

Guide to the East End Women's Alliance Collection SC17

Finding aid prepared by Dinah Handel

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository	Barnard Archives and Special Collections
Creator	East End Women's Alliance.
Title	East End Women's Alliance Collection
Date [bulk]	Bulk, 1970-1999
Date [inclusive]	1970-2014
Extent	12.75 Linear feet ; 5 full sized boxes, 2 legal sized boxes, 2 banners (8.3 linear feet)
Physical Location	This collection is stored offsite and advance notice is required for access. To use this collection, please contact the Barnard Archives and Special Collections at 212.854.4079 or archives@barnard.edu .
Language	English
Abstract	This collection consists of administrative records, biographical files, and materials such as banners, posters, and t-shirts, regarding the activities of the East End Women's Alliance, a feminist group active from 1970 - 1999 in the Hamptons, New York.

Preferred Citation

East End Women's Alliance Collection, 1970 - 2014; Box and Folder; Barnard Archives and Special Collections, Barnard Library, Barnard College.

Historical Background

The East End Women's Alliance (EEWA) formed in 1970, as somewhat of a geographical response to the feminist organizing that was taking place in New York City, in particular the work of groups like New York Radical Feminists. EEWA was based in the Hamptons, New York, and many of the organization's members moved back and forth between New York City and the Hamptons, although the organization ultimately included local permanent Hamptons residents. EEWA remained active throughout the 1990's, disbanding in 1999 with the closing of the organization's bank account. According to EEWA documentation, the group was a "loosely structured" group of women with no designated leader.

EEWA was aligned with many of the ideological concerns of the Second Wave feminist movement, including consciousness raising, supporting and empowering women to hold political office or undertake political campaigns, and advocating for the Equal Rights Amendment and pro-choice abortion politics. The EEWA was active in advocating for Geraldine Ferraro in her Vice Presidential campaign, holding letter-writing and informational events, as well as voter registration drives. Other notable events by the EEWA were marches, rallies, and the Disco dance-a-thon to raise funds and support for the Equal Rights Amendment, and panels on abortion rights and access, and the feminization of poverty.

Further, the EEWA was interested in cultivating spaces and community that brought women together in conversation and empowerment, and to that end, worked to create a women's center in East Hampton, established the Women Honor Women award, and continued consciousness raising efforts by hosting the Women Talk to Women conference. Members of the EEWA were also involved with other feminist and civil rights organizations over the years, including the National Organization for Women (NOW), Planned Parenthood, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Many of these organization's local Hampton's chapters co-sponsored events with the EEWA.

Collection Scope and Content Summary

This collection contains materials related to the activities and members of the East End Women's Alliance. Materials relate to both the internal structure and formation of the organization, as well as the activities the organization undertook. Items related to the activities of the EEWA include consciousness raising guides from the New York Radical Feminists, newspaper clippings profiling events held by the EEWA, posters, flyers, pamphlets, banners, and t-shirts. The collection also includes biographical files of people associated with the EEWA throughout the years of the organization's existence.

The collection contains Audio Visual materials, including U-matic and VHS tapes of panels hosted by the EEWA, DVDs containing digital photographs, and floppy disks that house various files associated with the EEWA.

Collection Arrangement

The collection is arranged in the order it was received, which was divided into three portions by the creator: organizational files, which are arranged chronologically and by subject, biographical files, which are arranged alphabetically, and photographs which appear to have no arrangement. T-shirts, posters, and banners are housed in separate custom sized boxes. Audio Visual materials are currently unprocessed.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

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Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Publication Rights

Permission to publish material from the collection must be requested from the Barnard Archives and Special Collections. The Barnard Archives and Special Collections approves permission to publish that which it physically owns; the responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

Reproductions Restrictions

Photocopies or scans may be made for research purposes.

Accruals

No additions are expected.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Lilia Melani and the East End Women's Alliance, 2014.

Processing History

This collection was processed and the finding aid written by Dinah Handel, 2015.

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Audiocassettes
- Audiotapes
- Clippings
- Correspondence
- DVD-Video discs.
- Filmed panel discussions
- Video tapes

Subject(s)

- Abortion--Political aspects--United States
- Feminism
- International Women's Year, 1975
- Political campaigns
- Reproductive rights -- United States
- Second-wave feminism
- Women's health services
- Women's rights
- Women--Services for
- Women--Social conditions

Collection Inventory

	Box
Records, 1970-1983	1
Records, 1984-1990	2
Records, 1990-2014	3
Biographies, undated	4
Assorted Media, circa 1970's - circa 1990's	5
T-shirts, Banners, undated	6
U-Matic Tapes, 1990-1992	7
Large Banner, undated	8
Cloth Banner, undated	9