



ArchivesSpace

# **Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Records; Records**

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M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Records
<b>ID:</b>	apap324
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1963-2011
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.6 cubic ft.
<b>Physical Location:</b>	The materials are located onsite in the department.
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (ICADP) formed in 1976 as the Illinois Coalition Against the Death Penalty by Mary Alice Rankin and other activist groups and organizations to try to prevent passage of capital punishment legislation in Illinois. After the state adopted the death penalty in 1977, ICADP expanded its grassroots legislative, education, and communication activities to try to inform the public about flaws and injustices in the Illinois capital punishment system and promote humane alternatives to the death penalty.

### Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Identification of specific item, series, box, folder, Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Papers, 1963-2011. M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University at Albany, State University of New York (hereafter referred to as the Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Records).

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## Biographical Sketch

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The Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (ICADP) formed in 1976 as the Illinois Coalition Against the Death Penalty by Mary Alice Rankin and other activist groups and organizations to try to prevent passage of capital punishment legislation in Illinois. After the state adopted the death penalty in 1977, ICADP expanded its grassroots legislative, education, and communication activities to try

to inform the public about flaws and injustices in the Illinois capital punishment system and promote humane alternatives to the death penalty.

ICADP helped have a dramatic impact on the successes in the Illinois capital punishment conversation, promoting campaigns that highlighted flaws with the death penalty to the public and legislators in the state and forming strong bonds with other groups that also believed the abolishment of the death penalty is the best solution for the public. These groups included the Illinois Bar Association, ACLU, Amnesty International, Catholic Conference, Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, League of Women Voters and others.

In March 2011, ICADP's campaign succeeded in passing legislation that repealed the death penalty in the state, and as of July 1st, 2011, Illinois became the sixteenth state to be death penalty-free.

ICADP's work is not finished. Recently members of the Illinois legislature introduced bills in the General Assembly to reinstate capital punishment. ICADP is now focused on fighting reinstatement efforts and maintaining a death penalty-free state.

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## Scope and Contents

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The Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (ICADP) donated its records in 2011 following repeal of the death penalty in the state. The archivist retained the original order of the files and the collection includes annual reports, newsletters, clippings and press releases. ICADP gained national attention with its campaign to rid Illinois of capital punishment; this is evident with materials documenting the case of John Wayne Gacy, executed in 1994, and the murder of nine year old Jeanine Nicarico in 1983.

The collection also contains the 2002 documentary film *Too Flawed to Fix: The Illinois Death Penalty Experience* which explores the legal flaws in the capital punishment system in Illinois and materials pertaining to Amnesty International. There are clippings of Northwestern University School of Law's National Conference on Wrongful Convictions and the Death Penalty during which former Death Row inmates later found innocent of their crimes participated on a panel. In addition, the collection features clippings about the 2000 moratorium on the death penalty by Governor George H. Ryan and the 2011 signing of the bill SB 3539, Abolition of the Death Penalty, by Governor Pat Quinn.

There are materials related to key ICADP members Mary Alice Rankin, Miriam Wilson, and Dick Cunningham.

For additional files pertaining to ICADP, please see its collection at the University of Illinois at Chicago's Richard J. Daley Library of Special Collections and Archives: <http://www.uic.edu/depts/lib/findingaids/MSICAD11.html>.

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## Arrangement of the Collection

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The collection is organized alphabetically. There are no series.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

### Revision Description

Encoded in EAD by Melissa McMullen 2012

### Processing Information

Processed in 2012 by Melissa McMullen.

### Access

Access to this record group is unrestricted.

### Copyright

The researcher assumes full responsibility for conforming with the laws of copyright. Whenever possible, the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives will provide information about copyright owners and other restrictions, but the legal determination ultimately rests with the researcher. Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with the Head of Special Collections and Archives.

### Acquisition Information

The Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty donated its materials in 2011 to the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives.

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## Controlled Access Headings

- Death Penalty
- Criminal Justice and Prisons
- Capital punishment--Illinois
- Death Penalty
- Capital punishment--Moral and ethical aspects
- Executions (Law)--United States--Cases
- Illinois
- Chicago (Ill.)
- Clippings
- Correspondence
- Fliers (printed matter)
- Quinn, Pat
- Ryan, George H.
- Illinois Coalition Against the Death Penalty
- Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty
- Amnesty International
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Illinois. Governor's Commission on Capital Punishment

## Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Annual Meeting Flier, Benefit Flier, and Membership Card, 20092010Undated	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 1
Annual Reports, 2004200620082010	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 2
"Beyond Repair" Suburban Speaking Tour, 2010	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish	Folder 3

	the Death Penalty Re)	
Brochures, Newsletters, and Report on Activities, 20012005-2007Undated	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 4
Charles Walker-First Illinois Execution in 28 Years, 1990Undated	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 5
Death Penalty Moratorium- Clippings and Press, 2000	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 6
"Disarming the State's Lethal Weapon" A Look at the Death Penalty Journey Problems, Flaws, Reforms and Moratorium, 2002	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 7
Events, Photos, and Copies of Petitions, 2002Undated	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 8-9
Fact Sheets on the Repeal of the Death Penalty, 20062011	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 10
Founding Materials, Dick Cunningham Memorial, and Tenth Anniversary of ICADP Celebration, 1976-197719862001Undated <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">Online Object Uploaded through Hyrax UI</a></u>	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 11
Governor Quinn's Office Announcement of the Abolition of the Death Penalty in Illinois, Remarks from the Floor of the House Assembly, 2011	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish	Folder 12

	the Death Penalty Re)	
Grant Proposals, 198319871989	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 13
Illinois ' Death Penalty: Too Flawed to Fix- Resource Manual, 1985	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 14
John Wayne Gacy- Execution Materials, Press Packet, and Clippings, 1994Undated	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 15
Letters Commending Governor George H. Ryan on the Death Penalty Moratorium, 2002	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 16
Media Materials- Clippings, 1963-1989Undated	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 17
Media Materials- Clippings, 1993-1998Undated	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 18
Media Materials- Clippings, Internet Articles, 2002-2007	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 19
Miscellaneous Materials, 200320062009	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish	Folder 20



	the Death Penalty Re)	
Mission Statement of ICADP, Amnesty International Events and Fliers, 1991-2002Undated	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 21
Newsletters, 1990-19972008-2010Undated	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 22
Nicarico Case- Press Releases and News Clippings, 1985-1997Undated	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 23
Post Repeal Records, 2011	Box 1 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 24
Press Releases, 2000-2006	Box 2 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 1
Prison Visit Materials for Both Inmates and ICADP Members, 200020022003Undated	Box 2 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 2
Prosecutorial Misconduct Clippings, 19992000	Box 2 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 3
Report of the Commission on Capital Punishment- Governor George H. Ryan, 2002	Box 2 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish	Folder 4

	the Death Penalty Re)	
Road Trip for Justice Materials, 2004	Box 2 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 5
Speaking Events, 2010	Box 2 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 6
Strategic Planning, 2010	Box 2 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 7
Testimony in Favor of Abolishing the Death Penalty and the Passing of the Bill SB 3539, 2011	Box 2 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 8
<i>Too Flawed to Fix</i> , 2002	Video-Tape 1	
<i>Too Flawed to Fix</i> Study Guide and Documentary Advertisement, 2002	Box 2 (Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Re)	Folder 9