Carol Jean Wisnieski collection of Pope John II protest materials

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Carol Jean Wisnieski collection of Pope John II protest materials

Dates: 1987-2014

Collection Number: 2014-27

Creator/Collector: Wisnieski, Carol Jean; Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence

Extent: 1 oversize box (1.5 linear feet)

Repository: GLBT Historical Society

San Francisco, California 94103

Abstract: Collection of materials related to protests of Pope John Paul II’s September 17, 1987 visit to San Francisco. Includes a scrapbook, script, slides, a DVD, and artifacts.

Language of Material: English

Access

Collection is open for research. Funding for processing this collection was provided by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

Carol Jean Wisnieski collection of Pope John II protest materials. GLBT Historical Society

Acquisition Information

Gift of Carol Jean Wisnieski in December 2014.

Scope and Content of Collection

On September 18, 1987, when Pope John Paul II visited San Francisco, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and many activists protested the Church's stance on homosexuality and other social issues. Carol Jean Wisnieski, participated in the protests as “Pope Joan.” The collection contains a scrapbook (“Papal Free Zone”) compiled by Wisnieski documenting the life of Pope Joan, and protests against the Pope’s visit and efforts to canonize Junipero Serra.” Materials from the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence’s Mass-in-Protest and canonization of Harvey Milk include an original script, slides and a DVD of the protest. There is also some historical background on Pope Joan, a cardboard miter/mask of Pope John II’s face, and political buttons.

Indexing Terms

Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence
Homosexuality -- Religious aspects -- Catholic Church.
Homophobia--Religious aspects--Catholicism.