Descriptive Summary

Title: Mel White and Daryl Lach collection

Dates: 1974-2015

Collection Number: GTU 2015-08-02

Creator/Collector: White, Mel (James Melville), 1940-; Lach, Daryl, 1950-; Nixon, Gary; Gandhi, Mahatma, 1869-1948; King, Martin Luther, Jr., 1929-1968; Soulforce, Inc.; Metropolitan Community Church

Extent: 22 linear feet (27 boxes)

Repository: Graduate Theological Union
Berkeley, California 94709

Abstract: James Melville "Mel" White is an influential author, filmmaker, spokesman and clergyman raised as an Evangelical Christian. In his fifties, he became an effective and outspoken advocate for gay rights, openly confronting Evangelical leaders for their anti-homosexual rhetoric. Daryl Lach has extensively collected in the area of "Voices of the Christian Right in American Politics and Culture at the Turn of the 21st Century."

Language of Material: English

Access
Collection open for research.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
Mel White and Daryl Lach collection. Graduate Theological Union

Acquisition Information
“The Mel White and Daryl Lach Collection” belongs to the larger archival collection of The Center for LGBTQ and Gender Studies in Religion (CLGS) at Pacific School of Religion, a member school of The Graduate Theological Union. Materials received in 2013. The GTU Archives is the designated repository.

Biography/Administrative History
Mel White (1940- ) and Daryl Lach (1950- ) are significant figures in LGBTQ advocacy, particularly in relation to Fundamentalist Christianity.

Scope and Content of Collection
Materials related to Mel White’s ministry and LGBTQ advocacy, particularly in relation to Fundamentalist Christianity, and supported by Daryl Lach’s extensive collection. These include sermons, correspondence, documents related to non-violent protest and direct actions, fundraising and other materials related to organizations both for and against acceptance of LGBTQ people in the Christian community, clippings, video cassettes, audio cassettes, DVDs and teaching materials. The bulk of the materials are from the 1990s and early 2000s.

Indexing Terms
Gays -- Religious life
Gays -- United States -- Biography
Evangelicalism -- United States
Fundamentalism -- United States
Homosexuality -- Religious aspects -- Christianity
Homosexuality -- United States
United States -- Moral conditions
White, Mel (James Melville), 1940-
Falwell, Jerry, 1933-2007
Robertson, Pat (Marion Gordon), 1930-
Soulforce, Inc.
Metropolitan Community Church
Clergy