Wanger, Eugene G. and Marilyn M. Wanger
Death Penalty; Collection apap346

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Abstract: Over the course of 50 years, Eugene G. Wanger created or collected the materials about capital punishment that comprise the Eugene G. Wanger and Marilyn M. Wanger Death Penalty Collection. The collection includes a wide range of materials on the death penalty documenting its history, efforts to abolish or reinstate the practice, its psychological impact, compatibility on religious, moral or ethical grounds, and its operation.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:


Biographical Note

A graduate of Amherst College and The University of Michigan Law School, Eugene G. Wanger returned home to Lansing, Michigan to practice law after obtaining his degree. In 1961-1962 fellow voters from Lansing elected him the youngest delegate from his political party to Michigan's
Constitutional Convention where, among other provisions, he authored the section of the state constitution which bans capital punishment. Mr. Wanger later served as Lansing's City Attorney and chairman of Ingham County's Board of Commissioners.

Beginning in 1972, Mr. Wanger has co-chaired the Michigan Committee Against Capital Punishment, co-founded the Michigan Committee Against the Death Penalty, and been active in numerous historical organizations. In 2005, he received the Champion of Justice Award from the State Bar of Michigan for superior professional accomplishments benefiting the state and nation, including his work on capital punishment.

Marilyn G. Wanger, born Marilyn Morris in Mason, Michigan, is a graduate of Michigan State University and The University of Michigan Law School where she met Mr. Wanger. During her professional career, she served as a Michigan Assistant Attorney General and then as a Commissioner of Michigan's Court of Appeals.

Married for more than 50 years, Eugene and Marilyn Wanger continue to reside in Lansing, Michigan.

Scope and Contents

The Eugene G. Wanger and Marilyn M. Wanger Death Penalty Collection contains a wide variety of materials that document the history and debate about capital punishment as well as discuss the criminal justice system surrounding it. The collection includes books, artifacts and ephemera, pamphlets, audio and video, prints, posters, buttons, reports, testimony, correspondence, files by subject, advocacy materials, and clippings. Mr. Wanger created or collected the materials himself.

Arrangement of the Collection

The collection was arranged by the donor.
Administrative Information

Publication Statement
M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

Revision Description
Encoded in EAD by M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives 2016 April 20

Processing Information
Processed in 2016 by unprocessed.

Access
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Acquisition Information
All items in this collection were transferred to the University Libraries, M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives by Eugene G. Wanger in installments from 2014-2016 and again in 2020.

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