

Renny Golden Papers, 1969-2003, n.d.

Creator: Renny Golden

Extent: 4.5 l ft.

Location:

Processor: Alexandra DeMonte, March 9, 2007. Updated by Catherine Crosse, 2011.

Administration Information

Access Restrictions: None

Usage Restrictions: Copyright has been transferred to the Women & Leadership Archives

Preferred Citation: Loyola University Chicago. Women & Leadership Archives. Renny Golden Papers. Box #, Folder #.

Provenance: This collection was donated by Renny Golden to the Women & Leadership Archives, received June 19, 2006. (WLA2006.21)

Separations: 1.25 linear feet of duplicates and extraneous materials discarded.

See Also: Marjorie Tuite Collection, Eighth Day Center for Justice Collection, Church Women United, all located in the Women & Leadership Archives.

Biographical History

Activist, poet, and academic Corinne (Renny) Golden was born in 1937 and raised in Chicago, IL. Golden entered the Dominican order of nuns when she was nineteen. She earned Bachelors of Arts degree from Sienna Heights College in 1960, a Masters of Education from Wayne State University in 1968, and a Doctorate of Ministry at Chicago Theological Seminary with a specialization in Liberation Theology and Social Science in 1976. The civil rights movement and her involvement in helping the poor dramatically changed her life, and she left the convent before taking her final vows. "I had to leave the convent to find God among the poor," she said. In 1972, after moving to Chicago, she and another teacher began the adult education program, St. Mary's Adult High School. Adult education would continue to be a passion for Golden, and in 2002 Golden, with the help of Sister Jean Hughes, began another adult high school called St. Leonard's Adult High School, which served former prisoners. In 2005 she also started a bi-lingual adult education school, The Dorothy Stang Popular Education Adult High School.

Her introduction to Liberation Theology and the learning of the killings of thousands by the El Salvadorian military in the 1980s radically changed her activism and life. She first visited El Salvador in 1985, where she learned about the struggles of women involved in the resistance movement and recorded their stories, which resulted in her book *The Hour of the Poor, the Hour of Women* published in 1991. She also became active in the underground railroad that helped El Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugees flee to sanctuary churches and synagogues in the United States and co-authored *Sanctuary: The New Underground Railroad*, published in 1986. She has had several other books published including *Disposable Children: America's Child Welfare System* and a collection of her poetry, *The Hour of the Furnaces*.

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Golden also was a college professor, and she works to integrate social activism, volunteerism, and outside the classroom experiences into her courses. She taught twenty seven years at Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) as well as several years at Harvard Divinity School, Walpole Prison, Columbia College, and most recently as Professor Emeritus at University of New Mexico. She has often been nominated and awarded for her social activism, writing, and teaching. At NEIU, some of these accolades include the Faculty Excellence Award she received four times and the Women's Studies Social Justice Award in 2005, which was named the *Renny Golden Award*. She was a finalist for the C Wright Award for her book *War on Families: Imprisoned Mothers and the Families They Live Behind*, nominated for a National Book Award for *The Hour of the Furnaces*, as well as winning the Crossroads Publishing Women's Studies Award for *The Hour of the Poor, The Hour of Women*. For more information view her curriculum vitas in Box 1, Folder 12.

Scope and Content

The records of Renny Golden span the years 1969 to 2003, and include undated information. Contents are arranged chronologically within each of the three main series and subseries. The audiovisual material is arranged by format and then arranged chronologically. The collection consists of Renny Golden's published and unpublished writings, materials from Golden's college classes, documents regarding her promotion and tenure, items related to her presentations including audiovisual materials, brochures, and flyers. Subjects covered include higher education, social activism, El Salvador, Guatemala, Central American, poverty, women, welfare, criminal justice, and Christianity.

Series 1: Academic, 1982-2003, n.d., Box 1

Contains materials relating to the academic career of Renny Golden as a college professor. Included are materials from courses taught by Golden and paperwork related to her promotion and tenure as a college professor, which comprise of correspondences, applications, and letters in support of Golden.

Subseries 1A: Courses 1983, n.d., Box 1

Contains materials from courses taught by Golden, including syllabi, readings, and handouts. For her individual courses, the original provenance was used. Also included are letters from former students discussing their experience in class and Golden as a professor.

Series 2: Professional, 1969-2003, n.d., Boxes 1-7

Contains materials from Golden's activities and work as an activist, writer, and speaker. Materials include her curriculum vitae, awards and nominations, correspondences, reviews of Golden's books, press about Golden and her activities, documents related to her public service, items related to her presentations, and her numerous writings. The majority of the materials are concerned with Golden's interests in Central America, poverty, and Christianity.

Subseries 2A: Presentations, 1979-1997, n.d., Box 2-3

Contains materials related to presentations given by Golden at conferences, college institutions, public readings, and activist events. The majority of these items are flyers, conference brochures, and correspondences. Also included is the presentation speech for "¡Adelante Companeras! Women in Liberation Struggles: Salvadorean Women," which

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corresponds with a slide show found in the audiovisual materials in Box 12 as well as an audiotape recording found in Box 8. In addition, there is a list of presentation dates regarding her monograph *Disposable Children: America's Child Welfare System*.

Suberies 2B: Writings, 1969-2001, n.d., Boxes 3-7

Contains published and unpublished documents written by Golden, which include press, poetry, and academic work. Documents more specifically include monographs, published books of her poetry or individual poems in published collections, articles written for the press, journals that contain Golden's articles and poetry, unpublished papers, and drafts. These items are organized chronologically; therefore books, journals, and articles written for newspapers are combined and arranged in order of their publishing date, rather than alphabetically by title.

Series 3: Audio Visual, 1978-1998, n.d. Boxes 8-13

Contains audio visual materials, including a medal given to Golden, photographs, slides, audiotapes, and VHS tapes. One audiotape is a recording of her presentation and slide show "¡Adelante Compañeras!" found elsewhere in the collection. Also included are other audio-taped presentations and interviews by Golden, VHS video recordings of her presentations and others that are related to her work and activism, and slides from her presentations, including slides from her presentation "¡Adelante Compañeras!" but most of the slides are unidentified.

Subjects:

Capital Punishment
Catholicism
Central America
Chicago Religious Task Force on Central America
Chicago Religious Task Force on El Salvador
Church Women United
El Salvador
Guatemala
Homelessness
Liberation Theology
National Assembly of Religious Women
Poetry
Sanctuary Movement
Welfare
Women in Higher Education
Women Religious

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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Series 1: Academic, 1982-2003, n.d.			
1	1	Promotion and Tenure	1982- 2003, n.d.
Subseries 1A: Courses, 1983, n.d.			
	2	Capital Punishment	n.d.
	3	Course Descriptions	n.d.
	4	Hunger and Homelessness	n.d.
	5	Introduction to Criminal Justice	n.d.
	6	Juvenile Justice	n.d.
	7	Salvadoran Election Observer Mission: Is Democracy Possible?	n.d.
	8	Women and Revolution	n.d.
	9	Women, Poverty, and Justice	n.d.
	10	Women, Ministry, and the City	1983
	11	Correspondences	1994-1998
Series 2: Professional, 1969-2003, n.d.			
	12	Curriculum Vitae	n.d.
2	1	Press	1979-2003, n.d.
	2	Correspondences	1980-2001, n.d.
	2	Awards—General	1981-1997, n.d.
	4	General	1981-1983, 1997, n.d.
	5	Public Service	1981-1997
	6	Book Reviews— <i>Sanctuary: The New Underground Railroad</i>	1985-1987, n.d.
	7	Awards—Honorary Doctorate of Letters	1988
	8	Book Reviews— <i>Dangerous Memories</i>	1991-1992, n.d.
	9	Book Reviews— <i>Hour of the Poor, The Hour of Women</i>	1991-1994, n.d.
	10	Awards—Faculty Excellence Award, Letters of Support	1995, n.d.
	11	Awards—Faculty Excellence Award	1996, n.d.
	12	Awards—Lincoln Academy Student Laureate Award	1996
	13	Book Review— <i>Disposable Children: America's Child Welfare System</i>	1997, n.d.
Subseries 2A: Presentations, 1979-1997, n.d.			
	14	Presentations—“¡Adelante Compañeras! Women in Liberation Struggles: Salvadorean Women”	n.d.

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	15	Presentations	n.d.
	16	Presentations	1979-1982
	17	Presentations	1983-1984
3	1	Presentations	1985-1986
	2	Presentations	1987-1990
	3	Presentations	1991-1997
	4	Presentations—Disposable Children	1996-1997
Subseries 2B: Writings, 1969-2001, n.d.			
	5	Writings	n.d.
	6	Writings	n.d.
	7	Writings	1969-1976
	8	Writings	1977
	9	Writings	1978
4	1	Writings	1979
	2	Writings	1980
	3	Writings	1981
	4	Writings	1981
	5	Writings	1982
	6	Writings	1982
	7	Writings	1982
5	1	Writings	1983
	2	Writings	1983
	3	Writings	1984
	4	Writings	1984
	5	Writings	1985-1986
	6	Writings	1986
	7	Writings	1986
6	1	Writings	1986
	2	Writings	1987-1988
	3	Writings	1989
	4	Writings	1990
	5	Writings	1990-1991
7	1	Writings	1991
	2	Writings	1991
	3	Writings	1992-1993
	4	Writings	1993-1994
	5	Writings	1995-1997
	6	Writings	2000-2001

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	Doing the Truth” Video—School of the Americas	1998
12	Slides—“¡Adelante Compañeras!” Slides—Unidentified	n.d. n.d.
13	Slides	n.d.