

Collection #
M 1161

NORMA BRADWAY
WOMEN'S POLITICAL ADVOCACY RECORDS, 1989–96

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Processed by

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December 2014

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
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Indiana Historical Society
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 manuscript boxes, 1 photograph folder, 1 artifact

COLLECTION DATES: 1989–96

PROVENANCE: Norma Bradway, Carmel, Indiana, 1998

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: M 1045

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999.0134

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Norma Bradway (November 18, 1944-June 5, 2004) was born to Norman and Elizabeth Bradway in Muncie, Indiana. Norma was the oldest of six children. Bradway graduated from Daleville High School, and began attending classes at Ball State University. During her sophomore year, she met her first husband, and dropped out after they were married. Bradway decided to go back to Ball State, where she graduated with a B.A. in History in 1968. She stayed on at the institution to study for and receive her M.A. in Sociology, and remained at Ball State teaching sociology for two years. Although she debated about studying for a PhD, Bradway decided instead to pursue a career in law. She enrolled at Indiana University in Indianapolis in 1971, and was admitted to the Indiana Bar in 1975.

Bradway had been a member of the National Organization for Women (NOW) while she was at Ball State, but when she moved to Indianapolis, she decided to organize a local chapter. During the 1970s, the NOW Chapter was influential in overturning laws which disallowed women from keeping their birth name when they married, and from changing their name after a divorce. Also, NOW worked on laws dealing with credit, which allowed women to obtain a mortgage or a line of credit without having their father or husband co-sign the loan. In the 1980s, Bradway began a Political Action Committee (PAC) branch of NOW in Indiana, which raised money for candidates for the Indiana General Assembly whom, if elected, were likely to support NOW's legislative aims. She also was heavily involved with the Legislative Committee for the Indiana NOW organization, which hired a lobbyist to work the Indiana General Assembly each session to pursue NOW's legislative goals and to act as a watchdog for bills deemed damaging to NOW's agenda.

In her professional life, Norma Bradway also seemed to gravitate to positions where she was able to be an activist of sorts. Her first job out of law school in 1976 was as a Staff Attorney for Legal Services, Inc. in Columbus, Indiana, where part of her job was to provide community legal education. She moved on to Legal Services of Maumee Valley, Inc. in 1979, where she served as Executive Director, working cases, supervising staff, fundraising, and providing community outreach. From Ft. Wayne, she moved back to Indianapolis to serve as the Executive Director of the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Inc. from 1983-84, where she was responsible for writing the first state plan for domestic violence programs. In October of 1984, Bradway began her career with the State of Indiana, serving as an attorney, a legal analyst, and a deputy director. Her biggest achievements were writing the administrative rules and legislation that set up the Adult Protective Services in the Department of Human Services, and also writing mental health reform legislation for the Division of Mental Health, and creating the Health Care Representative Program. In 1996, she was promoted to Deputy Director of the Office of Contract Management.

In addition to her professional activities and her involvement with Indiana NOW and Indiana NOW PAC, Norma Bradway was an active member of the Unitarian Universalist Church in both Indianapolis and Fort Wayne. She also helped to found and plan the Indiana Women & Work Conference, and was a member of the Gender Fairness Coalition

and the Indiana Commission for Women. In her personal time, she also enjoyed quilting, collecting dolls, building dollhouses, and her five cats. She was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy and endometrial cancer, and died on June 5, 2004. She was married twice, and had no children.

In 2002, Bradway was chosen as one of six recipients of the Perham Indiana Women of Achievement Awards. She was also recognized for her work with the Indiana Women & Work Conference with the Founder's Award (1992), the Outstanding Performance Award (1992) from the Division of Mental Health, Family and Social Services Agency, Outstanding Services Award (1991) from the Gender Fairness Coalition and the Feminist of the Year (1992) and Sagawitch of the Wabash (1990) from Indiana NOW.

Sources:

Sketch taken from M 1045 Norma Bradway Papers, 1902–2003, Indiana Historical Society

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Series are listed with organizations in alphabetical order, followed by Conferences and Issues. All of the folders within the organizational series are labeled with the documents that occur most often in the folder: each folder within these series also contains other documents related to the organization they represent.

Series One: Gender Fairness Coalition. This series contains two folders with minutes, legislative documents, correspondence, and financial records.

Series Two: Indiana Coalition on Gender-Based Discrimination. This series contains one folder of minutes, notes, and correspondence.

Series Three: Indiana Commission for Women. This series consists of two folders containing correspondence, articles, minutes, and notes.

Series Four: Indiana Foundation for Education on Gender-Based Discrimination. This series contains one folder of founding documents, financial records, and minutes.

Series Five: Pro-Choice Coalition. This series consists of one folder of correspondence and articles.

Series Six: Conferences. The conference folders include planning materials as well as official Conference publications. This series contains one folder of records from the Women's Issues Conference. It also contains ten folders from the Women and the Legislative Process Conference, spanning the years 1985–94. There are also nine folders from the Women and Work Conference, 1991–96.

Series Seven: Issues. This series contains folders on breast cancer and health policy. Also in the series is a folder with one-page informational documents on several women's organizations. A black and white photograph, presumably of Norma Bradway, is also included in the series.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Gender Fairness Coalition

CONTENTS

Minutes, legislative documents, and financial records, 1989–92.

Correspondence and minutes, 1993–96.

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Series 2: Indiana Coalition on Gender-Based Discrimination

CONTENTS

Minutes, notes, and correspondence, 1987–89.

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 3

Series 3: Indiana Commission for Women

CONTENTS

Correspondence and articles, 1991–92.

Correspondence, minutes, and notes, 1992–94.

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Series 4: Indiana Foundation for Education on Gender-Based Discrimination

CONTENTS

Founding documents, financial records, and minutes, 1988–92.

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 6

Series 5: Pro-Choice Coalition

CONTENTS

Correspondence and articles, 1989–90.

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 7

Series 6: Conferences

CONTENTS

Women's Issues Conference, 1983.

Women and the Legislative Process, 1985–88.

Women and the Legislative Process, 1986.

Women and the Legislative Process, 1987–88.

Women and the Legislative Process, 1988–89.

Women and the Legislative Process, 1989.

Women and the Legislative Process, 1990.

Women and the Legislative Process, 1991.

Women and the Legislative Process, 1992.

Women and the Legislative Process, 1993.

Women and the Legislative Process, 1994.

Women and Work, 1991. Folder 1 of 2.

Women and Work, 1991. Folder 2 of 2.

Women and Work, 1992.

Women and Work button, 1992.

Women and Work, 1993. Folder 1 of 2.

Women and Work, 1993. Folder 2 of 2.

Women and Work, 1994.

Women and Work, 1995.

Women and Work, 1996.

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 8

Box 1, Folder 9

Box 1, Folder 10

Box 1, Folder 11

Box 2, Folder 1

Box 2, Folder 2

Box 2, Folder 3

Box 2, Folder 4

Box 2, Folder 5

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 7

Box 2, Folder 8

Box 2, Folder 9

Box 3, Folder 1

Artifact: 1999.0134

Box 3, Folder 2

Box 3, Folder 3

Box 3, Folder 4

Box 3, Folder 5

Box 3, Folder 6

Series 7: Issues

CONTENTS

Breast cancer awareness, prevention, and the environment, 1992–95.

Informational material on women's organizations, 1990–91.

Women and health policy, 1991.

Unlabeled photograph, ca. 1995.

CONTAINER

Box 3, Folder 7

Box 3, Folder 8

Box 3, Folder 9

Photographs:
Folder 1

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 1161).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.