

# WAITS, JIM LEGGETT, 1935-.

## Jim Leggett Waits papers, 1958-1990

Emory University  
Pitts Theology Library  
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### Collection Stored Off-Site

All or portions of this collection are housed off-site. Materials can still be requested but researchers should expect a delay of up to two business days for retrieval.

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## Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** Waits, Jim Leggett, 1935-.  
**Title:** Jim Leggett Waits papers, 1958-1990  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 287  
**Extent:** 0.75 cubic ft. (2 boxes)  
**Abstract:** Consists of the personal papers of Jim L. Waits.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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## Administrative Information

### Restrictions on Access

Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact the Pitts Theology Library in advance to access this collection.

### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

### Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Jim Leggett Waits Papers, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

### Processing

Processed by Courtney Williams, 2004.

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## **Collection Description**

### **Biographical Note**

James Leggett Waits was born on December 11, 1935. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Millsaps College, a Bachelor of Divinity from Yale University, and a Master of Arts from the University of Chicago. In addition, Waits was awarded two honorary degrees: a Doctor of Divinity from Millsaps College and a Doctor of Humane Letters from Florida Southern College. Waits served as the Dean and Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Divinity at Candler School of Theology from 1984-1991. He then served as the President of the Theological Fund for Education from 1991-2003.

### **Scope and Content Note**

This is a collection of the personal papers of Jim L. Waits, most of which predates his time as Dean at Candler School of Theology. Included in the collection is Dean Waits curriculum vitae written in 1990 while still at Candler. The bulk of the series involves the "Born of Conviction" pro-desegregation statement of twenty-eight young Methodist Ministers in Mississippi in December of 1962. Included is the "Born of Conviction" statement, correspondence regarding the statement, sermons, clippings, and other publications concerning the declaration. Also included in the collection is Waits' Masters Thesis submitted to the University of Chicago in 1967. The thesis is titled "Civil Disobedience and Obligation to the State" and includes his notes along with multiple drafts. There are also materials pertaining to race discussions that took place at Millsaps College, at which time Waits served as the Student Body President.

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## Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Biographical sketch, 1990
1	2	Born of Conviction: Born of Conviction statement, 1962
1	3	Born of Conviction: Born of Conviction statement – photocopies, 1962
1	4	Born of Conviction: Clippings and editorials, 1963
1	5	Born of Conviction: Clippings and editorials – photocopies, 1963
1	6	Born of Conviction: Correspondence – incoming, 1962-1963
1	7	Born of Conviction: Correspondence – incoming – photocopies, 1962-1963
1	8	Born of Conviction: Correspondence – outgoing, 1962-1963
1	9	Born of Conviction: Correspondence – outgoing – photocopies, 1962-1963
1	10	Born of Conviction: Notes on responses to statement, 1963
1	11	Born of Conviction: Notes on responses to statement – photocopies, 1963
1	12	Born of Conviction: Opposing responses, undated
1	13	Born of Conviction: Opposing responses – photocopies, undated
1	14	Born of Conviction: Questionnaire to “The 28”, 1965
1	15	Born of Conviction: Sermons and writings of the twenty-eight young Methodist Ministers, 1963
1	16	Born of Conviction: Sermons and writings of the twenty-eight young Methodist Ministers – photocopies, 1963
1	17	Born of Conviction: “Civil Disobedience and Obligation to the State”: carbon copy, 1967
1	18	Born of Conviction: Handwritten draft, 1967
1	19	Born of Conviction: Note cards, undated
1	20	Born of Conviction: Typed draft (with corrections), 1967
2	1	Millsaps College race discussions, 1958
2	2	Study of Protestant Ministers by Jeffrey K. Hadden: Article, 1965
2	3	Study of Protestant Ministers by Jeffrey K. Hadden: Correspondence, 1965
2	4	Waits’ notes on Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “Letter from Birmingham Jail,” undated
2	5	Waits’ notes on Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “Letter from Birmingham Jail” – photocopies, undated
2	6	Writings, undated

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