLU chapter in the early 1990s.
creator: Davidson, Jon W.

Biography
Jon W. Davidson is a graduate of Stanford University and Yale Law School. In the early years of his law career, Davidson served as a law clerk, and went on to become associate then partner in private practice in Los Angeles, where he specialized in litigation in the media and entertainment industry. In 1988, he joined the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, where he served as staff counsel and became head of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Project in that chapter. As head of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, Davidson was instrumental in numerous ACLU legal actions on behalf of gay and lesbian civil rights. Following his time at the ACLU of Southern California, Davidson moved on to work as counsel for Lambda Legal in 1995.

As Legal Director at Lambda Legal, "Davidson has been counsel in cases that have won lesbians and gay men the freedom to marry; protect domestic partner benefits against attack; championed the rights of LGBT students; secured asylum for LGBT people persecuted in their home countries; and put an end to HIV-related discrimination in employment, insurance and public accommodations. Davidson also has helped reform antigay practices of the Los Angeles Police Department and was the co-drafter of AB 205, California's Domestic Partner Rights and Responsibilities Act."
Source:

Conditions Governing Access
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Acquisition
Donor and date of acquisition unknown.

Preferred Citation
[Box/folder #, or item name] Jon W. Davidson Papers, Coll2013-022, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California.

Processing Information
Collection processed by Loni Shibuyama, February 2013.

Related Materials

Scope and Contents
The collection comprises correspondence, notes, intake logs, flyers and other material, 1985-1995, from Jon W. Davidson, former senior staff counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Southern California. The bulk of the material consists of intake logs and requests for assistance submitted to the ACLU chapter in the early 1990s.

Arrangement
This collection is arranged alphabetically.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Civil rights--United States  
Gays--Civil rights  
Homosexuality--Law and legislation--California  
Legal assistance to gays--United States  
Legal assistance to lesbians--United States  
Lesbians--Civil rights

**Jon Davidson papers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1-4</th>
<th>Correspondence 1991-1994</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 1</td>
<td>General 1991-1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 2</td>
<td>Becker, Bobbi; Metropolitan Water District 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 3</td>
<td>Klein, Tom; Boy Scouts of America 1993-1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 4</td>
<td>Skarda, Richard 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 5</td>
<td>Flyers circa 1990-1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 6-7</td>
<td>Notes circa 1989-1995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

  Physical Description: [2 folders]

| Box 1, Folder 8-16 | Requests for assistance; intake logs 1985-1995 |

  Physical Description: [9 folders]