

# **CURRY, CONSTANCE, 1933- Constance W. Curry papers, 1951-2002**

Emory University  
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## **Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Curry, Constance, 1933-  
**Title:** Constance W. Curry papers, 1951-2002  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 818  
**Extent:** 17.75 linear feet (25 boxes) and 2 oversized papers boxes and 1 oversized papers folder (OP)  
**Abstract:** Papers of educator and civil rights activist Constance W. Curry, including correspondence, minutes, printed material, clippings, posters, a video cassette, and photographs.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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## **Administrative Information**

### **Restrictions on Access**

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### **Source**

Gift, 1998.

### **Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Constance W. Curry papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

### **Processing**

Processed by Anne Thomason, January 1999.

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## Collection Description

### Biographical Note

Constance W. Curry grew up in Greensboro, North Carolina and graduated from Greensboro High School in 1951. She is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Agnes Scott College (1955) and held a Fulbright Scholarship to the University of Bordeaux, France, during 1955-1956. She studied political science at Columbia University and received the J.D. degree from Woodrow Wilson College of Law in 1984. For two years she served as National Field Representative of the Collegiate Council for the United Nations. From 1960-1964 she was Director of the Southern Student Human Relations Project of the National Student Association and became the first white female on the executive committee of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). From 1964-1975, she was Southern Field Representative of the American Friends Service Committee. In 1975, she became Director of the Office of Human Services for the City of Atlanta. Her book, *Silver Rights*, won the 1996 Lillian Smith Award for non-fiction and recounts the story of one rural Mississippi family's struggle for education and for civil rights during the 1960's.

### Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of the personal papers of Constance W. Curry from 1951-2002. The papers include materials relating to her civil rights activities, personal papers, and printed material. The first series includes minutes, correspondence, publicity and other records from civil rights and student organizations, particularly the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), Southern Student Organizing Committee (SSOC), and National Student Association (NSA). The second series includes papers from her high school years, papers from her college courses at Agnes Scott College, Agnes Scott publications (including college newspapers), and a small amount of material concerning her work with the Atlanta city government and the Chamber of Commerce. Also included is a typed manuscript draft of her book *Silver Rights*. The third series consists of a large collection of newspaper clippings covering various aspects of the civil rights movement as well as publications from a variety of organizations concerned with social change and civil rights. The collection includes several photographs and broadsides, including posters for the campaign of John Buffington for mayor of West Point, Mississippi, the National Democratic Party of Alabama, and an early SNCC poster featuring Julian Bond. The fourth series contains a VHS copy of a documentary produced by Constance W. Curry entitled, *The Intolerable Burden*.

### Arrangement Note

Organized into five series: (1) Civil rights activities, (2) Personal papers, (3) Printed material, (4) Audiovisual material, and (5) Unprocessed additions.

## **Description of Series**

[Series 1: Civil rights activities](#)

[Series 2: Personal papers](#)

[Series 3: Printed materials](#)

[Series 4: Audiovisual material](#)

[Series 5: Unprocessed additions](#)

**Series 1**  
**Civil rights activities**  
**Boxes 1-3**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
1	1	American Civil Liberties Union, poster for Tom Hayden, Jane Fonda event
1	2	Civil rights miscellaneous
1	3	Council of Federated Organizations
1	4	Individual Protest Centers
1	5	Mississippians for Public Education
1	6	Mississippi Summer Project
1	7	National Student Association - Central Intelligence Agency clippings
1	8	National Student Association, 1960
1	9	Southern Project of National Student Association
1	10	National Student Association and Southern Student Organizing Committee
1	11	National Student Association and Southern Student Organizing Committee
1	12	News releases and articles, 1960
1	13	Sit-ins, particularly Northern activities
1	14	Sit-ins, support of
2	1	Southern Student Organizing Committee, Correspondence, 1964-1965
2	2	Southern Student Organizing Committee, General information, 1964-1967
2	3	Southern Student Organizing Committee, General information, no date
2	4	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, 1960
2	5	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee Conference, October 1960, Atlanta
2	6	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, Fall 1960
2	7	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, Spring 1961
2	8	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee Conference, July 1961, Baltimore
2	9	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, Fall 1961
2	10	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, 1960-1961
2	11	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee Southwide Conference, Spring 1962, Atlanta
2	12	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, News Releases, 1962-1963
3	1	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, 1962-1966
3	2	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, various years, miscellaneous, including constitution
3	3	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, article and magazine reprints
3	4	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, Report on School Desegregation
3	5	Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, <i>Student Voice</i>
3	6	Sub-regionalism in Georgia

3 7 Various brochures and pamphlets

**Series 2**  
**Personal papers**  
**Boxes 4 - 8**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
4	1	Greensboro High School
4	2	Greensboro High School
4	3	Greensboro High School personal letters
4	4	French grammar book
4	5	Essays from college classes
4	6	College course notebooks
5	1	College course note and notebooks
5	2	College course notes
5	3	College course notes
5	4	College course notes
5	5	Agnes Scott publications, <i>Aurora</i> , alumni magazine
5	6	Agnes Scott newspapers, 1953-1959
6	1	Agnes Scott newspapers, 1953-1959
6	2	Agnes Scott newspapers, 1953-1959
6	3	Agnes Scott newspapers, 1953-1959
6	4	Woodrow Wilson Law School
6	5	Personal information--resume
6	6	Atlanta City government
6	7	Atlanta Chamber of Commerce trip to Paris, April 1965
6	8	Salute to Women of Achievement, 1997
6	9	Christmas cards--Bill and Hilary Clinton, John and Lillian Lewis, Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter
7	1-6	<i>Silver Rights</i> , typed manuscript with some written notes, 1994
8	1-3	Engagement calendars--1992, 1993, 1996

**Series 3**  
**Printed materials**  
**Boxes 9 - 14**

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order.

**Newspapers clippings**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
9	1	Alabama
9	2	Alabama, University of
9	3	Albany, Georgia
9	4	American Friends Service Committee
9	5	Athens, Georgia
9	6	Atlanta desegregation--parks, pools, etc.
9	7	Atlanta hotel desegregation
9	8	Atlanta, mayor's race, 1961
9	9	Atlanta politics
9	10	Atlanta racial barricade
9	11	Atlanta school desegregation
9	12	Atlanta sit-ins
9	13	Augusta, Georgia
9	14	Birmingham, Alabama
9	15	<i>Black Voice</i> --West Point Mississippi newspaper
9	16	Chicago, Illinois
9	17	Church burnings-1962
9	18	Church - Religion
9	19	Civil Rights miscellaneous
9	20	Civil Rights miscellaneous
9	21	Civil Rights legislation
9	22	Collegiate Council for the United Nations
9	23	Columbus, Georgia
9	24	Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), Freedom Rides
9	25	Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), news releases, 1962-63
9	26	Dallas, Georgia
9	27	DeKalb County, Georgia
9	28	Education-Georgia
9	29	Emory University
9	30	General
9	31	Georgia Institute of Technology

10	1	Housing
10	2	House UnAmerican Activities Committee (HUAC) - McCarthyism
10	3	Interstate Commerce Commission
10	4	International aspects
10	5	Jackson, Mississippi
10	6	Ku Klux Klan
10	7	Knoxville, Tennessee
10	8	Legal aspects
10	9	Little Rock, Arkansas
10	10	Louisiana
10	11	Louisville, Kentucky
10	12	Macon, Georgia
10	13	Maryland
10	14	McComb, Mississippi
10	15	McGill, Ralph
10	16	Memphis, Tennessee
10	17	Mercer University
10	18	Mississippi
10	19	Mississippi, University of
10	20	Montgomery, Alabama
10	21	Muslimism
10	22	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
10	23	Nashville, Tennessee
10	24	National Student Association
10	25	Nazism in America
10	26	North Carolina
10	27	Northern discrimination
10	28	Police brutality
10	29	Racial violence
10	30	Rome, Georgia
10	31	Savannah, Georgia
10	32	Sit-down strikes
10	33	Sit-in clippings
10	34	South Carolina
10	35	Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)
10	36	Southern politics
11	1	Southern Project
11	2	Southern Project, newsletter response
11	3	Southern Regional Council - special reports, sit-ins



- 11 4 Southern school desegregation
- 11 5 Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)
- 11 6 Students
- 11 7 Tennessee, University of
- 11 8 Texas
- 11 9 Virginia
- 11 10 Voting rights
- 11 11 Washington, D.C.

**Publications, arranged by publisher**

- 11 12 American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, "A Common Goal-Equal Opportunity," 1965
- 11 13 American Friends Service Committee, "List of agencies that accepted conscientious objectors for alternative service assignments during the past four years," 1966
- 11 14 American Friends Service Committee, South Carolina Community Relations Program, "School Desegregation in South Carolina, 1966: A Critique," M. Hayes Mizell, 1966
- 11 15 American Friends Service Committee, "Fighting Racism and Poverty in Mobile," Beth Binford, no date
- 11 16 Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, "Racially Separate or Together?," 1969
- 11 17 Atlanta University School of Social Work Publication Series, "The Thin Thread: A Demographic Analysis of the State of the Black Child in Georgia," Nancy Boxill, 1985
- 11 18 Children's Defense Fund, "Un nuevo Dia," 1979
- 11 19 Commission on Religion and Race, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA "Toward the New City," Vol. 2, No. 1, 1966
- 11 20 Commission on Religion and Race, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, "Reports," Vol. 2, No. 2, 1966
- 11 21 Community Programs in the Arts and Sciences (COMPAS), St. Paul, Minnesota, "Angwamas Minosewag Anishinabeg: Time of the Indian," 1976
- 11 22 Ecumenical Institute, "Image Songs of the Spirit Movement," 1968
- 12 1 The Federation of Southern Cooperatives, "Program for the Total Community Approach to Development of Housing for Low Income People in the Rural South," 1972
- 12 2 *Guardian*, "Panthers! Black Panthers: Behind the myth," 1970
- 12 3 Gulfcoast Pulpwood Association, "Woodcutter's Songbook," 1972
- 12 4 Hall, Thomas, "A Working Paper on The Police and the Community for the Conference on Police Power in a Free Society," 1968
- 12 5 The Institute for the Study of Economic Systems, "The New Community Plan: Developing New Communities With Second Income Plan Financing Technique," 1968

- 12 6 International Self-Help Housing Associates and the American Friends Service Committee, "Something to Build On: The Future of Self-Help Housing in the Struggle Against Poverty," Richard J. Margolis, 1967
- 12 7 International Self-Help Housing Association, "Self-Help Housing Handbook, Volume 1," 1968
- 12 8 International Self-Help Housing Association, "Self-Help Housing Handbook, Volume 2," 1968
- 12 9 Joint Center for Political Studies, "Federal Review of Voting Changes," 1974
- 12 10 Methodist Student Movement, *Motive*, Vol. XX/8, 1960
- 12 11 Movement for Economic Justice, "Your Fair Share of Revenue Sharing," [1972]
- 12 12 National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, "Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, Summary of Report," [1968]
- 12 13 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), "Guidelines for Branches, Revenue Sharing," 1973
- 12 14 National Education Association, "Faculty Desegregation," 1966
- 12 15 National Service Board for Religious Objectors, "Civilian Work Agency List for Conscientious Objectors," 1964
- 12 16 National Welfare Rights Organization, "NOW! A Brief History of the National Welfare Rights Organization," 1968
- 12 17 Office of Economic Opportunity, United States Department of State, "Proceedings of the First Office of Economic Opportunity Conference on Antipoverty Programs for Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers," 1966
- 13 1 Office of Evaluation and Research, Georgia Department of Human Resources, "How do the Poor Make it, Report of a Study on How Public Welfare Recipients in Georgia Live on Their Grants," 1972
- 13 2 *Pendle Hill*, Guide to Quaker Practice, Howard H. Brinton, 1955
- 13 3 The Potomac Institute, "The Employer's Guide to Equal Opportunity," 1966
- 13 4 The Potomac Institute, "The Federal Dollar and Nondiscrimination," 1965
- 13 5 The Potomac Institute, "Housing Guide to Equal Opportunity," 1968
- 13 6 Presbyterian Church of the United States, *Presbyterian Survey*, Vol. 58, No. 6, 1968
- 13 7 Rural Housing Alliance, "Federal Tax Rip-Offs: Housing Subsidies for the Rich," 1972
- 13 8 Race Relations Information Center, "Indians in Revolt," 1970
- 13 9 Race Relations Information Center, "Invaders From the Black Nation: The 'Black Muslims' in 1970," 1970
- 13 10 Race Relations Information Center, "Nashville's Model Cities Program: An Unborn Partnership," 1971
- 13 11 *Race Relations Information Center*, *Race Relations Reporter*, Vol. 4, No. 5, 1973
- 13 12 *Race Relations Information Center*, *Race Relations Reporter*, Vol. 4, No. 9, 1973
- 13 13 Southern Coop Development Program, "Some Ideas for Community Organizers," John Zipport, no date

- 13 14 *South Carolinians Speak: A Moderate Approach to Race Relations*, 1957
- 13 15 Southern Regional Council, "The Migrant Farmer," 1965
- 13 16 Southern Regional Council *The Continuing Crisis: An Assessment of New Racial Tensions in the South*, 1966
- 13 17 Southern Regional Council, Voter Education Project, "How to Conduct a Registration Campaign," 1967
- 13 18 Southern Regional Council, "Black Candidates: Southern Campaign Experiences," Julian Bond, 1968
- 13 19 Southern Regional Council, "Southwide Conference of Black Elected Officials," 1968
- 13 20 Southern Regional Council, "Radicalism Southern Style: A Commentary on Regional Extremism of the Right," Reese Cleghorn, 1969
- 13 21 Southern Regional Council and the National Council on Hunger and Malnutrition, "Hunger U.S.A. Revisited. A Report by the Citizens' Board of Inquiry into Hunger and Malnutrition in the United States," [1970]
- 13 22 Southern Regional Council, "The South and Her Children: School Desegregation, 1970-71," 1971
- 13 23 Southern Regional Council, *South Today*, Vol. 3, No. 10, 1972
- 14 1 Voter Education Project, "It's Not Over in the South: School Desegregation in Forty-three Southern Cities Eighteen Years After Brown," Southern Regional Council, et al, 1972
- 14 2 Southern Regional Council, *Southern Changes*, Vol. 3/3 (1981), Vol. 7/3-4 (1985), Vol. 10/6 (1988), and Vol. 12/2 (1990)
- 14 3 Southern Regional Council, "Public Assistance: To What End?," 1967
- 14 4 Southern Regional Council, "The Effects of Federal Examiners and Organized Registration Campaigns on Negro Voter Registration," 1966
- 14 5 Southern Regional Council, "Hungry Children," 1967
- 14 6 Southern Regional Council, "Lawlessness and Disorder: Fourteen Years of Failure in Southern School Desegregation," [1967?]
- 14 7 Southern Regional Council, "In Memphis: One Year Later," 1969
- 14 8 Southern Rural Action, Inc., "A Paper on a Projected Southern Regional Land Bank With Appropriate Notes on Land History and Policy and a Suggested Structure and Philosophy," 1970
- 14 9 Southern Rural Research Project, "First Annual Report," 1968
- 14 10 Southern Rural Research Project, "Farm Programs," no date
- 14 11 U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, "Civil Rights under Federal Programs," Civil Rights Special Publications: No. 1, 1965
- U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, "Equal Opportunity in Hospitals and Health Facilities," Civil Rights Special Publications: No. 2, 1965
- U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, "Federal Rights under School Desegregation Law," Civil Rights Special Publications: No. 6, 1966

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| 14 | 12 | U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, <i>Civil Rights Digest</i> , fall 1968, spring 1969, and winter 1970         |
| 14 | 13 | U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, "Mexican Americans and the Administration of Justice in the Southwest," 1970 |
| 14 | 14 | U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, "The Voting Rights Act: Unfulfilled Goals," 1981                             |
| 14 | 15 | U.S. Department of Agriculture, "How to Start a Cooperative," 1965  |
| 14 | 16 | United States Government Printing Office, "Equality of Educational Opportunity," 1966                         |

**Oversized items**

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|-----|---|--|
| OP1 | 1 | Ireland education certificate for Constance Richmond, 1917       |
| OP1 | 1 | Photograph of Leon Hall  |
| OP1 | 1 | Political cartoon  |
| OP1 | 1 | Elect John Buffington for Mayor (West Point, Mississippi) poster |
| OP1 | 1 | National Democratic Party of Alabama poster                      |
| OP1 | 1 | Youth Citizenship Fund poster                                    |

**Series 4**  
**Audiovisual material**  
**Box 15**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
15	1	<i>The Intolerable Burden</i> , documentary produced by Constance Curry, 2002

**Series 5**  
**Unprocessed additions**  
**Boxes 16 - 25 and OP 2-4**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
16		Printed material and scrapbook
17		Audiovisual material, writings, subject files, memorabilia
18		Scrapbooks, correspondence, writings, and subject files
19		Printed material and periodicals
20		Subject files [including material relating to Winson Hudson], printed material, and scrapbook
21		Subject files [including material relating to MaeBeth Carter]
22	-	Subject files and video recordings [including material relating to Lowndes County, Alabama wood products, circa 1971]
23	-	Subject files, sound recordings, and born digital material [including interviews and material relating to the SNCC Legacy Project]
24		Subject files [including material relating to Winson Hudson, the American Friends Service Committee Family Aid Fund and its successor projects]
25		Audiovisual material
OP1	2	Posters
OP3	-	Poster
OP2	-	Posters and photographs

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