Deke Nihilson papers

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2020
Descriptive Summary

Title: Deke Nihilson papers
Dates: 1985-1993
Collection Number: 1999-78
Creator/Collector:
Extent: 4.1 linear feet
Repository: GLBT Historical Society
San Francisco, California 94103

Abstract: The Deke Nihilson collection contains materials related to his queer and labor activism, the zine “Homocore” and its successor, “Three Dollar Bill.” Nihilson (b. 1968), also known as Daniel Frontino Elash, co-edited “Homocore” with Tom Jennings. It was one of the earliest queercore zines and was instrumental in the expansion of the queer punk scene.

Language of Material: English

Access
Collection is open for research.

Preferred Citation
Deke Nihilson papers. GLBT Historical Society

Acquisition Information
Gift of Deke Nihilson on December 12, 1999.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Deke Nihilson collection contains materials related to his queer and labor activism, the zine “Homocore” and its successor, “Three Dollar Bill.” Nihilson (b. 1968), also known as Daniel Frontino Elash, co-edited “Homocore” with Tom Jennings. It was one of the earliest queercore zines and was instrumental in the expansion of the queer punk scene. They produced seven issues between 1988 and 1991 and set up Homocore shows that helped popularize the queercore scene on the West Coast. “Three Dollar Bill” was produced by Nihilson and his band mate from Comrades in Arms, Clay Cadic. Issue three featured the alternative title, “Riot Gear,” and covered the Riot Grrrl movement. The collection contains Homocore flyers; ephemera from other anarchist and queer political and cultural events, including punk shows, poetry readings, ACT UP protests and workers' rights benefits; correspondence regarding “Three Dollar Bill”; production materials from the “Riot Gear” issue; and newscloppings about Nihilson. There is also a t-shirt and some audiotapes.

Indexing Terms
Gay men
Music
Journalism
Labor