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Scope and Contents
The purpose of the project is to document the experiences, background, and life trajectories of participants in “the Movement,” the term used by group leaders to describe a diverse collection of activists that coalesced at and around Stanford University from about 1963 to 1973, especially although not exclusively in opposition to the Vietnam War. Project organizers aim to further document the Movement’s political objectives and activities and its social and cultural milieu; to illuminate the interconnections between various activist groups and issues; and to share lessons learned with new generations of activists. They also hope to record the impact of the events of that time on participants’ personal identities, careers, and ongoing political involvement as well as their impact on Stanford and the surrounding community.

The project steering committee is comprised of: Janet Cooper Alexander, Margie Cohn, Art Eisenson, Jeanne Friedman, David Pugh, Merle Rabine, Dave Ransom, Lenny Siegel, and Marc Weiss. Merle Rabine serves as project coordinator.

Support for this and other Stanford Community History Toolkit projects was provided by the Stanford Associates, the Stanford University Archives, and the Stanford Historical Society.

Conditions Governing Access
The materials are open for research use.

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Subjects and Indexing Terms
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Foote, Gerry
Bay Area Revolutionary Union
Venceremos (Organization)
Stanford Historical Society
Stanford University. Stanford Associates

Oral histories 2018
Foote, Gerry 2018-05-15

Scope and Contents
Gerry Foote discusses her role as an anti-Vietnam War organizer at Stanford University from the late 1960s through the early 1970s. Foote explores her work with the Bay Area Revolutionary Union and Venceremos, the gender dynamics of radical campus movements, her role in the Henry Cabot Lodge protest of 1971, and her subsequent trial and suspension by the Stanford Judicial Council.

Biographical / Historical
A fourth-generation Oregonian, Geraldine (or Gerry) was born in Portland, where she has lived most of her life. In grade school years she lived in Santa Rosa, California moving back to Portland at age 12. While in high school, she was an exchange student in New Delhi, India. She attended and worked at Stanford in 1969 and the early 70s where she became involved in work against the Vietnam War and was eventually suspended for protesting Henry Cabot Lodge. After years at San Jose State and Portland State universities, she earned a B.S. in History, and eventually, an M.A.L.S. from Reed College with a creative thesis in poetry. For over twenty years, Gerry developed and taught in high school writing programs and later helped to found the low residency MFA in Writing program at Pacific University.

Geraldine divides time between family, writing, art, singing, and peace and justice advocacy work. She co-directs the Veterans Bridge Fund to assist those returned from deployments and works in support of a domestic violence shelter. She is also a steward for Menucha, a non-profit artist and retreat center in the Columbia River Gorge. Gerry hikes and kayaks with her husband and son, writes, and paints watercolors, for use with Peace Leaves, a series of gift poems, letter-pressed on leaf-shaped fine arts papers. Her chapbook, Mouth Toward Sky, published by Finishing Line Press, contains poems that explore nature and family, motherhood, as well as memories of the Kennedy assassination, Vietnam, 9/11, and recent protests.