

Archie J. and Mary S. Hanlan papers

MC 189

Finding aid prepared by Bethany Myers.

Last updated on February 11, 2014.

University of Pennsylvania, Barbara Bates Center for the Study of The History of Nursing

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Barbara Bates Center for the Study of The History of Nursing
Creator	Hanlan, Archie J., 1924-1973
Creator	Hanlan, Mary S., 1928-
Title	Archie J. and Mary S. Hanlan papers
Call number	MC 189
Date [bulk]	1972-1979
Date [inclusive]	1966-2012
Extent	0.8 linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	Archie and Mary Hanlan are known for their writings, educational efforts, and research on thanatology. Archie Hanlan lived with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) for two years before his death in 1973. During his illness, he wrote and taught about the experience of death and caring for the dying. This collection contains papers related to the Hanlans' publications.

Cite as:

Archie J. and Mary S. Hanlan papers, Barbara Bates Center for The Study of The History of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

Archie Hanlan (1924-1973) was a social worker and an Associate Professor of Social Work at the University of Pennsylvania. Hanlan graduated in 1949 from the University of California, Berkeley, and with his wife Mary joined the American Friends Service Committee as a co-director of various workcamps in Mexico. The Hanlans returned to the States after a year, and Archie Hanlan began a career in social work. He returned to school and eventually graduated from the first class of UC-Berkeley's doctoral program in social work in 1967. After three years at Washington University, he was offered a position with the University of Pennsylvania. Hanlan was to lead an interdepartmental team in developing the United States' first doctoral program in the administration of human services, but in 1971 he was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease. In 1973 he anonymously published an article entitled "Notes of a Dying Professor" in the University of Pennsylvania's alumni magazine, the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, detailing his experiences as a hospital patient. The article had a significant impact, provoking a large reader response and further articles from Hanlan. During his illness he also participated in several seminars on the topic of dying. Hanlan continued writing about living with ALS until his death later in 1973. His book, "Autobiography of Dying," was published posthumously in 1979.

Mary Hanlan was born in 1928. She graduated in 1950 from the University of California, Berkeley, and in 1966 received her M.S.W. from the same school. Her career focused on family therapy and child welfare. She obtained the copyright to her husband's works after his death, and in 1978 published her own experiences in an article for the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, "Living With a Dying Husband." Mary Hanlan has authored several papers on thanatology and women in social work. She has also been very involved in various community mental health organizations in the Philadelphia area, including the Philadelphia Coalition of Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Centers, Intercommunity Action, and the West Philadelphia Community Mental Health Consortium.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes manuscript drafts, published articles, correspondence, and notes. Also included are audio tapes, which consist of Archie Hanlan's original dictation about his experiences. Most of the materials are related to the publications of the Hanlans' writings, with the bulk of the collection dated between 1971 and 1979.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Barbara Bates Center for the Study of The History of Nursing
Finding aid prepared by Bethany Myers.

Access Restrictions

This collection is unrestricted.

Use Restrictions

Copyright restrictions may apply. Please contact the Center with requests for copying and for authorization to publish, quote or reproduce the material.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Gift of Mary S. Hanlan, 2012.

Controlled Access Headings

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Faculty papers
- Letters (correspondence)

PERSONAL NAME(S)

- Hanlan, Archie J., 1924-1973
- Hanlan, Mary S., 1928-

SUBJECT(S)

- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.
- Death.
- Social service.
- Social work administration.
- Terminal care.
- Terminally ill.
- Thanatology

Collection Inventory

SERIES 1. PUBLICATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS, 1971-1979.

Scope and Contents note

This series contains Archie and Mary Hanlan’s published and unpublished articles and papers. It includes copies of relevant *Pennsylvania Gazette* issues, a folder of photographic proofs taken by the *Gazette*, and the original typescript for the introduction to *Autobiography of Dying*. It also includes a folder of Mary Hanlan’s publications with related correspondence.

	Box	Folder
Photographic proofs taken by the <i>Pennsylvania Gazette</i> .	1	Unfolded
Issues of the <i>Pennsylvania Gazette</i> regarding the Hanlans.	1	1
Typescript and notes for <i>Autobiography of Dying</i> .	1	2
Article: “A Patient’s View of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis”.	1	3
Archie Hanlan’s other published articles and book reviews; course outline for a class in social work administration.	1	4
Mary Hanlan’s papers and publications, with related correspondence.	1	5

SERIES 2. COMMUNICATION REGARDING ARCHIE HANLAN’S WORK, 1972-2012.

Scope and Contents note

This series contains reader and publisher correspondence related to Archie Hanlan’s articles, primarily

“Notes of a Dying Professor,” and his book, *Autobiography of Dying*, including the Hanlans’ copyright contracts with Doubleday and the Pennsylvania Gazette. This series also contains published articles that interview or discuss Archie Hanlan.

CORRESPONDENCE.

	Box	Folder
Publishing.	1	6
Permissions.	1	7
Personal / Other.	1	8
Copyright agreements.	1	9
	Box	Folder
Reviews of <i>Autobiography of Dying</i> .	1	10
Published articles mentioning Archie Hanlan.	1	11

SERIES 3. AUDIO, CIRCA 1966.

Scope and Contents note

This series consists of eleven audio tapes: nine cassette tapes and two magnetic recording tapes. The tapes contain Archie Hanlan’s personal dictation, some of which later became *Autobiography of Dying*, as well as recordings of seminars and interviews.

	Box	Folder
Album containing seven cassette tapes.	2	Unfolded
Two cassette tapes: <i>Autobiography of Dying</i> .	2	1

Two magnetic audio tapes: interviews and seminars.	2	3
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SERIES 4. TRANSCRIPTS, CIRCA 1971-1973.

Scope and Contents note

This series consists of transcripts of a draft of Autobiography and several seminars. Some of these transcripts may correspond with the audio tapes in Series III.

	Box	Folder
<i>Autobiography of Dying.</i>	2	3
Seminars.	2	4

SERIES 5. OTHER MATERIALS, 1971-2012.

Scope and Contents note

This series of one folder contains Mary Hanlan's biography of Archie Hanlan, along with her own resume. It also contains newspaper clippings, and copies of Archie's articles previously owned by his editor, Muriel Nelson.

	Box	Folder
Biographical information, news clippings, etc.	2	5