

## Archives General Research Guide

TOPIC: Bisexuality

This list is a sampling of collections addressing bisexuality; it is not intended to be comprehensive but rather as a series of starting points for research both within and outside the GLBT Historical Society archives. Additional suggestions are welcome and can be emailed to [reference@glbthistory.org](mailto:reference@glbthistory.org).

### GLBTHS Archival Holdings

#### 1. ORGANIZATIONAL AND PERSONAL RECORDS:

##### ***Arlene Elster papers (#2002-11)***

dates: 1970 - 1975

The Arlene Elster papers provides a history of the politics surrounding pornography in San Francisco, with an emphasis on the city's adult film industry, during the 1970's. Elster owned and operated the Sutter Street Cinema, an adult movie theater between 1970 and 1975. She was arrested in 1970 and charged and convicted with exhibiting obscenity to others. She unsuccessfully appealed the verdict to the US Supreme Court. She organized the First International Erotic Film Festival and was active in a number of sexual liberation groups such as COYOTE, the Sexual Freedom League and the Psychedelic Venus Church. The bulk of the collection contains newspaper clippings and articles about the porn industry in general during the 1970's and Elster's Sutter Cinema in particular. Also included in the collection are advertisements for the theater and films produced by Leo Productions, documents related to the Erotic Film Festival, and materials from sexual liberation groups such as COYOTE, The Sexual Freedom League, the Psychedelic Venus Church, and the Adult Film Association of America.

Finding aid: <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt1779r46c/>

##### ***Maggi Rubenstein papers (#2000-68)***

dates: 1972 - 1997

The Maggi Rubenstein papers document the early professional work of this longtime bisexual activist and sexologist. Sometimes referred to as the 'Godmother of SexEd,'

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Rubenstein came out as bisexual in 1969 and co-founded numerous sex education institutions and bisexual organizations in San Francisco. These include Glide Memorial Church's National Sex Forum, the San Francisco Sex Information Hotline, the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, the San Francisco Bisexual Center, BiPOL, and the Bay Area Bi Network. In recognition of her work, the Department of Sexuality Studies at San Francisco State University gives a Dr. Maggi Rubenstein Leadership Award. The collection contains writings and research notes, including Rubenstein's MA and Ph.D. theses, and statistical data and questionnaires about bisexuality. There are also materials related to the Bay Area Bisexual Network, the Bi Center, BiPOL and other bisexual organizations and conferences, writings by other sexologists, course materials for classes on bisexuality and sexual anthropology, subject files on a wide range of topics relating to sexuality, particularly bisexuality, one folder of photographs, and buttons. The subject files contain a wide range of materials, including academic articles and studies, news clippings, flyers, brochures and eulogies. Rubenstein's original folder titles have been retained. There are some newsletters in the collection but researchers should also consult the Historical Society's Periodical Collection for newsletters from the bisexual and sexology organizations in Rubenstein's papers. For more information on Rubenstein, see [http://www.foundsf.org/index.php?title=Godmother\\_of\\_SexEd:\\_Maggi\\_Rubenstein](http://www.foundsf.org/index.php?title=Godmother_of_SexEd:_Maggi_Rubenstein).

***Violet Nassos Collection (#2009-06)***

dates: circa 1900-2005

Photographs, scrapbooks, and news clippings of a friend of Ann Dee, Violet Nassos. Ann Dee was owner of Ann's 440 Club in San Francisco and Ann's 151. Ann's 440 Club was one of the first openly lesbian and bi-sexual clubs in San Francisco. It contains one scrapbook of Ann Dee materials, photos, and club activities compiled by "René [?]". The bulk of the collection consists of photographs of Violet Nassos, her family, friends and work associates

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## 2. PERIODICALS COLLECTION:

**Title:** Anything That Moves

**Type:** Magazine

**Subtitle:** Beyond the Myths of Bisexuality|The Magazine for the Discriminating  
Bisexual|The Magazine for the Uncompromising Bisexual

**Holdings:** Winter 1991, Spring 1991, #3-#22 (Summer 1991-Spring 2001), and Special  
Pride Issue (1999)

**Title:** Bay Area Bisexual Network Newsletter

**Type:** Newsletter

**Alternate Title:**

**Organization:** Bay Area Bisexual Network

**Holdings:** Vol. 1 #3 (Apr/May 1988), #4 (June/July 1988), #6 (Oct/Nov 1988) - #9  
(Apr/May 1989), #11 (Aug/Sep 1989), #12 (Oct/Nov 1989); Vol. 2, #1 (Jan 1990) - 3  
(July 1990), Unnumbered [#4 Aug 1990]; Unnumbered (Feb 3, 1996)

**Title:** Bay Area Bisexual Network [Guide]

**Holdings:** #11 (May/89)

**Title:** The Bi-Monthly

**Type:** Newsletter

**Subtitle:** Newsletter of the Bisexual Center

**Organization:** The Bisexual Center

**Holdings:** Vol. 1, #1- 6 (Nov/Dec 1976-Sept/Oct 1977); Vol. 2, #1-6 (Nov/Dec 1977 -  
Sep/Oct 1978); Vol. 3, #1-6 (Nov/Dec 1978 - Nov/Dec 1979); Vol. 4, #1-6 (Jan/Feb -  
Nov/Dec 1980); Vol. 5, #1-6 (Jan/Feb - Nov/Dec 1981); Vol. 6, #1-6 (Jan/Feb - Nov/Dec  
1982); Vol. 7, #1-6 (Jan/Feb - Nov/Dec 1983); Vol. 8, #1-6 (Jan/Feb - Nov/Dec 1984);  
Vol. 9, #1-3 (Jan/Feb - May/June 1985)

**Title:** Bi Friendly

**Holdings:** #14(Aug'89), #96 (Jun1996), #98 (Jul 1996) - #102 (Nov 1996), #104, (Feb  
1997) - #116 (Mar 1998), #118 (May 1998) - #122 (Sep 1998), #124 (Nov 1998), #129  
(May 1999), #130 (Jun 1999), #133 (Sep [1999] - #135 Nov [1999])

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**Title:** Bi Girl World

**Type:** Zine

**Holdings:** Summer 1992, Fall 1992, Winter 1993, Summer 1993, Winter 1994

**Title:** Bi Women

**Type:** Newsletter

**Subtitle:** The Newsletter of the Boston Bisexual Women's Network

**Organization:** Boston Bisexual Women's Network

**Holdings:** Vol. 12, #6 (Jan 1995); Vol. 13, #4 -6 (Aug/Sep 1996 - Dec 1995/Jan 1996); Vol. 14, # 1-5 (Feb/Mar - Oct/Nov 1996); Vol. 15, #2 (April/May 1997), #5(Oct/Nov 1997), #6 (Dec/Jan 1998); Vol. 16, #1 (Feb/March 1998), #6 (Dec/Jan 1999); Vol. 17, #2-5 (April/May -Oct/Nov 1999); Vol. 18, #2-3 (April/May -June/July 2000), #5 (Oct/Nov 2000); Vol.19, #6 (Dec/Jan 2002); Vol. 20, #1 (Feb/Mar 2002) - #4 (Aug/Sep 2002), Vol.21, #3 (Aug/Sep 2003), #5 (Oct/Nov 2003), #6 (Dec/Jan 2004);Vol.22, #1 (Feb/Mar 2004) - #6 ( Dec/Jan 2005); Vol.23 #1 (Feb/Mar 2005), #2 (Apr/May 2005)

**Title:** BiNet News

**Type:** Newsletter

**Subtitle:** The Newsletter of the Bisexual Network of the USA

**Organization:** Bisexual Network of the USA

**Holdings:** Winter - Summer 1996; Winter-Fall 1997; Fall-Winter 1998; Fall 1999; Jan 2000

**Title:** Bipolitical Newsletter

**Type:** Newsletter

**Alternate Title:**

**Organization:** Bi Pol

**Holdings:** vol. 1 #1 (Sep 1983)

**Title:** Bisexual Resource Guide

**Organization:** Bay Area Bisexual Network

**Holdings:** 5/1/1989

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**Title:** Bisexuality

**Type:** Journal

**Alternate Title:**

**Subtitle:** News, Views, & Networking|The North American Journal on Bisexuality

**Holdings:** Vol 1 #11 (Dec 1988), #14 (March 1989); Vol 2 #1 (June 1989)

**Title:** Handjobs Bi Adventures

**Type:** Magazine

**Holdings:** #1 (1999), #2 (2000), #3 (2002)

**Title:** Lickity-Spit

**Type:** Zine

**Subtitle:** The Lean Clean Bi Zine

**Holdings:** 2

**Title:** North Bi Northwest

**Type:** Newsletter

**Alternate Title:** Seattle Bisexual Women's Network Newsletter

**Subtitle:** The Newsletter of the Seattle Bisexual Women's Network

**Organization:** Seattle Bisexual Women's Network

**Holdings:** vol. 2 #1 (Feb 1988), #2 (Apr/May 1989), #5 (Oct/Nov 1989), #6 (Dec 1989/Jan 1990); vol. 3 #1 (Feb/Mar 1990) - 33 (Jun/Jul 1990); vol. 4 #2 (Apr/may 1991)

**Title:** International Directory of Bisexual Groups

**Holdings:** #6 (Jan/91)

**Title:** Kent

**Type:** Magazine

**Subtitle:** Bisexual and Other Things

**Holdings:** vol. 1 #1 (n.d.)

**Title:** Journal of Bisexuality

**Type:** Journal

**Holdings:** vol. 1 #1 (2001)

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**Title:** Sexual Freedom

**Type:** Magazine

**Alternate Title:** National Newsletter of the Sexual Freedom League, Inc.

**Subtitle:** Quarterly Publication of the Sexual Freedom League Inc.

**Holdings:** Vol 1 #1.5 - #12 (n.d.), #14 (n.d.)

### 3. ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

**OHCNumber:** 02-022

**Interviewee:** Crawford, Mary

**Interviewer:** Berube, Allan

**Interview Dates:** 2/17/1983 - 3/4/1983

**Description:** World War II, military, lesbian bars, New York City, abortion, bisexuality, butch-fem, 1930s, Depression.

Transcript: [http://www.glbthistory.org/research/oh/Crawford\\_Mary2-17-1983\\_web.pdf](http://www.glbthistory.org/research/oh/Crawford_Mary2-17-1983_web.pdf)

**OHCNumber:** 96-015

**Interviewee:** Adleman, Jeanne

**Interviewer:** DuLong, Jessica

**Interview Dates:** 1/20/1996 - 2/22/1996

**Description:** oral history methodology, childhood, Judaism, religion, leftist politics, sexual identity, career, marriage, Castro neighborhood, aging, classified ads, San Francisco Women's Building, Artemis Cafe, bisexuality, coming out.

### 4. EPHEMERA

#### ***San Francisco LGBT Groups Ephemera Collection (GRP EPH)***

Consists of ephemera pertaining to groups affiliated with San Francisco's LGBT community. The bulk of the material is from the late 1970s through the 1990s, with the homophile groups of the 1960s represented as well. Groups include: community service centers; governmental organizations; various social groups and clubs; musical groups, choirs and bands; theatrical companies and performance groups; dance troupes; literary groups and non-profit publishers; scholarly associations; universities, colleges, institutes

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and schools; student and youth groups; religious and spiritual centers; motorcycle clubs; sports teams; communes, cooperatives and collectives; political parties; business and neighborhood associations; legal aid centers; clinics and hospitals; leather groups. Most of the materials are related to the prominent national political and social events and movements of their time, primarily the Gay Liberation Movement, the Gay Rights Movement, and the AIDS crisis. Types of ephemera represented include: announcements, fliers, postcards, invitations, theatrical playbills, brochures, direct mail, conference schedules, booklets, guides, directories, letterheads, business cards, meeting minutes, correspondence, and magazine and newspaper clippings.

Anything That Moves, the Magazine for the Uncompromising Bisexual, 1996-2002  
Bay Area Bi Women, 1996-1998  
Bay Area Bisexual Network (BiNet), 1989-2005  
Bi Friendly, circa 1990, undated  
Bi Pol, 1983-1991  
BiSexual Center circa, 1978-1980, undated  
San Francisco Bi Film Festival, 1998-1999

### ***San Francisco LGBT General Subjects Ephemera Collection***

Consists of a wide range of ephemera related to LGBT communities in San Francisco and the Bay Area, representing a diverse collection of subjects, ranging from AIDS, bathhouses, city agencies and sex clubs, to collections of catalogs and directories. Much of the materials were produced by unaffiliated groups or individuals and ad hoc coalitions or committees for one-time events or ongoing public causes, including: Pride parades; theater productions; films, art exhibitions and shows; protests; election issues; and AIDS prevention and awareness. Business materials are represented, including: service oriented, networked or freelance businesses; travel agencies; publishers; therapists; instructors; and sex clubs and bathhouses. Includes materials from social clubs; sports teams; religious groups; and gay, lesbian or queer studies classes. Personal ephemera includes: funeral programs and memorials; wedding announcements; garage sales; birth and adoption announcements; and private party invitations. Also contains materials related to the governing bodies of the city of San Francisco.

Finding aid: <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt3779s0c3>

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International Directory of \_Bisexual \_Groups (East Coast Bi-Sexual Network), 1991

International Bi-Sexual Conference, 1997-1998

## **Outside Resources**

### **1. ARCHIVAL HOLDINGS FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS**

Bisexual Archives, The Lambda Archives of San Diego:

<http://www.mcarronwebdesign.com/lambdaarchives/bisexual-archives.htm>

### **2. WEBSITES AND ONLINE MATERIALS**

BiNet USA (n.d.). "A Brief History of the Bisexual Movement.":

<http://www.binetusa.org/bihistory2.html>

Highleyman, Liz A. "A Brief History of the Bisexual Movement."

[www.biresource.org/pamphlets/history.html](http://www.biresource.org/pamphlets/history.html)

Ka'ahumanu, L. "Timeline: The Bisexual Health Movement In the US." BiNet USA.

<http://www.binetusa.org/bihealth.html>

### **3. PRINT MATERIALS**

Angelides, S. (2001). A History of Bisexuality. University of Chicago Press: Chicago, IL.

Burleson, W. E. (2005). Bi america: Myths, truths and struggles of an invisible community. Harrington Park Press: New York, NY.

Bisexual Anthology Collective (1995). Plural desires: Writing Bisexual Women's Realities. Sister Vision: Toronto, ON.

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Garber, M. (1995). *Vice Versa: Bisexuality and the Eroticism of Everyday Life*. Simon and Schuster: New York, NY.

Haeberle, E. J., and Gindorf, R. (1998). *Bisexualities: The Ideology and Practice of Sexual Contact with Both Men and Women*. Continuum Press: New York, NY.

Hutchins, L. & Ka'ahumanu, L. (Eds). (2015. *Bi any other name: Bisexual people speak out [25th Anniversary Edition]*. Riverdale Avenue Books: Riverdale, NY.

Off Pink Collective (1996). *Bisexual horizons: Politics, histories, lives*. Lawrence & Wishart: London, UK.

Rust, P. C. (1999). *Bisexuality in the United States: A Social Science Reader*. Columbia University Press: New York, NY.

Storr, M. (Ed). (1999). *Bisexuality: A critical reader*. Routledge: New York, NY.

Weise, E. R. (1992). *Closer to home: bisexuality & feminism*. Seal Press: Berkeley, CA.

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