

Mel Ravitz Papers
Part II
5 linear feet
1950-1988 (bulk 1962-1971)

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

Finding aid written by Maureen Simari on May 12, 2010.

Accession Number: 1720

Creator: Mel Ravitz

Acquisition: Part II of the Mel Ravitz Papers was placed in the Reuther Library in May 2003.

Language: Material entirely in English.

Access: Papers are 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: “Mel Ravitz Papers, Box [#], Folder [#], Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University”

Related Material: Photographs and audio/video tapes were transferred to the Reuther’s Audiovisual Department.

PLEASE NOTE: Material in this collection has been arranged by series ONLY. Folders are not arranged within each series – we have provided an inventory based on their original order. Subjects may be dispersed throughout several boxes within any given series.

Abstract

Mel Ravitz was a Detroit City Council president, onetime mayoral candidate and social advocate in Detroit government for more than 40 years. Known as a profound orator, he often made public presentations on urban issues and social problems affecting the City of Detroit. He diligently worked to help disadvantaged people, improve race relations, and promote social action in Detroit.

Part II of Ravitz's papers provides information on a wide range of social and urban issues affecting the City of Detroit, including the numerous speeches he made discussing these issues. Information concerning Ravitz's mayoral campaign is included. There is also material covering his parallel academic career, including research and lectures given at Wayne State University and the University of Michigan.

Important Subjects:

City of Detroit
Detroit Common Council
Detroit—Politics and government
Detroit—Race relations
Detroit Riot—1967
Social change—United States
Urban renewal
City planning
Wayne State University

Important Names:

Levin, Sander
Cavanagh, Jerome P.
Glusac, Michael M.
Doss, Lawrence P.
Kern, Father Clement
Jones, Clara S.
Mazey, Ernest

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into 3 series. Series and box numbering continues from Part 1.

Series VI: Speeches and Manuscript, 1956-1972 (Boxes 74-75)

Series VII: City of Detroit, 1950-1975 (Boxes 76-77)

Series VIII: Academia, 1944-1976 (Box 77)

Folders in each series are simply listed by their location within each box. They are not arranged, so any given subject may be dispersed throughout several boxes within each series.

Series VI

Box 74

1. Mel Ravitz Manuscript, 1988
2. Planning Book, 1957-1958
3. Urban Renewal, 1956-1971
4. Urban Housing, 1959-1966
5. Urban Detroit Issues, 1965-1976
6. Multi-Problem Neighborhoods, 1962-1965
7. Regional Problems, 1970-1973
8. Urban Detroit Issues, 1956-1970
9. Assimilation and Schools, 1962-1967
10. County Government, 1959-1971
11. Changing Communities, 1956-1973
12. Committee of One Hundred, Local Government, 1962-1967
13. Community Decision Making, 1963-1973
14. Neighborhood Housing, 1959-1963 (1 of 2)
15. Neighborhood Housing, 1959-1963 (2 of 2)
16. Urban Sociology, 1963-1972
17. Community Problems, 1956-1967
18. Detroit in Transition, 1956-1971
19. Funding Urban Projects, 1964-1968
20. Churches and Urban Renewal, 1957-1969
21. Common Council Budget Message, 1968-1973
22. Social Issues 1964-1972

Box 75

1. Detroit Today and Tomorrow, 1968 March 30
2. School's Role in Community Organization, 1967 January 24
3. Future of Urban America, 1971 September
4. Governor's Conference, 1963 July 26
5. Happy Family Living in Today's Culture, 1968 January 25
6. Implications of Changing Employment Patterns, 1962 November 1
7. Impressions of A Sociologist Turned Political Candidate, 1962 July
8. Lafayette Park Study, 1964 August
9. Mayor Council Relations, 1974 January
10. Major Routes to Regionalism, 1970 October 29

11. Modernizing Homes and Neighborhoods, 1962 May 15
12. New Federalism, 1973 October 24
13. Citizen Organization and the Schools, 1968 August 28
14. Political Leaders and Delinquency Problems, 1971 June
15. Politics of the City, 1972 November
16. Politics of Mental Health, 1966 November 29
17. Politics of Pollution, 1970 April 22
18. Power of Planning, 1972 April 16
19. Preventing Deterioration in Detroit, 1962 March 23
20. Problems of the Changing Community, 1963 February 23
21. Problems of Detroit, 1962 October 26
22. Problems that Blur Contemporary Image of Urbanization, 1962 October 17
23. Public-Private Sector and Urban Problem Solving, 1971 September 29
24. Public and Voluntary War on Poverty, 1965
25. Racial Problem in Detroit the Current Situation, 1965 September 1
26. Race Relations Yesterday and Today, 1966 October
27. Not By Local Leadership Alone, 1974 January 12
28. New Resident and His Education, 1962 November 23
29. Problems of Skid Row, 1962 March 14
30. Police-Community Relations, 1965
31. Crisis In Our Cities, 1966 November 15
32. Jewish Community Council Delegate Assembly, 1968 January 10
33. Democracy Revolution, 1966 September
34. Detroit Is Mere Survival Enough, 1972 February 26
35. Detroit Its People and Its Future, 1973 February 10
36. Detroit of The Future: Problems and Prospects, 1962 January 5
37. Detroit Problems and Prospects, 1965
38. Diverse Society Challenges the Church, 1964, January 28
39. Emerging Teachers in the Community, 1966 March 25
40. Employing the Disadvantaged, 1968 May 10
41. Ethics of Politics, 1967 February 5
42. Fire Protection on a Regional Basis, 1970 March 4
43. Function of Cities, 1963 April 10
44. Future of Central City, 1968 November 26
45. Future of Cities and Counties, 1962-1970
46. Future of Detroit and the Metropolitan Area, 1972 May 3
47. Future of Urban America, 1970-1971
48. Aging in the Future, 1968 September
49. American Education and the Federation of Teachers, 1963 September 12
50. American Public Health Association Conference, 1971 October 11
51. Block Club and Community Relations, 1962 September 23
52. Brotherhood a Time for Reckoning, 1968 February 21
53. Community in Transition, 1964 June 5
54. Can SEMCOG Solve Our Regional Problems, 1970-1971
55. Central City and the Suburbs, 1969 April
56. Challenge of White Collar Automation, 1963 September 14

57. Our Changing Community and Education, 1963 August 27
58. Changing Demands on City Government, 1966 March 25
59. Changing Focus of Community Problems, 1958 October 15
60. Controversy in Mental Health, 1972 September 13
61. Crime Control in the Urban Area, 1969 January 9

Series VII

Box 76

1. Correspondence, 1970-1975
2. Automobile Industry, 1972
3. Transit Data, 1972
4. Law Enforcement, 1973
5. Area Development Proposal, 1972-1973
6. Motion Picture Proposal on Urban Adjustment, 1961 January 31
7. Ravitz Mayoral Primary, 1973
8. Mayor Announcement, 1973 February 12
9. Detroit Mayoral Campaign Speech, 1973, June 1
10. Candidate for Mayor of Detroit, 1972-1973
11. Ravitz Campaign Fundraisers, 1965
12. Conference Article Whither the University, 1968 November
13. Who Cares About Detroit, 1971 May 6
14. Youth Leadership
15. Social Change and Planning, 1950-1958
16. Urban Planning Process, 1955-1959
17. Relocated Detroit Churches, 1956-1958
18. Central High School Centennial, 1958 May 17
19. Gun Control, 1968-1969
20. Politics Book, 1970-1973
21. 4% Contribution of Mr. Ravitz's Pay, 1972
22. Vietnam War Demonstration, 1965
23. Breakthrough, 1964-1970
24. Block Clubs, 1973
25. Recreation, 1969-1970
26. Tax System, 1966-1969
27. HUD Housing, 1973
28. Department of Street Railways, 1972-1973
29. Family Care Homes, 1971
30. Black Progress, 1973
31. Inter-Faith, 1970-1973
32. Community Newsletters, 1970-1972
33. Homeowner's Ordinances, 1964-1973
34. Frederick Douglass Mural, 1972
35. Health Care, 1973
36. Congressional Information, 1970-1972
37. Trade Union Leadership Council Metropolitan Detroit Labor Community Association, 1970 July

Box 77

1. Urban Renewal Effects on Community Life and Property, 1962 June 23
2. Urban Renewal Ideals and Reality, 1962 June 9
3. Attitude Survey in Neighborhood Planning, 1957
4. University in Our Urbanized Society, 1964 April 3
5. Housing Boom, 1971 November 8
6. Sociological View of Drug Use and Abuse, 1968 February 27
7. Sociologist as a Policy Maker in the Planning Process, 1962-1963
8. Sociology of Block Club, 1959 November 20
9. Some Comments on Urban Renewal, 1962 April 25
10. Southeast Michigan Council of Government, 1967 January 31
11. State of American Democracy, 1968 October 11
12. Techniques and Methods for Accomplishing Social Change, 1962 May 10
13. Towards A New Detroit, 1967 August 10
14. Urban Life Where is it Headed, 1969 March 4
15. State of the Region SEMCOG Address, 1971 January 30
16. Student Unrest, 1968 November
17. Race and Housing, 1962 December 1
18. Regionalization Subcommittee Report, 1972 May 23
19. Reflections on Silence
20. Residency and Employment in Detroit City Government, 1968 July
21. Role of Community Council, 1956 May 17
22. Role of School in the Urban Setting, 1962 July 2
23. Rural In-Migration and Urban Assimilation, 1963 July 15
24. Political Behavior Study Questionnaire, 1968 July
25. Public Hearing on Federal Aid Cuts in Detroit, 1973 March 20
26. SEMCOG Past, Present, and Future, 1970 May 5
27. Statement of 1968-1969 Budget, 1968 June
28. Skid Row, 1962 March 14
29. Social Causes of Crime, 1971 September
30. Social Work and Social Action, 1963 November 20
31. Socialized Religion, 1962 August 12
32. Politicians and Re-Election, 1965 February

Series VIII

33. University of Michigan Course, 1976 January
34. Municipal Administration I Urban Condition, 1972-1975
35. Municipal Administration II Politics of City, 1962-1976
36. Municipal Administration III Council Relations, 1974 January
37. Municipal Administration IV Social Control, 1976 January
38. Municipal Administration V Ethics of Politics, 1967-1976
39. Municipal Administration VI Relations of Administrative and Elected Officials, 1976 February
40. Municipal Administration VII Practical Aspects of Agency Administration
41. Municipal Administration IX Citizen Input, 1968 August 28

42. Municipal Administration X County Entity, 1968-1975
43. Municipal Administration XI Regionalization, 1975
44. Municipal Administration XII Money, 1971-1976
45. Municipal Administration XIII Future of Cities, 1962 September 2
46. Social Psychology I
47. Social Psychology II, 1958
48. Social Psychology III, 1961
49. Social Psychology IV, 1949-1955
50. Social Psychology V, 1944-1960
51. Social Psychology VI
52. Social Psychology VII, 1960-1961
53. Social Psychology VIII
54. Social Psychology IX
55. Social Psychology X, 1953 August 1