

Collection #  
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**GERRY TYRRELL PAPERS  
CA. 1985-1987**

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Processed by

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 half size manuscript box, 1 artifact

COLLECTION DATES: ca. 1985-1987

PROVENANCE: Gerry Tyrrell, Minneapolis, MN, 2015

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2015.0098

NOTES: LGBT History

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Gerry Tyrrell (1967- ) attended Earlham College from 1984 to 1987 for his bachelor's degree in psychology. He later went on to earn a master's degree in social work at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities in the late 1990's. His career includes Minnesota-based positions in substance abuse and mental health counseling, university administration, planning and research, HIV/AIDS case management, and adult behavioral health case management.

Sources:

Materials in collection

LinkedIn.com

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Papers of Gerry Tyrrell related to being gay in 1980's Indiana. Papers derive from Earlham College, a liberal arts school in Richmond, Indiana, between 1985-1987. Original order maintained; collection is in good condition. The first two folders include a letter and a speech, followed by folders with materials from the Lesbian Gay Peoples Union of Earlham College. The remaining three folders contain Tyrrell's college papers.

Tyrrell's first paper is a study on what LGBT-identity means in adult development, particularly regarding childrearing. He concludes that childrearing issues for gays revolve around the challenge of acquiring children via adoption whereas lesbians stressed the difficulties and societal pressures around having and raising children.

The second paper explores the psychological phases of identity formation, predominantly for gay men. He critiques the cultural assumption of heterosexuality in society. Tyrrell concludes that gay men suffer from identity incongruence and discrepancy based on society's attitude towards homosexuality.

Tyrrell's third paper is a critique on sexual orientation research. He explores the seven components of sexual orientation for both males and females that are heterosexual, gay/lesbian, and bisexual. Tyrrell draws some conclusions regarding identity formation, stating that each category has a unique identity and orientation experience.

One textile item, a pink triangle patch, stored separately in artifacts.

## CONTENTS

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Photocopied and typed coming out letter from Bill to parents, 15 Oct. 1985.	Box 1, Folder 1
Typed and edited speech, "The Prodigal Son Revisited," 6 May 1985.	Box 1, Folder 2
Issue of Earlham College Lesbian Gay Peoples Union, LGPU, <i>Connecting</i> , Spring 1987.	Box 1, Folder 3
Flyer for the LGPU-sponsored short film "Choosing Children," 14 Nov. 1985.	Box 1, Folder 4
College paper by Gerry Tyrrell, Mary Holtevert, and Paul Sylvester, "A Study of Homosexual Young Adults' Plans for Childrearing," 4 Mar. 1985.	Box 1, Folder 5
College paper by Gerry Tyrrell, "The Development of a Positive, Integrative Homosexual Identity," 19 Nov. 1985.	Box 1, Folder 6
College paper by Gerry Tyrrell, "The Rank of Importance of Klein's Multi-Variate Components in Self Definition of Sexual Orientation," n.d.	Box 1, Folder 7
Pink Triangle Cloth	Artifacts: 2015.0098