



Guide to the Reverend Donald M. Clark Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Clark, Donald M., Reverend, 1933-2017
Title:	Reverend Donald M. Clark Papers
ID:	MS-00158
Date [inclusive]:	1953-1976
Physical Description:	0.92 Cubic Feet (2 boxes)
Physical Description:	0.83 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Reverend Donald M. Clark Papers (1953-1976) contain correspondence, meeting minutes, organizational plans, newspaper clippings, and personal memorabilia related Clark's work with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Economic Opportunity Board (EOB) in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Preferred Citation

Reverend Donald M. Clark Papers, 1953-1976. MS-00158. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

In 1952, after serving in the Army, Reverend Donald M. Clark moved to Las Vegas, Nevada where he became an assistant pastor and began working towards integration and improving the lives of the black community. His firm stance on equal rights led him to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), where he worked with James McMillan and Charles West to lobby Nevada Governor Grant Sawyer and other public figures to initiate integration in Las Vegas.

Reverend Clark was elected president of the local branch of the NAACP in 1961 and also became part of the Economic Opportunity Board (EOB) of Clark County. He worked with other members in these organizations to continue the integration effort, particularly in education. In 1967, he was

appointed Chairman of Operation Independence, a program that provided free legal aid, day care, transportation, a head start preschool, job placement, and professional training.

Donald M. Clark passed away in 2017.

"Rev. Donald Clark, civil rights activist in Las Vegas, dies at 84." *Las Vegas Sun*. October 10, 2017. Accessed April 5, 2019. <https://lasvegassun.com/news/2017/oct/10/rev-donald-clark-civil-rights-activist-las-vegas/>

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Scope and Content Note

The Reverend Donald M. Clark Papers (1953-1976) contain correspondence, meeting minutes, organizational plans, newspaper clippings, and personal memorabilia related Clark's work with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Economic Opportunity Board (EOB) in Las Vegas, Nevada. The NAACP files contain documents relating to local, regional, and national issues and include meeting minutes, bylaws, and correspondence. Community newsletters and newspaper clippings document the black experience in Las Vegas during the 1950s and 1960s. The collection also contains various documents that pertain to civil rights in Las Vegas, police brutality, and other community issues. Reverend Clark's records of the EOB document the variety of projects started under this non-profit group, including the Operation Independence which offered day care, a head start program for toddlers, and legal aid to families in need.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged by subject.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Portions of this collection are digital and available online at UNLV Libraries Digital Collections.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1978 by Louise Clark; accession number 1979-147.

Processing Note

Material was processed by Carol Remter, Su Kim Chung, and Crystal Aubuchon-Mendez. In 2018, Joyce Moore revised the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

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Related Materials

Separated Materials

Some of the photographs in the acquisition were removed from the collection and placed in: Reverend Donald M. Clark Photograph Collection, approximately 1965-1978. PH-00087. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- African Americans -- Political activity -- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Race relations

- Poor -- Services for
- Public welfare -- Nevada
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Las Vegas Branch (Las Vegas, Nev.).
- Operation Independence (Las Vegas, Nev.).
- Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County (Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers	
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)		
Donald Clark, personal ephemera, 1961-1963	box 01	folder 01
Coordinating Council, 1959-1961	box 01	folder 02
Las Vegas Branch annual report, 1959	box 01	folder 03
Las Vegas Branch correspondence, 1959-1960	box 01	folder 04
Las Vegas Branch correspondence, 1961	box 01	folder 05
Las Vegas Branch correspondence, 1962	box 01	folder 06
Las Vegas Branch financial statements and budgets, 1960-1961	box 01	folder 07
Las Vegas Branch general information, 1961	box 01	folder 08
Las Vegas Branch meetings and minutes, 1960-1962	box 01	folder 09
Las Vegas Branch, Nolan Sharp case, 1961	box 01	folder 10
National publications, 1959-1962	box 01	folder 11
Regional information, 1960-1962	box 01	folder 12
Black Community Issues		
Las Vegas civil rights newspaper clippings (photocopies), 1953-1969	box 01	folder 13
Las Vegas civil rights newspaper clippings, 1953-1968		

	box 01	folder 14
Las Vegas housing discrimination, 1959-1967	box 01	folder 15
Ministry, 1959-1969	box 01	folder 16
National Black Political Convention, 1972	box 01	folder 17
Nevada Civil Rights, 1960-1972	box 01	folder 18
Personal ephemera, 1960-1962	box 01	folder 19
Economic Opportunity Board (EOB)		
Concentrated Employment Plan, 1961-1969	box 02	folder 01
Correspondence, 1967-1972	box 02	folder 02
Financial statements and budgets, 1967	box 02	folder 03
Newsletters and correspondence, 1967-1968	box 02	folder 04
Manpower Development correspondence, 1967-1968	box 02	folder 05
Manpower Development financial statements and budgets, 1967	box 02	folder 06
Manpower Development reports and assorted documents, 1967-1969	box 02	folder 07
Operation Independence bylaws, undated	box 02	folder 08
Operation Independence correspondence, 1967-1968	box 02	folder 09
Operation Independence Day Care/Head Start correspondence, 1967-1968	box 02	folder 10
Operation Independence Day Care/Head Start financial statements and budgets, 1967-1968	box 02	folder 11
Operation Independence Day Care monthly services report, 1967 November	box 02	folder 12
Operation Independence Day Care/Head Start organizational papers, undated	box 02	folder 13
Operation Independence demonstration and proposal, 1963		

box 02 folder
14

Operation Independence financial statements and budgets, 1966-1968

box 02 folder
15

Operation Independence Legal Aid Project, 1969

box 02 folder
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Operation Independence meetings and minutes, 1967-1968

box 02 folder
17

Operation Independence organizational papers, 1968

box 02 folder
18

Operation Outreach, 1970

box 02 folder
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Publications, 1975-1976

box 02 folder
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Recreation Outreach, 1969-1970

box 02 folder
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