Descriptive Summary

Title: Clark L. Taylor papers


Collection Number: 2003-42

Creator/Collector: Taylor, Clark, 1937-

Extent: 7 cartons (7 linear feet)

Repository: GLBT Historical Society
San Francisco, California 94103

Abstract: The Clark Taylor papers document three decades of Taylor’s professional career as an anthropologist and sexologist. Major topics in the collection include the relationship between LGBT politics, the social sciences, and HIV/AIDS. The bulk of these materials relate to San Francisco, but the small amount of material on Mexico and Latin America is significant.

Language of Material: English

Access

Collection is open for research. Finding Aid created by Fuchsia Spring, August 2014. Funding for processing this collection was provided by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR).

Preferred Citation

Clark L. Taylor papers. GLBT Historical Society

Acquisition Information

Gift of Clark Taylor in December 2003.

Biography/Administrative History

Dr. Clark Louis Taylor, Jr., Ph.D., Ed.D. (1937-2004) was a scholar and activist who worked in San Francisco. With joint appointments at San Francisco State University (SFSU) and the Institute of Advanced Study of Human Sexuality (IASHS), Taylor taught sex education and anthropology courses. Taylor’s work as a professional anthropologist included founding the Anthropology Research Group on Homosexuality (ARGOH), a group for anthropologists that later became an official group for LGBT members within the American Anthropological Association (AAA). Born in Texas in 1937, Taylor moved to California to study at UCLA. He began his teaching career as a tenured associate professor at Sacramento State University, where he also headed a federal project on Mexican-American education. Facing charges for protesting marijuana laws, Taylor fled to Mexico, where he lived as a fugitive from 1970-1973. Upon his return, he studied for a Ph.D at UC Berkeley. His thesis on gay communities in Mexico, El Ambiente, detailed how LGBT communities are culturally specific. Taylor received a second doctorate in sexology at IASHS in 1985. As a faculty member at IASHS, Taylor co-founded the Sexologists Sexual Health Project as part of his widespread efforts to address the AIDS epidemic through safer sex workshops and health worker programs. At City College of San Francisco (CCSF), Taylor helped design, teach, and find funding for a sexual health worker training programs. He was Resource Instructor/Coordinator of the AIDS Education Office at CCSF. He was also a mentor for safer sex and anti-homophobia programs nationally, both through the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and IASHS. Taylor founded ARGOH, the American Association of Queer Anthropology, in 1970. He was officially recognized for his safer sex teaching, winning the Puckett Award from the Stop AIDS Project of San Francisco in 2000, and an AACC award for extraordinary community health engagement, from 1996-2000. Taylor died of AIDS on October 7th, 2004.

Scope and Content of Collection


Indexing Terms

Gay men
Health
AIDS (disease)

Container List for the Clark L. Taylor Papers