SHEILA KENNEDY AND LGBT ARTICLES COLLECTION, CA. 1990S-2015

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Processed by

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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department William Henry Smith Memorial Library Indiana Historical Society 450 West Ohio Street Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF 2 manuscript folders

COLLECTION:

COLLECTION Ca. 1990s–2015

DATES:

PROVENANCE: Sheila Kennedy, Indianapolis, IN; September 2015

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION 2015.0287

NUMBER:

NOTES: This collection includes a CD with digital files of Sheila

Kennedy's blogs.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Sheila Kennedy graduated from Indiana University (IU) with a degree in education and became an English teacher at Arlington High School in Indianapolis. In the 1970s, Kennedy changed careers and became a lawyer, graduating with honors from the IU School of Law at Indianapolis in 1975. From 1975 to 1977 she was an associate at Baker & Daniels. In 1977 she became the corporation counsel for the city of Indianapolis, until 1980, when she was made a partner at Mears Crawford Kennedy & Eichholtz. In 1992 Kennedy became the executive director of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union (ICLU). She remained with the ICLU for six years, when she left to become an assistant professor of law and public policy at IU's School of Public Environmental Affairs (SPEA).

The ICLU, also called the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Indiana, defends individual rights and liberties as written in the U.S. and Indiana Constitutions and civil rights laws. This includes monitoring legislation and handling complaints which are related to LGBT issues. A Gay and Lesbian Rights Task Force was created and worked with the ICLU to fight for the civil rights of the LGBT community. In January 1998 the ICLU started the Project for Equal Rights, with the mission of securing equal treatment for the LGBT community and to fight discrimination based on HIV/AIDS status.

Sources:

ACLU of Indiana, "About Us," http://www.aclu-in.org/about/about-us Collection materials.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection includes four assorted issues of *The Advocate*, a publication by the Indiana Civil Liberties Union. Articles in *The Advocate* related to LGBT issues include "Gay and Lesbian Rights Task Force" (Winter 1994), "The Project for Equal Rights: A New Ear for Indiana" by Sean Lemieux (Spring 1998), "Project for Equal Rights: An Update..." by Jennifer Dunlap (Summer 1998), and "The Project for Equal Rights: ICLU Launches New Project" by Sean Lemieux (Winter 1998).

The collection also contains a CD with digital files of Sheila Kennedy's blogs and the following miscellaneous articles related to Sheila Kennedy, the ICLU and LGBT history:

- Bruce K. Hetrick, "The Rights Stuff," *Indianapolis Monthly*, September 1997
- Emily Swiatek, "ICLU director leaving for IUPUI professorship," *The Indiana Lawyer*, March 1998
- Michael Rubino, "For Better or Worse," Indianapolis Monthly, Feb 2014
- Andrea Neal, "The 'Nice Republican Girl' who heads ICLU," n.d.
- Sheila Kennedy, "No business of government," n.d.

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