The New York Public Library Humanities and Social Sciences Library Manuscripts and Archives Division

Women's Action Coalition Records 1989-2003 MssCol 3376



Briar Sauro October 1997

Revised by Leslie Reyman October 2008

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Summary

Main entry: Women's Action Coalition

Title: Women's Action Coalition Records, 1989-2003 (bulk 1992-1993)

Size: 20 linear feet (33 boxes, 7 videotapes)

Source: Pat DeAngelis for the Women's Action Coalition, 1994-1997, 2003

Abstract: The Women's Action Coalition (WAC) was a feminist direct-action

organization founded in 1992 to fight discrimination against women. Its members held colorful demonstrations in support of women's rights, using a drum corps and the slogan "WAC is watching. We will take action." The Coalition's records contain administrative files, committee files, subject files, photographs, printed material, video recordings, as well as posters, placards, banners, and props used

during protest demonstrations.

Access: Apply in the Special Collections Office for admission to the

Manuscripts and Archives Division.

Correspondence series (box 13) is closed until 2075.

Preferred citation: Women's Action Coalition Records, Manuscripts and Archives

Division, The New York Public Library.

Special formats Artifacts, Banners, Photographs, Placards, Posters, Video

recordings.

Historical note

On January 28, 1992, a group of ten to fifteen friends from the New York art world called a meeting, entitled "Women strategizing in the 90's". There were many reasons these women felt frustrated and angry, but the chief catalyst for the meeting was the recent confirmation of Clarence Thomas as a Supreme Court Justice after Anita Hill's testimony that he sexually harassed her. Between seventy-five and one hundred women came to this meeting, and the group decided to become a direct-action organization, similar to ACT-UP (the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) and the Women's Health Action Coalition (WHAM). They immediately voted on the initials "WAC". After a dispute over whether the "A" should stand for "Action" or "Artists", their name officially became Women's Action Coalition.

WAC's first action, at a sexual assault trial involving students from St. John's University, took place six days later. At that time, WAC created its signature "blue dot" logo (see examples in administrative and photographs series), modeled after television's way of obscuring rape victims' faces on camera. Members founded the drum corps, which performed at all subsequent actions. In addition slogans announced, "Let women define rape". WAC was born.

By the second meeting, WAC had 200 participants. By the fourth, and for the rest of the summer of 1992, about 300 women attended every Tuesday. Members created a phone tree and then discarded it as useless, when the number of NYC women involved in some way grew to thousands. The women in WAC were, for the most part, from similar socioeconomic backgrounds. Most were white, many were well-educated, and many were artists and freelance workers, allowing them time to be active in the coalition.

WAC conducted its meetings in a nonhierarchical manner, loosely following "Robert's Rules of Order" and modeled after those of ACT-UP. They were led by facilitators and everything was voted on by everyone. However WAC's quick growth soon made it impossible to bring all inquiries to the floor. Members created committees for specific actions and issues.

WAC was extremely visible and well organized. Their numerous actions were well-publicized and executed. In addition to the above mentioned action at the St. John's University rape trial, they also demonstrated at the trial of several members of a Glen Ridge, NJ high school football team accused of sodomizing a mentally-challenged classmate; at the Pace Gallery and Guggenheim Museum to protest the near- exclusion of women artists; and at the Democratic and Republican national conventions.

WAC's mission statement, created by the media committee, contained the memorable phrase, "WAC is watching. We will take action." Art journals described their graphics as timely and thought-provoking, as well as impressive artistically, and their actions often demonstrated a flair for the theatrical. Media coverage led to mass interest in the organization. Letters to WAC poured in from women across the country who read about WAC in women's magazines, such as *Cosmopolitan*, and who were eager to get involved.

WAC's seemingly nonstop actions lasted well into 1993. However, WAC's internal difficulties eventually rose to the surface. Issues of race and class diversity and ethnic and sexual identity, though discussed by committees such as the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion and the Lesbian Caucus, caused WAC to lose its direction. Member Tracy Ann Essoglou, in her essay, "Louder than Words: A WAC Chronicle," points to differing levels of political activist experience and WAC's "action, action," tendency, which prevented earlier dialogues on matters of diversity. WAC's numbers dwindled to seven or eight, and the groups last meeting was on November 6, 1995.

WAC Selected Bibliography

- The 1993 One Show, Every Women is The Ideal Woman, n.p. 1993
- Broude, Norma and Mary D. Garrad, eds. *The Power of Feminist Art, The American Movement of The 1970s, History and Impact*, New York, Harry N. Abrams, Incorporated, 1994, pp. 47, 90, 101, 102-103, 155, 164, 267
- Dorman, Mary. "WAC is Watching", Visions Magazine, Fall 1992, 49-51
- Edelson, Mary Beth. The Art of Mary Beth Edelson, New York City, n.p., 2002
- Felshin, Nina, ed. But Is It Art? The Spirit of Art as Activism, Seattle, Washington, Bay Press Inc., 1995, pp 333-372
- Findlen, Barbara, ed. *Listen Up Voices the Next Feminist Generation*, Seattle, Washington, Seal Press, 1995, pp. 208, 239-248
- Gaylor, Annie Laurie. Woe to the Women-The Bible Tells Me So. The Bible, Female Sexuality and the Law, Madison Wisconsin, Freedom From Religion Foundation, 1988.
- Houppert, Karen, "WAC Strikes Back Feminism In Your Face: The Women's Action Coalition Confronts Sexism in the Media, The Courts, and on the Streets." *Village Voice*, 9 June 1992, 33-38
- Houppert, Karen. "WAC's Big Break-up: The Women's Action Coalition Combusts," *Village Voice*, 20 July, 1993
- "WAC is Watching. We Will Take Action." *Bomb* Artists Writers Actors Directors, Winter 1993 pp. 46-47
- WAC Stats, The Facts About Women, The Women's Action Coalition, ISBN No. 0-9635162-0-5

Scope and content note

The Women's Action Coalition Records trace the rise and fall of a direct-action group often considered part of the "Third Wave" of feminism in the early 1990s. The records are almost entirely those of WAC New York, although there are files on the activities of WAC Boston and scattered files about other chapters. The bulk of the material dates from 1992 and 1993.

The Coalition's records contain administrative, committee, action, and subject files. Photographs, mostly taken by WAC members, T-shirts and stickers, press clippings documenting WAC's activities, and an extensive collection of banners, posters, placards, and props used in demonstrations capture the feeling and composition of the organization. Video recordings cover WAC actions and include Laura Cottingham's video oral history concerning her participation in the organization.

Arrangement note

The Women's Action Coalition Records are organized in the following series:

Series I. Administrative files

Series II. Subject files

Series III. Committee files

Series IV. Actions

Series V. Correspondence

Series VII. Photographs

Series VIII. Artifacts

Series IX. Banners, placards, and posters

Series X. Video recordings

Series descriptions and container list

Series I. Administrative files, 1989-2003, undated

The administrative files consist of a certificate of incorporation, meeting minutes, guidelines for facilitators and treasurers, proposals and correspondence relating to the publication of *WAC Stats*, contact lists, guidelines for starting a WAC chapter, files on WAC chapters in other cities, copies of the WAC logo and stationery, press lists, and *WAC Circle*, its bimonthly publication.

| <u>Box</u> 1 | Fol 1 2 3 4 5 6 7-8 9 10 | 2003 Action proposal forms Archives Background Book offers, 1992 Book project, 1992-1994 1992-1993 Krall, L. Brandon, 1993 Kurz, Diane, 1993 WAC Stats, 1993-1994 Boston chapter |
|-----------------|--|---|
| | 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 | Abortion access at Malden Hospital, 1995 Oct Anthology submission, 1996-1997 Body Image at the Mall, 1994 Summer Bosnia March, undated Boston Pride, 1993-1996 Breast cancer newspaper stuffing, 1994 Nov Brighton Police action, 1993 Feb Calendar, 1994 Counter-presence, 1994 Apr 15 Deck the Gap, 1995 Dec Economic insecurity rate race, 1996 Apr Fingerprint This!, 1995 Framingham 8, 1993 Jan General material, 1992-1997 Judgewatch, 1993-1995 Labor Day, 1993 Sept Make Sexism History, 1994 |
| 2 | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 | Make-up, 1993 March On Washington, 1993 Apr Memorial Day Parade, 1993 -1994 New Freedom Trail, 1992 Oct 31 Operation Retaliation Clinic action, 1993 Picketing of Operation Rescue members, 1993, 1996 Promote masturbation, 1995 Spring Remembering our sisters, 1993 Oct Rubbing Up Against the Law, 1996 Feb Sheros, 1993-1995 Shopping action, 1993 Dec State House action, 1995 Jan Taking Space: Women Building Activism, 1994 Teens and Sex, 1994 Fall Transaction, 1992 Valentine's Day, 1995 Welfare vs Wealthfare game sheets, 1995 |

| Box 2 | Fol 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36-37 38 | Whitburn wheatpasting, 1995 Women's Community cancer project demonstration, 1993 Sept Workfare, 1993 Certification of Incorporation, 1992 Chapter contact list, undated Conference proposal, undated Contact list, undated Display ad price quotes, 1993 Dorman, Mary, 1992 Drum corps, 1989 Economic summit proposal, 1993 ED-Feminist ethics and behavior, undated First anniversary benefit party, 1993 Facilitators Guide to the General Meeting, 1992 Facilitators nominations and ballots, 1992-1993 Financial guidelines, 1993 Fundraising, 1992 General, undated How To Plan An Action by Mary Beth Edelson, 1992 Ignite-A-WAC guidelines, undated |
|----------|--|--|
| 3 | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9-20 21-25 | Legal 501(c)(3), 1992 Gesmer, Ellen, Esq., 1992-1995 Letter campaign responses, 1992 Liaison person, undated Lists, 1992-1993 Logo sheet, undated Media kit, undated Meet The Media-Guide to Press Interviews, undated Meeting minutes, 1992-1993 1992 Jan - Dec 1993 Jan - May |
| 4 | 1-2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 | 1993 Jul - Aug 1993 Sep 1993 Nov Members orientation packet, undated Members who are artists, 1993 Merchandise sales record, 1992 Mission statement, undated Molleson, 1993 New member's orientation packet, undated |
| 5 | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 | Phone tree and guidelines, undated Press contacts list, undated Press kits, 1992-1993 Printed matter bookstore @ Dia, 1992 Random House book proposal, 1992 Start A WAC cover letter, undated Selected letter campaigns, 1992 Suggestion jar, 1992 T-shirt costs, 1992 WAC chapters, 1992-1996 WAC Circle newsletter, 1992-1993 WAC Production, 1994 |

Box Fol 5 13

WACNET-Satellite cities and affiliates, 1992

Series II. Subject files, 1992-1997, undated

This series contains brochures and reports on subjects of special interest to women. They include breast cancer, rape, sexual harassment, abortion, police brutality, women in prison, teenage reproductive issues, portrayal of women in the media, and violence against women.

Some files contain information on events to which WAC responded not with direct action, but through formal and informal letter writing campaigns. Some of these campaigns concerned the naming of a pub after Jack the Ripper, a degrading article in the *Harvard Law Review* about a deceased feminist lawyer, and "pro-life" advertising on TBS (Turner Broadcasting System). There is also information about other women's and feminist organizations.

Several folders contain newspaper clippings and magazine articles drawn from New York City metropolitan area publications, national popular magazines, like *Cosmopolitan* and *Ms.*; as well as art journals.

| <u>Box</u> 5 | Fol 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 | Abortion, 1992-1994 Act-Up, 1992 AIDS, 1992 Anti-Censorship, undated Artist and Homeless collaborative, 1993 Artwork by Mary Beth Edelson, 1992 (Book submission) Bake sale fundraiser, 1992 Bell Communications sexual harassment suit, 1992 |
|-----------------|---|---|
| 6 | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 | Bosnian women raped (war crimes), 1992 Boycott Colorado, ca. 1992 Boycott Silver Palace restaurant, 1994 Breast cancer, 1993-1994 Buffalo, NY counter-protest, 1992 Chants, undated Child sexual abuse law, 1993 City Health Information, 1993 Citywide Coalition to End Police Brutality, 1992 Civil disobedience handbook, 1992 Clippings |
| | 11 | Art related, 1992-1993 |
| | 12 | General, 1992-1997 |
| | 13 | New York area, 1992 |
| | 14 | Not WAC related, 1992 |
| | 15 | Overview WAC actions, 1992 |
| | 16 | Commission on the Status of Women New York City,, 1994 |
| | 17 18 | Cruz, Michael, 1992 |
| | 19 | Domestic Violence, 1992 Equal Rights Amendment, 1992 |
| | 20 | FAIR-Fairness & Accuracy In Reporting, ca. 1993 |
| | 21 | FURY-Feminists United to Represent Youth, undated (Mission Statement) |
| | 22 | Gabriella Network, 1994 |
| | 23 | Gay Pride Parade, 1992 |
| | 24 | General material, 1992-1994 |
| | 25 | Getting It Gazette, 1992 July (Democratic National Convention) |
| | 26 | Girlcott against Nestle/Carnation, undated |

| Pov | Eol | |
|-----------------|----------------------|--|
| <u>Box</u> 7 | <u>Fol</u> 1 | Governor's Taskforce against sexual harassment, 1992 Sept. |
| • | 2 | Guerrilla Girls, 1992 |
| | 3 | Harvard Law Review, 1992 |
| | 4 | IFCO-Interreligious Foundation for Community OrganizationCuba |
| | • | Friendshipment, 1994 |
| | 5 | Index list, undated |
| | 6 | Individual member actions, 1992 |
| | 7 | Iris House benefit, 1992 |
| | 8 | Jack the Ripper club, 1993 |
| | 9 | A Job is a Right Campaign, 1994 |
| | 10 | Lesbian Avengers, 1992-1993 |
| | 11 | Lesbians, undated |
| | 12 | Lifetime Television, 1993 (police sexual harassment) |
| | 13 | Linn, Cathy, 1994 |
| | 14 | Mississippi Human Rights hearings, 1993 |
| | 15 | Mosbacher Op-Ed piece, 1992 Apr. 24 |
| | 16 | Mother's Voices, 1994 (Speaking from the heart about AIDS) |
| | 17 | National Council on Women's Health, 1993 |
| | 18 | National Endowment for the Arts, 1992 |
| | 19 | Neary, Charmian, 1992 |
| | 20-22 | New Directions For Women, 1992 |
| | 23 24 | New York City School Board Elections, undated |
| | 2 4 25 | Operation Lift The Ban, 1993 (gays in the military) Operation Rescue, 1992 |
| | 26 | Pharmaceutical companies, 1992 |
| | 27 | Pornography Victim's Compensation Act, 1992-1993 |
| _ | | |
| 8 | 1 | Pro-Choice, 1992-1993 |
| | 2 | Reading list, 1993 |
| | 3 | Resume project, undated |
| | 4 5 | Riker's Island Mental Health Services, 1993 |
| | 6 | Roe vs. Wade, 1992 Rudywatch, 1993 |
| | 7 | Save Our Cities/Save Our Children, 1992 |
| | 8 | Self Defense courses, undated |
| | 9 | Sex workers, 1993 |
| | 10 | Speak Up! workshops, 1993 |
| | 11 | Stalking legislationH.R. 840, 1994 (House of Representatives) |
| | 12 | Stop Tailhook '93 demonstration, 1993 |
| | 13 | Tax Revolt for Healthcare, 1992 Apr. 13 |
| | 14 | Teenage reproductive issues, undated |
| | 15 | Third Wave, 1992 |
| | 16 | Turner Broadcasting System, 1992 |
| | 17 | Tyson, Mike, 1992 |
| | 18 | United Nations, 1992-1994 (Sexual harassment) |
| | 19 | Violence, 1992 |
| | 20 | WHAM!-Women's Health Action & Mobilization, 1992 |
| | 21 | The Woman Activist, 1993 |
| | 22 23 | Women in film, 1993 |
| | 23 24 | Women in film, 1993 Women's Caucus for Art, 1993 |
| | 2 4 25 | Women's Housing Coalition, ca. 1994 |
| | 26 | Zero Tolerance, undated |
| | | 2.0 . 5.5.61100; 41144104 |

Series III. Committee files, 1992-1993, undated
This series contains information about some of the many committees that helped WAC plan its activities. They include Action Planning, Coordination, Facilitator, Finance, Media Watch and Outreach. As time went on, two committees became the most volatile: the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, and the Lesbian Caucus. These committees brought "consciousness raising" issues before a large and extremely diverse group of women.

| Box | <u>Fol</u> | |
|-----|------------|---|
| 9 | 1 | Action Planning, undated |
| | 2 | Anti-Censorship, 1992 |
| | 3 | Artwatch, 1992 |
| | 4 | Book, 1993 (WAC handbook contract) |
| | 5-6 | Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, 1992-1993 |
| | 7 | Coalition Building, 1992 (Diversity) |
| | 8 | Coordinating Committee, 1992 |
| | 9 | Economic violence, 1992 |
| | 10 | Editorial, undated |
| | 11 | Facilitator, 1992 |
| | 12 | Finance, 1992-1993 |
| | 13 | Investigative, undated |
| | 14 | Lesbian caucus, 1992 |
| | 15 | Media Watch, 1992 |
| 10 | 1 | On-line, undated |
| | 2-4 | Outreach, undated |
| | 5 | Philosophy, 1992 |

Series IV. Actions, 1992-1994

This series contains proposals, planning information and ideas, leaflets, and news clippings about many of WAC's protest actions. The first file contains WAC's chronology of its actions. Included are files on the St. John's University action, Mother's and Father's Day, pink slips for Bush and Quayle, the Glen Ridge high school rape trial, the 1992 Democratic and Republican National Conventions, and the March on Washington (March for Women's Lives). In addition, there is information about the Pace Gallery and SoHo Guggenheim actions which protested the absence of women artists and artists of color in art shows.

There is also information about less direct action-oriented projects such as Art In The Anchorage and the Postcards to Bill Clinton campaign. Also included is a file containing many of the Request for Coverage letters concerning these actions.

| Box | Fol | |
|-----|--------|--|
| 11 | 1 | Action chronology, 1992-1993 |
| | 2 | Art in the Anchorage, 1992 |
| | 3 | Cardinal O'Connor, 1992 |
| | | Counter ImagesIdeal Woman Campaign |
| | 4 | Design production estimates, 1992 |
| | 5 | Meeting agenda, 1993 |
| | 6 | Model release statements, 1993 |
| | 7 | Photographs and contact sheets, 1992-1993 |
| | 8 | Photographs and quotes, 1992-1993 |
| | 9 | Sample mock-ups, 1992-1993 |
| | 10 | Sample photosPolaroids, 1992-1993 |
| | 11 | Democratic National Convention, 1992 July |
| | 12 | Documenta, 1992 |
| | 13 | Father's Day action, 1992 |
| | 14 | Figueroa, Nicholas, 1992 (Judge in rape trial) |
| | 15 | Glen Ridge, NJ rape trial, 1992 |
| | 16 | Guggenheim SoHo, 1992 |
| | 17 | Holland Tunnel, 1992 |
| | 18 | Irish Consulate protest, 1992 |
| 12 | 1 | March In March 1004 Mar 6 (International Mamonia Day) |
| 12 | 1 2 | March In March, 1994 Mar 6 (International Women's Day) March on Washington, DC, 1992 Apr 5 |
| | 2 | • |
| | 2 | Mother's Day |
| | 3 4 | 1992 May 8 1993 May 7 |
| | 5 | New York City firefighters, 1992 |
| | 6 | Other actions, 1992 |
| | 7 | Pace Gallery, 1993 Oct. |
| | 8 | Parental notification, 1993 |
| | 9 | Pink slips for Bush and Quayle, 1992 Oct. |
| | 10 | Postcards to Bill Clinton, 1993 |
| | 11 | Republication National Convention, 1992 |
| | 12 | Requests for coverage, 1992-1993 |
| | 13-15 | St. Johns University rape trial, 1992 |
| | 16 | Stop Rape in former Yugoslavia, 1993 |
| | 17 | Sub-station action, 1992 |
| | 18 | Women Ignite, 1992 |
| | 10 | Women ignice, 1002 |

Series V. Correspondence, 1992-1994, undated

The correspondence contains letters from women all over the United States asking WAC for information. The letters also included words of encouragement, support, and agreement with WAC's ideals. Some women volunteered to start a branch of WAC in their hometowns, though this correspondence does not indicate any follow-through.

The correspondence came from an enormously diverse group of women, representing both urban and rural women, and all ages, from teenagers to senior grandmothers. Frequently the correspondents mentioned discovering WAC through articles published in *Harper's Bazaar, Cosmopolitan, New York, Elle* and *Sassy.* A small number of the letters are very personal, talking about violence and rape, and some of these letters ask directly for help.

The series is closed to the public until 2075.

| <u>Box</u> | Fol | |
|------------|-----|------------------------------|
| 13 | 1 | 1992 |
| | 2-6 | 1993 |
| | 7-9 | 1994 Jan - Nov |
| | 10 | undated |
| | 11 | Strict confidence, 1992-1993 |
| | | |

Series VI. Photographs, 1991-1995, undatedThis series contains photographs taken by members of WAC, including Mary Beth Edelson, Terise Slotkin, and Harriet Zucker. The majority of photographs are black and white, although there are some color snapshots of meetings and actions.

| <u>Box</u> | Fol | |
|------------|--------|--|
| 14 | 1 2 | Allen, Meredith The Queer Book, 1991-1995 WAC, 1992-1994 |
| 16 | 1 | Contact sheets |
| 10 | 1 | Contact sneets |
| 14 | 3 | Damoff, Stephanie K., ca. 1993 Edelson, Mary Beth |
| | 4 | March on Washington, 1992 Apr 4 |
| | 5 6 | St. John's University, 1992 Feb 10 Gehring, Carol, 1993 |
| 16 | 5 | Guerrilla Girls, undated (Paper bag with gorilla image) |
| 14 | 7 | Kahane, Lisa, undated |
| 16 | 3 | Kahane, Lisa, 1993 |
| 14 | 8 | Moses, Ellen, undated |
| 16 | 2 | Moses, Ellen, 1992 |
| 14 | 9 | O'Brien, Katherine, ca. 1992 |
| | 10 | Photocopies, undated |
| | 11 | Rodolitz, Lynda, 1992 Slotkin, Teri |
| | 12 | Figueroa action, 1992 Apr 16 |
| | 13 | Moynihan action, 1992 Apr 22 |
| 15 | 1 | WAC slide show, undated |
| | 2 | Washington, DC march, 1992 Apr 5 |
| | 3 | Star Black, 1992-1994 (Slides, contact sheets, negatives) |
| 16 | 4 | Women's rights are civil rights, undated (Transparency) |
| 15 | 4 | Unidentified photographs, undated |
| | 5 | WAC snapshots, 1992-1995 (slides) |
| | 6 | Zucker, Harriet, undated |

Series VII. Artifacts, circa 1992-1994This series contains chiefly props used in WAC actions, including drums, pink slips, dildos, stickers, and T-shirts.

| Box | <u>Fol</u> | |
|-----|------------|--|
| | | T-shirts, undated |
| | | White |
| 17 | 1 | Women's Action CoalitionEye |
| | 2 | WAC is watching-We Will Take Action |
| | 3 | Dykes Take the Mall |
| | 4 | Lesbian Rights = Human Rights |
| | 5 | WAC (front) List (back) |
| | 6 | We Take Action |
| | 7 | Black |
| | 7 | WACEye |
| | 8 9 | WACLong sleeve |
| | 10 | WAC (front) Lesbian Rights are Civil rights (back) Pink-WAC logo |
| | 10 | FIIIK-WAC 1090 |
| | | Artifacts |
| 18 | 1 | White bucket drum with pink drumsticks, undated |
| | 2 3 | bicentennial drum with drumsticks, undated |
| | 3 | dildo, undated |
| | 4 | dildo squirt gun, undated |
| | 5 | black mask, undated |
| | 6 | pink slips (9), undated |
| | 7 | green sleaze ribbons, undated |
| | 8 | WAC rubber stamp, undated |
| | 9 | lapel pin, undated |
| | 10 | legal observer sash, undated |
| | 11 | clinic defender sash, undated |
| | 12 | dental dam kit, undated |
| | 13 | lesbian visibility stickers (2 sizes), undated |
| | 14 | stop sexist advertising stickers, undated |

Series VIII. Banners, placards, and posters, circa 1992-1993

This series contains banners, placards and posters. The banners are quite large and unwieldy, but are in good condition. Most of them are black or white fabric. Box 23 contains three banners from the action against Senator Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY). The placards used at the 1992 Republican National Convention are currently stored flat although they were in a triangular prism shape when used.

| Box | Fol | Description |
|-----|---|--|
| 19 | 1 | Banners Beige splattered with red, yellow, blue, green paint (2), undated (spray painted from dildo squirt guns) |
| 20 | 1 | BlackWAC is here, some are Queer, undated |
| 21 | 1 | PinkStop the war against women, undated |
| 22 | 1 2 3 | Beige"blood" stain banner, undated WhiteFists in different colors, undated WhiteWe'll be the judge, undated |
| 23 | 1 2 3 | WhiteD'Amato fight for choice, undated WhiteDefeat D'Amato Sleaze, undated WhiteDefeat D'Amato Anti-choice, undated |
| 24 | 1 2 3 | WhiteWAC is watching with fists, undated WhiteD'Amato sleaze, undated WhiteEnough lies fund basic needs, undated |
| 25 | 1 2 | Whitechoice (8), undated Whiterape as a war crime (5), undated |
| 26 | 1 | BlackWe have what it takes to hang in Pace Gallery, undated |
| 27 | 1 2 3 | BlackWAC is watching BlackLesbian rights = human rights Blackboycott Colorado |
| 28 | 1 | Placardsnumber of women voters by state Alabama - Louisiana, ca. 1992 |
| 29 | 1 | Maine - Pennsylvania, ca. 1992 |
| 30 | 1 | Rhode Island - Wyoming, ca. 1992 |
| 31 | 1 | Posters Chants used at protests (8), undated (cardboard) |
| 32 | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 | Children's Defense Fund, undated City-wide coalition to end police brutality, undated Crimes against lesbians, undated Gabriella Network (exploitation of Filipinas), undated Glen Ridge protest, undated Hero with quotes, undated Pace Gallery protest, undated Planning action against Pace Gallery, undated Pray for Choice, undated Registered and furious, undated WAC |
| 33 | 1 2 3 | Bush/Quayle Pink Slip, ca. 1992 Judge Figueroa protest, undated Pace Gallery protest, 1993 |

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Series IX. Video recordings, 1992, 1995, undated

This series contains video footage by and about WAC. The *Rudy Watch* series, created and produced by WAC, aired on public access television. Included in the episodes are on-the-street interviews with women about their opinion of Rudolph Giuliani's job performance as mayor of New York and other reports on topics of special interest to WAC members. *The Year in WAC 1992* was a documentary produced by Lifetime Television.

Of special interest is the video oral history of Laura Cottingham, a member of WAC-NYC. In her video, which she produced to accompany gift of the WAC Records to the New York Public Library, she describes her part in the organization and her reasons for leaving the coalition. The WAC-Boston video contains clips and reports of actions taken by the Boston chapter during 1995.

Unit ID
V01659 Critical Mass, undated (Scenes from various WAC actions.)

V01661 The Year In WAC, 1992

Lifetime Television documentary, showing WAC during 1992.

V01664 Rudy Watch, episodes 5, 7-9, undated

Public Access television show:

#5-Woman-on-the-street interviews and discussion with members

#7-Breaking Bread with bell hooks and Cornel West and domestic violence

#8-Dyke March, Gay Pride parade

#9-Quest for life, African-Americans and HIV/AIDS

V01660 Rudy Watch, episodes 10-13, 1992

Public Access television show: #10-Talking with women on the street about Mayor Giuliani

#11-Foundation House-women with HIV/AIDS

#12-Outside the Today Show

#13-Republican National Convention slide show and rally against gun violence

on the Mall in Washington, D.C.

V01662 CBS news clip from the St. John's University rape trial, 1992 (CBS News report,

1992 Feb 3)

V01663 Laura Cottingham oral history, 1995 June 1 (No transcript.)

V01840 WAC Boston, 1995