American Civil Liberties Union Papers, Part II: Southern Regional Office

ONLY GALE PROVIDES A NEWLY DIGITIZED RECORD OF THE ACLU’S FIGHT FOR EQUALITY

This unique collection is comprised of never-before-digitized materials documenting the ACLU’s legal battle to enforce the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in thirteen Southern states. This collection is an indispensable resource for understanding the complete history of the civil rights movement. Consisting of case files, correspondence, newspaper clippings, manuscripts, and more, this collection offers a primary source perspective on civil rights issues from voting rights to the dismantling of the Jim Crow system.

NEVER-BEFORE-DIGITIZED RECORDS FROM THE MUDD MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY AT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

The ACLU’s Southern Regional Office was founded in 1964 in Atlanta, Georgia under the direction of civil rights attorney Charles S. Morgan Jr. Its founding coincided with the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Southern Regional Office used the provisions of the act, which made segregation in public accommodations unconstitutional, to address violations in the targeted areas of voters’ rights and racial discrimination.

RESEARCH KEY CASES

Armour v. Nix (1979): Held that an “interdistrict remedy” to integrating schools is not appropriate.

Busbee v. Smith: This case presents the question of whether a congressional election may be scheduled for a date other than the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

Clay v. The United States (1971): This involved famed boxer and conscientious objector, Muhammad Ali.

Washington v. Lee (1968): Held that the racial segregation of prison and jails in Alabama was unconstitutional.

EXPLORE A RANGE OF DOCUMENTATION

Includes approximately 650,000 pages of correspondence, memos, court documents, amicus briefs, publications, testimony, reports and studies, administrative files, personnel records, meeting minutes, and documents related to the office’s history.

SUPPORT INTERDISCIPLINARY 20TH CENTURY STUDIES

This archive offers insights into key areas of study, including U.S. social and legal history, American politics and government, African American history, southern studies, race studies, identity studies, Vietnam War and student protest, radicalism, and free speech.

FEATURES AND TOOLS

Textual Analysis Tools  Identify and visualize patterns, trends, and relationships to explore content in new ways.

Subject Indexing  Easily find content and view key elements in the text.

Zotero Compatibility  To collect, cite, and organize your sources. User Accounts Personal accounts make it simple to save and edit tags.

Image Viewer  Zoom, highlight, rotate, and reverse to create a custom view in full-screen mode.

Downloadable OCR  Now keyword-search monographs, newspapers, and ephemera for a new level of access on all search results.

Stand-alone or Cross-search Capabilities  Use the archive on its own or cross search with other primary source collections like Archives of Sexuality and Gender to reveal connections that foster deeper understanding.

Explore Collections  Provides a unique interface to browse through the content instead of just searching for it.