Summary

Creator: Gollin, Albert E.

Title: Bureau of Social Science Research files

Date: 1940-1971

Size: 11.21 linear feet (29 boxes)


Revision History: Finding aid updated by Lauren Stark.

Abstract: The Bureau of Social Science Research (BSSR), which existed from 1950-1986, was a nonprofit research agency created to conduct research in basic and applied social science. Albert E. Gollin (1930-1999), a media sociologist, was a research associate of the BSSR. The Bureau of Social Science research files are comprised of materials from the two sociological studies for which Albert Gollin was the principal investigator, the March on Washington (1963) and the Poor People's Campaign (1968).

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Creator History

The Bureau of Social Science Research (BSSR), which existed from 1950-1986, was a nonprofit research agency created to conduct research in basic and applied social science. The overall purposes of the Bureau were the development of social theory and research methods and their application to contemporary social problems. The Bureau's principal areas of interest included mass communication, urban studies, occupational and military sociology, higher and vocational education, social welfare, criminology and criminal justice administration, and the social research enterprise.
Albert E. Gollin (1930-1999), a media sociologist, was a research associate of the Bureau of Social Science Research and conducted sociological studies of the March on Washington (MOW), August 28, 1963, and the Poor People's Campaign (PPC), May-August 1968. The goal of the two studies was to provide a sociological analysis of the events and the media coverage given to both those who planned the events and those who participated in them. As a media sociologist, Gollin was interested in the role of the media as it covered, related to, and influenced the MOW and the PPC. In 1967, a series of interviews were conducted with key figures of the March, some of whom would become leaders of the Poor People's Campaign. For the PPC study, Gollin reached out to the Lemberg Center for the Study of Violence. This partnership was particularly important because of the riots that broke out after Martin Luther King's assassination. The Lemberg Centre provided an overview history of group violence in the United States, and was asked to study and document the urban riots that had taken place in major U.S. cities following the King assassination.

Scope and Content Note

The Bureau of Social Science Research Files collection are comprised of materials from the two sociological studies for which Albert Gollin was the principal investigator, the March on Washington (1963) and the Poor People's Campaign (1968). In addition to material generated by the BSSR in their study and analysis of these events, the collection contains documents from both the March on Washington and the Poor People's Campaign that Gollin and his team gathered for their studies.

Arrangement: Collection organized into two series: I. March on Washington and II. Poor People's Campaign.

Key Terms

Subjects
African Americans -- Civil rights
Authors, Black
Civil disobedience
Civil rights
Civil rights demonstrations -- Washington (D.C.)
Civil rights movements
Civil rights workers
Labor movement -- United States
Poor People's Campaign

Names
Gollin, Albert E.
Hedgeman, Anna Arnold, 1899-1990
Lewis, John, 1940 February 21-
Randolph, A. Philip (Asa Philip), 1889-1979
Rustin, Bayard, 1912-1987
Young, Whitney M.
Bureau of Social Science Research (Washington, D.C.)
Lemberg Center for the Study of Violence
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America
Southern Christian Leadership Conference
Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (U.S.)
Container List

March on Washington 1950-1969

Included in this series are planning documents on Gollin's organization of the study of the March; reference material used to analyze it and previous marches; survey instruments and questionnaires; interview guidelines and transcripts; media-related materials such as newspaper clippings and television program transcripts; and reference material for the final report. The Study subseries encompasses minutes, correspondence, and administrative material from the March that Gollin acquired for the final analysis of the study. The ideological and biographical intersections of the MOW participants are highlighted in the historical sketch of the BSSR/MOW project in "History and Overview". Documented in notes written by Gollin and others is the collapse of the leadership of the original March for Jobs and Freedom and the shift towards the civil/voting rights march. The notes record the timeline of the shift and the key players who brought it about. The grassroots takeover of the March is also captured in notes for an article titled "The MOW in Mass Society: Communication and Persuasion". There are three documents by A. Philip Randolph, including a letter to Dr. Robert Spike, Director of the Commission of Religion and Race, National Council of Churches. A copy of the "Marshals of the March" manual, which covers the logistics of the event relating to food, emergency medical services, audio equipment and security, along with the "Thank You Letter" to volunteers, is included in this subseries. Gollin's undated article titled "The Co-optation of Crisis: The Organizational Factor in the MOW" reports on the tensions among the leadership of the MOW. The Reference subseries includes a memo from Bayard Rustin to the ten chairmen of the MOW on the future of the MOW movement which he titled "The Life Story of the March on Washington". The minutes of a pre-MOW meeting with the Washington, D.C. police on July 11, 1963, attended by Bayard Rustin, Walter Fauntroy, and others of the MOW organizing body, capture some of the concerns raised by law enforcement and the local community. Also included among the items here is a copy of the original text of the speech that John Lewis, of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), wrote but did not deliver on the day of the March. Notes for a speech Julius Hobson delivered at the Yale Law Students Association on September 11, 1963, offer a description and analysis of the Council on Racial Equality's (CORE) role and understanding of the MOW. Hobson's notes also capture the emergence and evolution of the March as well as the manipulation by the Big 6 civil rights organizations and how that shaped and changed the March and the original demands and outcomes. Also contained here are correspondence and planning documents on the organizing of the March. Some of the events leading to the transformation into a civil rights/voters rights march are found in the plan of operation dated July 8, 1963. The Survey subseries contains the instruments used to conduct the BSSR survey of the media coverage of the MOW. Instruments used include volunteer registration forms, codebooks, survey forms, interview guidelines for interviewers and volunteers, questionnaires (blanks), instructional manuals, and data analysis. There are also transcripts of interviews of James Farmer, Dr. Anna Hedgeman, John Lewis, Cleveland Robinson, Bayard Rustin, and Whitney Young. Housed in the Media section of this subseries are guidelines for television monitoring, thirteen media reports, content analysis, a report on research on the MOW by Dorothy Atken Bohn of MOW, and foreign reaction to MOW as documented by the United States Information Agency.

Arranged into three subseries: 1. Study; 2. Reference; and 3. Survey.

Study 1963-1968

b. 1 f. 1 Brief description of study materials 1963-1964
b. 1 f. 2 Planning memorandum
b. 1 f. 3 Administrative records
   Correspondence
b. 1 f. 4 Research inquiries 1963-1968
b. 1 f. 5 Funding and collaboration 1963-1967
b. 1 f. 6 "Thank You to Volunteers" (report)

Reference
b. 1 f. 7 History and overview
b. 1 f. 8 Ideas and miscellany
b. 1 f. 9 Notes
March on Washington (cont.)
Reference (cont.)
b. 1 f. 10  "Life Story of March on Washington"
b. 1 f. 11  "A Freedom Budget for All Americans: A Summary" by A. Philip Randolph Institute
b. 1 f. 12  Public Relations Committee activities
b. 1 f. 13  Planning and preparation
b. 1 f. 14  August 28th, the structure of the day
b. 1 f. 15  Negro American Labor Council
b. 1 f. 16  Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
b. 1 f. 17  A. Philip Randolph, Bayard Rustin, Julius Hobson, and John Lewis
b. 1 f. 18  Bibliographic notes and references from literary sources

Survey 1950-1969
b. 2 f. 1  Registry of volunteers
b. 2 f. 2  Volunteer registration forms (blank and completed)
b. 2 f. 3  "Negro influential leaders", occupational analysis
b. 2 f. 4  Follow-up correspondence
Codebooks
b. 2 f. 5  Master
b. 2 f. 6  Mail questionnaire
b. 2 f. 7-8  Take-home coders' notes
b. 2 f. 9  Interview sample, coders' notes
b. 2 f. 10  Washington: x-sectional telephone panel
b. 3 f. 1  Hollander sampling: x-sectional telephone panel
b. 3 f. 2  Codes for size of city 1950-1960

Participant observers
b. 3 f. 3  Guidelines
b. 3 f. 4  Instructions for narrative reports of traveling
b. 3 f. 5  Data cards
b. 3 f. 6  Traveling to the March
b. 3 f. 7  Reports, narrative, and stories
b. 3 f. 8  Early drafts of questionnaires and forms
b. 3 f. 9  Questionnaires
b. 3 f. 10  Mail questionnaire sample
b. 3 f. 11  Period analysis for hand tabulations, take home questionnaire

Low income
b. 3 f. 12  Code building and hand tabulations
b. 3 f. 13  First wave - forms, interview, schedule, panel
b. 3 f. 14  Second wave - interview schedule, sample (D.C.)
b. 4 f. 1  Instructions for sampling (sampling maps)
b. 4 f. 2  Interview sample
b. 4 f. 3  Preliminary analysis, hand tabulations and interview schedule
b. 4 f. 4  Oral Histories - interview request
March on Washington (cont.)
Survey (cont.)
b. 4 f. 5 White respondents, data reports
b. 4 f. 6 Reports, meetings, and narratives
b. 4 f. 7-8 Notes, observations, reactions, and background

Media
b. 4 f. 9 Television observation, monitoring guidelines and form
b. 4 f. 10 Reports on television monitoring
b. 5 f. 1 Mass media content analysis (newspaper and television)
Typescripts of television programs
b. 5 f. 2 NBC, "The American Revolution of 1963"
b. 5 f. 3 CBS, "Of Black America"
b. 5 f. 4 Ford Foundation/National Educational Television, "One Nation Indivisible" 1968
b. 5 f. 5 Aitken Bohn, Dorothy research 1966-1968
b. 5 f. 6 Foreign reaction to MOW (U.S.I.A. material)
b. 5 f. 7 Archive and article requests 1967
b. 5 f. 8-9 Newspaper clippings

Interview transcripts
b. 6 f. 1 Ahmann, Matt 1967
b. 6 f. 2 Aronson, Arnold 1967
b. 6 f. 3 Blake, Eugene C 1967
b. 6 f. 4 Braton, Wiley 1967
b. 6 f. 5 Farmer, James 1967
b. 6 f. 6 Hedgeman, Anna 1967
b. 6 f. 7 Hill, Norman 1967
b. 6 f. 8 Horowitz, Rachelle 1967
b. 6 f. 9 Kahn, Tom 1967
b. 6 f. 10 Lewis, John 1967
b. 6 f. 11 Martin, Louis 1967
b. 6 f. 12 Morsell, John A 1967
b. 6 f. 13 Robinson, Cleveland
b. 6 f. 14 Rustin, Bayard
b. 6 f. 15 Tucker, Sterling
b. 6 f. 16 Young, Whitney

Data analysis print-outs
b. 7 f. 1 Additional tables
b. 7 f. 2 Interviewers
b. 7 f. 3 Clippings, Chicago Sun-Times and Sun Reporter 1969
b. 7 f. 4 Newswire printouts
b. 7 f. 5-11 General
Poor People's Campaign 1960-1971

The Poor People's Campaign (PPC) series documents the active planning for the PPC beginning in early 1968 and intensifying in May of that year. The correspondence, distributed among the subseries, consists primarily of form letters concerning planning; invitations to universities (Berkeley, Stanford, Michigan) inquiring about their research projects on the PPC and inviting their participation and collaboration in the BSSR study; media contacts; and letters regarding the codification and analysis of data collected during the PPC. The Study subseries encompasses the BSSR's study of the campaign, reports and other writings, and studies of civil disobedience. Gollin's involvement with SCLC's administration of the PPC is evident in the files and documents included here. Included among the files is a detailed blueprint of the vision and plans for Resurrection City by the organizers of the campaign. The Gollin writings folder contains six articles including an unpublished paper, "Collective Protest and Social Change", that presents some of his research findings on the PPC project. The Survey subseries includes codebooks, survey instruments, and interview guidelines. There are transcripts of interviews conducted by BSSR staff and volunteers with participants as well as caravan reports from participant-observers who traveled with the caravans. Of interest are several papers by Carol Yenawine, one of the interviewers, and an article by David Wham called "Politics and Dramatism of Conflict in the PPC: A Case Study". The Reference subseries contains documents related to the lobbying efforts of the organizers of the PPC and shows the role of the national and local organizations, especially the Lemberg Center for the Study of Violence, that collaborated with the PPC. The Media subseries includes articles and reports on the civil rights movement, as well as newspaper clippings and periodicals, containing articles about both the March on Washington and the Poor People's Campaign in Black and mainline publications.


Study 1960-1970

b. 8 f. 1 Demands and goals (answers to agencies)
b. 8 f. 2 Earlier People's Campaigns (March on Washington)
b. 8 f. 3-4 Planning, events, process, and actions
b. 8 f. 5 Chronology of events leading to Poor People's Campaign
b. 8 f. 6 Trends in race relations 1963-1968
b. 8 f. 7 Timeline of events 1969
b. 8 f. 8 Correspondence 1968-1969
b. 8 f. 9 Assorted publicity materials
b. 8 f. 10 Writing and articles by and about Martin Luther King, Jr
b. 8 f. 11 Writing by Gollin


b. 9 Index cards of Gollin's study notes

Southern Christian Leadership Council

b. 10 f. 1 Who's Who of the PPC

Campaign Administration

b. 10 f. 2 Correspondence

b. 10 f. 3 Committee minutes

b. 10 f. 4 Printed matter

b. 10 f. 5 Finance, Comptroller's Office

b. 10 f. 6 Coordinating Committee
Poor People's Campaign (cont.)
Study (cont.)
Southern Christian Leadership Council (cont.)
b. 10 f. 7  Convention speeches 1968
b. 10 f. 8  Newsletters
b. 10 f. 9  P.P.C. Office
b. 10 f. 10  Research sources
b. 10 f. 11  Typed research notes
b. 10 f. 12  Webb, Marilyn field reports
b. 10 f. 13  Scholarship Education and Defense Fund for Racial Equality Activities, Activities at Resurrection City
b. 10 f. 14  Committee referral numbers
Committees
b. 10 f. 15  College and Youth Involvement
b. 10 f. 16  Food
b. 11 f. 1  Housing
b. 11 f. 2  Resurrection City General Services and Administration
b. 11 f. 3  Legal services
b. 11 f. 4  Medical
b. 11 f. 5  Publicity
b. 11 f. 6  Recreation
b. 11 f. 7  Resurrection City, shelters and site
b. 11 f. 8  Social services
b. 11 f. 9  Appalachian Peoples Meeting 1960 May 25
b. 11 f. 10  National Association of Social Workers Educational Task Force
b. 11 f. 11  Marshals
b. 11 f. 12  Smithsonian Institute permit
b. 11 f. 13  Visiting agencies
b. 11 f. 13  Berkeley project ideas (Dixon and Jan Cohen)
Solidarity Day
b. 11 f. 15  Interviews 1970
b. 11 f. 16  Speeches
b. 11 f. 17  Mobilization
b. 11 f. 18  Government Employees Fast Day 1968 June 14
b. 11 f. 19  Support groups statements and materials
b. 11 f. 20  March 1968 June 19
Survey 1967-1969
Solidarity Day
b. 12 f. 1  Codes and margins 1968
b. 12 f. 2  Interviewer summary and code book
b. 12 f. 3  Interview guidelines
b. 12 f. 4-5  Code books registration 1968
b. 12 f. 6  Work deck
b. 12 f. 7  Questions
b. 12 f. 8  Interviewers
   Interviews
b. 12 f. 9  Functions of the organizations 1967-1968
b. 12 f. 10 Legal interviews
b. 12 f. 11 Interviewer Marie Grosko
b. 12 f. 12-13 Interviewer Tony Newkirk
b. 12 f. 14 Interviewer Carol Yenawine
b. 13 f. 1-2 Participant observers reports 1968
   Caravans reports
b. 13 f. 3-4  1968-1969
b. 13 f. 5  National Council of Churches
   Community leaders
b. 13 f. 6  Sampling lists and notes
b. 13 f. 7  Code building: time 1
b. 13 f. 8  Code building: time 2
b. 13 f. 9  Comparison of MOW and PPC
b. 13 f. 10 "Get a Better Break" (MOW and PPC participants)
b. 14 f. 1-7 Work deck
   Articles
b. 15 f. 1  Erskine, Hazel Gaudet. "The Polls"
 b. 15 f. 2  Wham, David. "The Politics and Dramatism of Conflict in the P.P.C: A Case Study"
 b. 15 f. 3  Wiedbenson, John. Various articles
   Gay, Lois
b. 15 f. 4  Lobbying
b. 15 f. 5  Black community report and notes
   Yenawine, Carol S
b. 15 f. 6  "Interest Group Perspective for the P.P.C," first draft
b. 15 f. 7  "The Washington Black Community and the P.P.C."
 b. 15 f. 8  "Non-Poor Involvement"
 b. 15 f. 9-10 "The Church and the P.P.C." (draft and notes) 1968
b. 15 f. 11 "Washington Churches and the P.P.C."
 b. 15 f. 12 "The First Four Thousand: A Brief Statistical Profile"
 b. 15 f. 13 Articles on poverty 1968
b. 16 f. 1 Landsberger, Henry A. "Southern Caravan: Selma and Montgomery"
   Mann, Kenneth
b. 16 f. 2  "Resurrection City and the Media"
b. 16 f. 3  "Revised Project Design"
   Organizations
b. 16 f. 4-5 National
b. 16 f. 6 Washington, D.C. government
b. 16 f. 7 Black community organizations
b. 16 f. 8 National Association of Social Workers
Washington, D.C. community organizations
b. 16 f. 9 Metropolitan organizations
b. 16 f. 10 YMCA/YWCA
b. 16 f. 11 D.C. Americans for Democratic Action
b. 16 f. 12 D.C. Federation of Civic Associations
b. 16 f. 13 Federation of Citizens Association of D.C
b. 16 f. 14 Health and Welfare Council
b. 16 f. 15 League of Women Voters
b. 17 f. 1 Metropolitan Washington Urban Coalition
b. 17 f. 2 NAACP
b. 17 f. 3 United Planning Organization
b. 17 f. 4 Washington Planning and Housing Association
b. 17 f. 5 Washington Urban League
b. 17 f. 6 Pressure groups
Washington, D.C. faith organizations
b. 17 f. 7 Church of the Redeemer/Presbytery of Washington City
b. 17 f. 8 Friends Committee on National Legislation
b. 17 f. 9 Council of Churches of Greater Washington
b. 17 f. 10 Presbyterian Interracial Council-National Capital Area
b. 17 f. 11 Unitarian Universalist Association
b. 17 f. 12 United Methodist Urban Ministry
b. 17 f. 13 Washington Catholic Archdiocese
b. 17 f. 14 Episcopalian Diocese of Washington
b. 17 f. 15 Jewish Community Council
b. 17 f. 16 undated

Reference 1967-1968

Violence
b. 17 f. 17 Studies on specific city riots (Miami, Newark, and Los Angeles)
b. 17 f. 18 Profile of a riot 1968
b. 17 f. 19 Chicago police riot 1968
b. 17 f. 20 D.C. riots, polls and surveys 1968
b. 18 f. 1 General studies
b. 18 f. 3 Articles on patterns of violence
b. 18 f. 4 The Lemberg Center for the Study of Violence 1967-1968
b. 18 f. 5 Conant, Ralph W. Conant and Molly Levin, eds. "Problems in Research on Community Violence"
b. 18 f. 6 Rossi, Peter H. "Some Issues in the Comparative Study of Community Violence"
b. 18 f. 7 Spiegel, John. "Hostility, Aggression and Violence"
b. 18 f. 8 Tilly, Charles. "Methods for the Study of Collective Violence"
Poor People's Campaign (cont.)
Reference (cont.)
Violence (cont.)
b. 18 f. 9  "The First Eighteen Months"
b. 18 f. 10  "Confrontations" newsletter
Government documents 1968
b. 19 f. 1  Department of the Interior
b. 19 f. 2  Department of Agriculture
b. 19 f. 3  State correspondence
b. 19 f. 4  Strengthening children's food service programs
b. 19 f. 5  Ad hoc materials
b. 19 f. 6  U.S. Congress, non-ad hoc materials
b. 19 f. 7  Department of Commerce, methodology and scores of socioeconomic status
b. 19 f. 8  "Consumer Problems of the Poor: Supermarket Operations in Low-Income Areas and the Federal Response"
b. 19 f. 9  H.R. 17872/H.R. 17873 - Amendment to National School Lunch Act
b. 19 f. 10  Statement by Rev. Dr. Ralph David Abernathy to the U.S. Senate
b. 19 f. 11  Housing and Urban Development
b. 19 f. 12  Department of Labor
b. 20 f. 1  Department of Justice
b. 20 f. 2  Office of Economic Opportunity
b. 20 f. 3  Department of Health, Education and Welfare
b. 20 f. 4  "Toward Economic Security for the Poor"

Media 1963-1971

Labor
b. 21 f. 1  undated
b. 21 f. 2  AFL-CIO
b. 21 f. 3  The American Federation 1966-1968
b. 21 f. 4  AFL-CIO News 1968
b. 21 f. 5-6  Interpretive and descriptive articles
b. 21 f. 7  Hunger
b. 21 f. 8  Guaranteed income
b. 21 f. 9  Medical clippings
b. 21 f. 10  Business
b. 22 f. 1  The Trades Unionist 1968
b. 22 f. 2  American University Media Study
b. 22 f. 3  Documentary on P.P.C
b. 22 f. 4  Press coverage on the Black community and organizations
b. 22 f. 5  Press on Roschco Webb
b. 22 f. 6  Clippings on the church
b. 22 f. 7  Newsletters from various organizations
b. 22 f. 8  "I.F. Stone's Weekly"
b. 22 f. 9  Bibliography of magazines and journals
b. 22 f. 10  News Photographers Association Journal, 26th Annual 1969
Moors, William R. "Obligations to Disobey"


Miscellaneous notes

Printed matter

Newspaper clippings

1966-1967
1968 January-February
1968 March-April
1968 April 5-28
1968 April 29-May 5
1968 May 6-12
1968 May 13-18
1968 May 19-25
1968 May 26-June 1
1968 June 2-8
1968 June 9-15
1968 June 16-18
1968 June 19
1968 June 20-22
1968 June 23-29
1968 June 30-July 6
1968 July 7-13
1968 July 14-20
1968 July 21-27
1968 July 28-August 30
1968 September 1-December 9
Community development

March on Washington articles

Poor People's Campaign articles

The Washington Post survey 1971

Periodicals

American Behavioral Science 1969 March-April
The American Federationist 1969 January
"The Boycott Movement against Jim Crow Streetcars in the South, 1900-1906" 1969 March
City 1968 January-May
Civil Rights Digest 1968 Spring-Summer

Ebony

1963 November
1963 September
1965 August
1968 April
b. 28 f. 13

1968 October
b. 28 f. 14

1968 January
b. 28 f. 15

Fortune

The Genesis of the Southern Negro Student Movement (Sit-In Movement): A Study in Contemporary Negro Protest 1963

Jet

1963 September 12
b. 28 f. 17

1968 April 25
b. 28 f. 18

1968 February 29
b. 28 f. 19

1968 July 11
b. 28 f. 20

1968 June 6
b. 28 f. 21

1968 June 13
b. 28 f. 22

1968 May 9
b. 28 f. 23

1968 May 23
b. 28 f. 24

The Lessons of the Long Hot Summer 1967 October

1963 September 12
b. 28 f. 17

Life 1963 September 6
b. 29 f. 2

Newsweek

1963 July 29
b. 29 f. 3

1963 October 21
b. 29 f. 4

1963 September 2
b. 29 f. 5

1963 September 9
b. 29 f. 6

1967 May 15
b. 29 f. 7

1967 August 21
b. 29 f. 8

1967 November 20
b. 29 f. 9

Phylon: The Atlanta University Review of Race and Culture 1966
Includes vol. 24, #2, and vol. 27, #1 (1966).

Playboy 1969 January
b. 29 f. 12

"Protest Participation among Southern Negro College Students" 1967 June
b. 29 f. 13

Revolution in Civil Rights 1968 June
b. 29 f. 14

"Six Years of Sit-ins: Psychodynamic Causes and Effects" 1966
b. 29 f. 15

"A Sociological Study of Some Newspaper Reporting of the March on Washington" 1966
b. 29 f. 16

Time 1970 April 6
b. 29 f. 17

"White and Negro Attitude Towards Race-Related Issues and Activities"