

**The New York Public Library
Humanities and Social Sciences Library
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**Marvin Liebman Papers
1990 - 1996**

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January 2004**

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Summary

Main entry:	Liebman, Marvin
Title:	Marvin Liebman Papers, 1990 - 1996
Size:	.66 linear feet (2 boxes)
Source:	Donated by Geoffrey Hoefler, 2001
Abstract:	Marvin Liebman was a conservative strategist and fundraiser for the Republican Party who came out as gay in 1990. His papers consist chiefly of drafts of his memoir, <i>Coming out Conservative</i> , but also include some correspondence, other writings, and photocopies of published articles about Liebman and gay political conservatives.
Access:	Apply in the Special Collections Office for admission to the Manuscripts and Archives Division.
Preferred citation:	Marvin Liebman Papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.
Special formats	Memoirs.

Related materials note

Marvin Liebman Papers, 1953-1992.
Hoover Institution Archives
Stanford, California 94305-6010.

Biographical note

Marvin Liebman, (1923-1997) a native of Brooklyn, New York, was a conservative strategist and fund raiser for the Republican Party and anti-Communist organizations who came out as gay in 1990. He worked for the presidential campaigns of Sen. Barry Goldwater (1964) and Ronald Reagan (1980), and served in the Reagan and Clinton administrations until his retirement in 1994. He was a founder of *The National Review*, the Young Americans for Freedom and the American Conservative Union.

In 1990, in an open letter to long-time friend William F. Buckley, published in the *National Review*, Liebman denounced the rampant homophobia in conservative Republican circles. From that point on he devoted his energies to gay activism, becoming the founding chairman of the Log Cabin Republicans, and writing for the gay press. In 1992 he published his memoir, *Coming Out Conservative*.

Liebman died of heart disease on March 31, 1997 in Washington, D.C. at the age of 73.

Scope and content note

The Marvin Liebman Papers consist chiefly of drafts of his memoir, *I've Been Everywhere But Home* (published in 1992 with the title *Coming Out Conservative*), and other writings that he sent to his friend Geoffrey Hofer for comment. The collection also includes some letters and organizational mailings he sent to Hofer, and photocopies of published articles about Liebman, gay rights, and political conservatism.

Arrangement note

The Marvin Liebman Papers are organized in the following series:

Series I. Correspondence, 1991; 1992; 1994

Series II. Writings and Printed Material, 1990-1996

Series descriptions and container list

Box	Fol	
1	1	<p>Series I. Correspondence, 1991; 1992; 1994</p> <p>Series I consists items sent to Geoffrey Hofer by Liebman, including one personal letter enclosing a copy of his article "What do Conservative Gays and Lesbians Have in Common with the Republican Party?," a photocopy of a fax from William F. Buckley, Jr. of his review of Liebman's memoir <i>Coming Out Conservative</i>, and four mailings from the National Coalition for Understanding (earlier the Lambda Conservative Foundation), an organization Liebman created and dissolved in 1994.</p> <p>Series II. Writings and Printed Material, 1990-1996</p> <p>Series II consists chiefly of copies of Liebman's writings that he sent to Hofer for his opinion. These include several drafts of Liebman's memoir, <i>I've Been Everywhere But Home</i> (later published as <i>Coming Out Conservative</i>), a draft of an unfinished novel, and copies of his opinion column "Conservatively Speaking" (later "Independently Speaking"), written between 1994-1996. Brief cover letters are included with some of the drafts. There is also a folder of photocopies of clippings and other printed material about Liebman, the gay rights movement, and gay conservatives.</p>
		<p><i>I've Been Everywhere But Home</i> (Memoir)</p>
1	2-7	Early drafts
	8-10	Draft, 1991 Aug 19
2	1	Draft, 1991 Aug 26
	2	<i>Things That Have Happened Never Again</i> , 1991 Dec (Unfinished novel)
	3	"Conservatively Speaking", 1994-1996
	4	Printed material , 1990-1996
		Includes a photocopy of an essay on Liebman by John Gregory Dunne (written in 1964, published in <i>Quintana and Friends</i> , 1978).