

**Helen Sauer Brown Papers**  
**1944-2002**

**Creator:** Brown, Helen Sauer (1922-)

**Extent:** 0.5 l. ft.

**Processor:** Adrienne Sage, 28 September 2000

**Administration Information**

**Access Restrictions:** None

**Usage Restrictions:** Copyright of materials created by Helen Sauer Brown was transferred to WLA 28 September 2000.

**Preferred Citation:** Loyola University Chicago. Women & Leadership Archives. Helen Sauer Brown Papers. Box #, Folder #.

**Provenance:** Helen Sauer Brown donated this collection to the Women and Leadership Archives of the Ann Ida Gannon, BVM, Center for Women and Leadership on July 21, 1999 (WLA1999.14) and on July 9, 2002 (WLA2002.24).

**Separations:** Transferred to the Mundelein College Archives: 19 copies of *The Mundelein College Review*, 1940-1945; volumes 9, 10, & 11 of *Quest* poetry review.

**See Also:** Mundelein College Records

**Biographical History**

Helen Sauer Brown was born Helen Irene Sauer on February 7, 1923 in Findley, Ohio to parents Joseph Thomas and Mary Sweeney Sauer. Shortly after her birth, her family moved to Cicero, Illinois. She attended high school at Nazareth Academy in La Grange, Illinois, and received her B.A., magna cum laude, in Classics at Mundelein College, Chicago, in 1944. After marrying Thomas Brown and raising nine children, Helen Sauer Brown returned to Mundelein College for her M.A., summa cum laude, in Religious Studies, received in 1970. While a graduate student, she was named an Archdiocese of Chicago Cardinal Meyer Scholar. She served on the Mundelein College Board of Trustees from 1972 to 1979 and 1981 to 1991, and was president of the Alumnae Association from 1966-67.

Ms. Brown dedicated her spare time to volunteerism within the community and church while raising her children. In 1967 she started teaching Religion at Nazareth Academy, where she remained for five years. She served as President of a religious education consulting service called Religious Education Services from 1972 to 1976, offering personnel and program development to local churches, and conducting training programs for teachers of religion. As a pastoral minister, she coordinated church retreats and workshops, and became a reader at St. Francis Xavier Church.

During the 1960s, Ms. Brown traveled to Washington, D.C., as a peace activist, and to Springfield, Illinois as an organizer of the Equal Rights Amendment on behalf of the Illinois Catholic Women. Throughout her life, she has remained dedicated to peace, women's equality, and the teachings of the church.

In the mid-1970s, Helen Sauer Brown became a retail entrepreneur, owning and operating a home furnishings business in La Grange, Illinois. She held positions in several business organizations,

including the first woman presidency of the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce, and received the Outstanding Working Woman of Illinois Award in 1993 for her accomplishments. The Community Family Service and Mental Health Association, for which Ms. Brown served as President of the Board, hired her as Director of Resource Development, a position she held through the mid-1990s. She was involved in the fund-raising of this organization as a certified fund-raising executive. In honor of her great lifetime achievements, she was named to “Who’s Who in American Women” for 1997-8. Helen Sauer Brown has exemplified a commitment to family, work, community, and church throughout her life of service.

### **Scope and Content**

These papers are divided into two series based on Helen Sauer Brown’s arrangement.

**Series 1, Personal and Family Papers, 1944-2002, Box 1**, includes photographs, wedding and anniversary mementos, award applications, statements on War Tax Resistance and the Equal Rights Amendment, and newspaper clippings. This series gives a good overview of the many activities she pursued throughout her life.

**Series 2, Academic Papers, Master’s Degree, 1969-1970, Box 1**, contains papers, reports, exams, and class notes written by Helen Sauer Brown during her graduate studies at Mundelein College. Because she pursued Religious Studies for her Master’s degree, the papers within this series reveal many of her thoughts and ideas about religion.

### **Subjects:**

Brown, Helen Sauer  
Sauer, Joseph Thomas  
Sauer, Mary Sweeney  
Nazareth Academy  
Mundelein College  
Peace Activist  
Equal Rights Amendment  
Illinois Catholic Women  
West Suburban Chamber of Commerce  
Cicero, IL  
LaGrange, IL  
Community Family Service and Mental Health Association  
War Tax Resistance  
Religious Studies

*Women and Leadership Archives*  
*Loyola University Chicago*

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<b>Series 1: Personal and Family Papers, 1944-2002</b>			
1	1	War Tax Resistance Statement	1972
	2	Equal Rights Amendment Statement	1976
	3	Thank-you letter from Carol Frances Jegen, BVM	1986
	4	Notes, regarding Mundelein College Annual Fund	1988
	5	<i>Who's Who of American Women</i>	1997-1998
	6	Mother's Day Homily, given at St. Francis Xavier Parish	1994
	7	Wedding Booklets from Sr. Mary Bernarda Welch, BVM	1944
	8	Satin Wedding Missal Cover from Sr. Mary Donald McNeil, BVM	1944
	9	Wedding Photo, Helen Sauer Brown	1944
	10	Photo, "The Gay 19"- Mundelein College	1944
	11	Tom Brown's WWII Story	1995
	12	Tom and Helen Sauer Brown's 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Papers: Liturgy, Homily, and Program Booklet	1994
	13	Newspaper Articles about Helen Sauer Brown	1978, 1993
	14	"The Oral Herstory of Helen Sauer Brown," by Katie Brown	1995
	15	Outstanding Working Woman Award	1993
	16	Women of Enterprise Award	1993
	17	Flyer, "Day of Reflection for Working Women," Mundelein College	1981
	18	Woman of the Century Award	2002
<b>Series 2: Academic Papers, Master's Degree, 1969-1970</b>			
	19	"A Study In White Racism"	1970
	20	"The Diary of a Country Priest"	1970
	21	"Précis of Book on the Art of Film"	1970
	22	"Critique of Bergman"	1970
	23	"Bureaucracy"	1969
	24	"The Institutionalization of Religion" and Book Review	1969
	25	Final Exam, Sociology of Religion	1969
	26	"Reformation, Kant, Schleiermacher"	1969
	27	"Augustine, Anselm, Aquinas"	1969
	28	"Distinction Between Historical Jesus and Historical Christ"	1969
	29	"Summary of Reading: Gerhard Von Rad"	1970
	30	"Theological Implications of the Linguistics in a Comparison of Genesis and the Prologue of the Gospel"	1970

*Women and Leadership Archives*  
*Loyola University Chicago*

31 of St. John”  
Course: “Faith and Revelation”- Paper, Bibliography,  
and Notes 1969