

Mike Hamlin and Joann Castle Papers

1.25 linear feet (1 SB, 1 MB)

1968-1973

Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Finding aid written by Jennifer Meekhof on May 29, 2012.

Accession Number: LP001946

Creator: Mike Hamlin and Joann Castle

Acquisition: The papers were accessioned in July 2007.

Language: Material entirely in English.

Access: Collection is open for research.

Use: Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library *Rules for Use of Archival Materials*. **Restrictions: Researchers may encounter records of a sensitive nature – personnel files, case records and those involving investigations, legal and other private matters. Privacy laws and restrictions imposed by the Library prohibit the use of names and other personal information which might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.**

Notes: Citation style: “Mike Hamlin and Joann Castle Papers, Box [#], Folder [#], Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University”

Related Material: Detroit Revolutionary Movements Records, Kenneth V. and Sheila M. Cockrel Papers

PLEASE NOTE: Folders in this collection are not necessarily arranged in any particular order. The box folder listing provides an inventory based on their original order. Subjects may be dispersed throughout the collection.

Abstract

Detroit residents Mike Hamlin and Joann Castle were active proponents for racial equality. Michael Charles Hamlin was born Oct 17, 1935. He graduated from Ecorse High School and attended the University of Michigan on a scholarship. He enlisted in the Marines, working as a firearms instructor until he was discharged in 1960. He worked as a delivery truck driver for the Detroit News, where he met Kenneth Cockrel and John Watson. He later worked for Wayne State University's newspaper, "South End." Mike Hamlin was active in political groups such as the Black Workers Conference. He was a founding member of the League of Revolutionary Black Workers and served as an officer. He also organized the black radical newspaper, "Inner City Voice."

Joann Carole Castle was born May 30, 1937. In 1957 she married Donald J. Castle, Chairman of the catholic lay organization Hourglass, with whom she had six children. After their marriage ended in the early 1970s she began attending Wayne State University. Both Hamlin and Castle were active in the Motor City Labor League (MCLL). Hamlin was a founder of the organization and Castle worked for a period as a coordinator. Both attended meetings of the Control-Conflict-Change group of the Ad Hoc Action Group of Concern Citizens.

The papers consist of records from Mike Hamlin and Joann Castle's involvement in MCLL, largely through the Red Squad files of police surveillance that documented meetings, personal actions and information. The collection also includes articles, clippings and correspondence from the controversy over the Archdiocese Opportunity Program to aid the impoverished in Detroit and the Hourglass group involvement to support self-determination of African Americans in the late 1960s. Joann's thesis on the Community Health Associations is also included.

Important Subjects:

Ad-Hoc Action Group (Detroit, Mich.)
Archdiocese of Detroit
Black Panther Party
Black power--Michigan--Detroit
Black Workers Congress
Control, Conflict and Change (Detroit, Mich.)
Hourglass
Motor City Labor League (Detroit, Mich.)
Racism--Michigan--Detroit
Radicalism--Michigan--Detroit

Important Names:

Baker, General Gordon
Cockrel, Kenneth V.
Dowdell, Glanton
Watson, John

Arrangement

Box 1

1. Dreambuilders: the making of the CHA, 1982
- 2-3. Hamlin, Red Squad file, 1969-71
Contains sensitive materials - please refer to Use restrictions on page one.
4. Motor City Labor League, analysis, 1972
5. Black Manifesto, Hamlin surveillance, 1970-73
6. Control-Conflict-Change, 1968-72
7. Hourglass correspondence with Archdiocese of Detroit, 1968
8. Hourglass newsletter, 1968
9. Archdiocesan Opportunity Program, report of Hearing of Fact Finding Committee, 1968
10. Hourglass Education Proposal, 1968
11. Report to investigate Archdiocese Opportunity Program, 1968
12. Archdiocesan Opportunity Program clippings and correspondence, 1967-68
13. National Black Economic Conference, Defense Committee, 1968-69
14. Archbishop interview, Opportunity Program materials, 1968
15. New Detroit Committee Fund and Hourglass position papers, 1968
16. Hourglass support of Black Self-Determination, 1968
17. CL Organizer and Imperialism article, 1972
18. The Catholic Church and Human relations materials, 1968
19. Project Hourglass, 1968
20. Control-Conflict-Change, publications, 1971

Box 2 - AV

1. Hourglass witness of Black Self-Determination photographs
2. Detroit News protest photographs