Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives
Title: Millie Moser Smith Papers
Creator: Moser Smith, Mildred, 1919-
Identifier/Call Number: URB.MAMS
Extent: 0.92 linear feet
Date (inclusive): 1971-2003
Abstract: Millie Moser Smith devoted much of her time to social causes, especially those involving farm workers, which she came into contact with through her church membership. The collection consists of articles, booklets, correspondence, ephemera, fliers, journals, membership directories, newsletters, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, photographs, posters, reports, and videocassettes from the National Farm Workers Ministry and related groups that worked on behalf of farm workers.

Language of Material: English
Biographical Information:
Mildred Alice Ross Moser Smith was born in Iowa on August 11, 1919. Graduating from the University of Iowa in 1936, Millie went to work as a teacher at a junior high school in Dysart, Iowa. After joining her sisters in California, she found employment at Lockheed, where she met and married Ray Moser in 1943. The couple had three children. Ray Moser died in 1979.

For the next ten years, living as a single woman, Moser Smith was able to devote much of her time to social causes in addition to substitute teaching. She came into contact with some of these causes through her church membership and eventually became the representative of Church Women United for the National Farm Worker Ministry (NFWM).

In the 1980s the NFWM supported the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) in a campaign against the Campbell Soup Company. By 1987, the recent increase in birth defects and childhood cancers found in the children of migrant workers forced the NFWM to change its focus once more, this time to an emphasis on the issue of toxic pesticides. In the late 1980s, Moser Smith met and married Sydney Smith, farm worker advocate and author of The Grapes of Conflict. The couple continued to be active in their local chapter of Habitat for Humanity, both serving as officers of the organization.

Scope and Contents
The Millie Moser Smith Papers consist of articles, booklets, correspondence, ephemera, fliers, journals, membership directories, newsletters, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, photographs, posters, reports, and videocassettes from the National Farm Workers Ministry and related groups that worked on behalf of farm workers. Two typescripts by Sydney Smith are also included in this collection, as are items documenting César Chávez's 1988 Fast for Life, and an oral history interview conducted with Moser Smith in 2003.

Electronic Format:
Digital reproductions of selected items in this collection are available electronically as a part of the Latina(o) Cultural Heritage Archives project.

General
Other Information:
The collection was processed in part under a U.S. Department of Education Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Grant.

Conditions Governing Access:
This collection is open for research use.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition
Millie Moser Smith and Jan Wilson, 2002

For information about citing items in this collection consult the appropriate style manual, or see the Citing Archival Materials guide.

Processing Information:
### Subjects and Indexing Terms

**Documents**
- Agriculture Trade Unionism article
- Agroecology Program Report, University of California, Santa Cruz, 1990
- American Farmland Trust, No Farms, No Food
- California Educational Migrant Information Council pamphlets
- Council of Priests of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles proposals, 1986
- Farm Labor Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO: Seventh Constitutional Convention booklet, 1997
- Facts for Life booklet, 1988 August 21
- Facts for Life fliers, 1988
- General Board of Church and Society pamphlet
- General Board of Church and Society staff report, 1990
- Grape Boycott, "Some Endorsements" booklet, 1988
- Illinois Conference of Churches fliers
- Institute of Human Relations, Loyola University, "Blueprint for Social Justice" newsletter, 1988
- Michigan Farmworker Minority Coalition fliers and pamphlets
- Migrant Education Program pamphlets
- Migrant Labor General newspaper clippings and articles, 1980-1993
- National Farm Worker Ministry anniversary book and pamphlet, 1995-1996
- National Farm Worker Ministry correspondence, 1982-1992
- National Farm Worker Ministry ephemera
- National Farm Worker Ministry, “History of the Church’s Ministry with Farm Workers,” 1995
- National Farm Worker Ministry membership directories, 1987-1990
- National Farm Worker Ministry memoranda, 1988-1989
- National Farm Worker Ministry newsletters, 1989-2002
- National Farm Worker Ministry fliers, North Carolina Farm Worker
- National Farm Worker Ministry pamphlets
- Pavich Family Farms pamphlet
- Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noreste (PCUN: Northwest Treeplanters and Farmworkers United) pamphlet
- Rosales v. United Farm Workers et al memorandum, 1989 November 29
- Smith, Sydney, Hearing on Resolution of Support for the Boycott of California Table Grapes, 1988
- Smith, Sydney, The Role of the Churches with migratory Farm Labor: An Overview
- United Auto Workers, Ammo, vol. 25, no. 9, 1988
- United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO benefits package
- United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO ephemera
- United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, Food and Justice, vol. 2, no. 5 and vol. 4, nos. 7-9, 1985, 1987
- United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, Food and Justice, vol. 5, 1988
- United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, Food and Justice, vol. 6, nos. 1 and 3, 1989
- United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, El Malcriado, vol. 25, no. 8, 1987
- United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO memoraanda, 1988
- United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO pamphlets
- United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, Solidarity yearbook, 1982
- United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, The Wrath of Grapes accompanying materials

**Photographs**

**Audiovisual materials**

**Documents**
- Cassette Tape - Millie Moser Smith, Tape 1
Box 2, Item 2  Cassette Tape - Millie Moser Smith, Tape 2
Box 2, Item 3  Cassette Tape - Oral History Interview with Millie Moser Smith, Tape 1, 2003 February 21
Box 2, Item 4  Cassette Tape - Oral History Interview with Millie Moser Smith, Tape 2, 2003 February 21
Box 3, Item 1  Oral History Interview with Millie Moser Smith - Transcript, 2003
Box 3, Item 2  Photo - people clapping
Box 3, Item 3  Photo - two women
Box 3, Item 4  Photo - man
Box 3, Item 5  Photo - people standing
Box 3, Item 6  Photo - handmade sign “Sisters of Loretto pray for Speedy Response in Kern County Health Department”
Box 3, Item 7  Photo - handmade signs
Box 3, Item 8  Photo - handmade signs
Box 3, Item 9  Photo - handmade signs
Box 3, Item 10  Photo - handmade signs
Box 3, Item 11  Photo - handmade signs
Box 3, Item 12  Photo - handmade signs
Folder 1  American Library Association, *Chavez: Great Minds Meet at the Library* poster, 1993
Folder 2  FLOC (Farm Labor Organizing Committee), *25 Years of Struggle* poster, 1992
Folder 3  National Farm Worker Ministry, Farm Worker Week Calendar, 1989-1990
Folder 4  United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO bandana
Folder 5  United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, History of Farm Workers Struggle Calendar, 1971