



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Solomon Andhil Fineberg Papers**

Manuscript Collection No. 149



Collection Summary

Title	Solomon Andhil Fineberg Papers
Dates	1914-1984
Collection Number	MS-149
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Fineberg, Solomon Andhil, 1896-1990
Extent	2.8 linear feet (7 Hollinger boxes)
Language of the Material	English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

Solomon Andhil Fineberg was born on November 29, 1896, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He studied at the University of Cincinnati, graduating in 1917 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. After a stint in the U.S. Marine Corps (from 1917-1919) during World War I (later he was designated as the National Chaplain for the Jewish War Veterans), Fineberg returned to Cincinnati to study at Hebrew Union College. He was ordained a rabbi in 1920 and received a Doctor of Divinity degree in 1958 from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. In 1932 he was awarded a Ph.D. from Columbia University.

After ordination Fineberg accepted the pulpit at Temple Beth El in Niagara Falls, N.Y., remaining there from 1920 to 1924. In 1925 he was assistant rabbi of Rodef Shalom in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. From 1926-1929 he served at the Jewish Community Center at White Plains, N.Y. From 1929-1937 he was rabbi at Sinai Temple in Mount Vernon, N.Y. Rabbi Fineberg also served Temple Judea, Manhasset, N.Y., and Temple Emanu El of Westchester in Harrison, N.Y., in their earliest years.

In 1939 Fineberg joined the staff of the American Jewish Committee (AJC) as national community relations director. He was a pioneer in Jewish community relations and in developing techniques for combatting anti-Semitism. He was known among professional colleagues as "the Dean of Jewish Community Relations." From 1950-1954 Fineberg served as president of the national association of Jewish Community Relations Workers. After retiring from the AJC in 1964 Fineberg continued to further human relations efforts as a consultant to the president and director of the Commitment to Brotherhood program of the National Conference of Christians and Jews until 1981.

Fineberg was also the author of five books and many articles and was a prolific lecturer. The majority of his writings dealt with conquering anti-Semitism and prejudice. One of his books, *Overcoming Anti-Semitism* (1943) was considered a standard work on that subject and won him the Annisfield-Wolf Literary Award in 1945. His other books included *Punishment Without Crime* (1949), describing techniques for preventing prejudice and strengthening positive human relations; *Checkmate for Rabble-rousers and Deflating the Professional Bigot*, in which he promotes the "quarantine treatment" to deal with mass protestors such as Gerald L.K. Smith and George Lincoln Rockwell; and *The Rosenberg Case*, discussing the evidence against the spies.

In 1925 Fineberg married Hilda Cohen of Baltimore, Maryland. Solomon Andhil Fineberg died in February 1990 at the age of 93.

Scope and Content

The Solomon Andhil Fineberg papers describe the career of Solomon Andhil Fineberg as an organizational executive for the American Jewish Committee with interests in promoting human relations and preventing anti-Semitism and prejudice. The collection includes correspondence, reports, writings, and an oral history transcript.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in three (3) series: A. Correspondence and Reports, 1939-1984; B. Oral History Transcript, 1974; C. Writings, 1914-1984.

Terms of Access

The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

Terms of Reproduction and Use

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Preferred Citation Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Solomon Andhil Fineberg Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:
[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-149. Solomon Andhil Fineberg Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance Received from Solomon Andhil Fineberg, Mt. Vernon, N.Y., 1973-1974. Additional materials were received from the Jewish Museum of Maryland in 2000 and 2010.

Processing Information Processed by Kevin Proffitt. Additional processing by Michelle Wirth Detroit, December 2011.

Index Terms

Subjects Jews -- New York (State) -- New York / Rabbis
Personal Names Fineberg, Solomon Andhil, 1896-1990
Corporate Names American Jewish Committee
Media Oral histories

Series A. Correspondence and Reports, 1939-1984

Extent 2 linear feet (5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of correspondence and reports. The majority of the materials in this series pertain to Fineberg's work for the American Jewish Committee, but also includes materials concerning his activities with other organizations associated with Jewish community relations.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. All-American Conference to Combat Communism, 1951-1973, undated
Box 1. Folder 2. American Council for Judaism, 1950-1957
Box 1. Folder 3. American Jewish Committee. Advertising solicited, 1952-1972
Box 1. Folder 4. American Jewish Committee. Anti-Semitic canards, 1939-1963, undated
Box 1. Folder 5. American Jewish Committee. Anti-Semitic vandalism, 1951-1960
Box 1. Folder 6. American Jewish Committee. Cemetery desecration, 1958, 1972
Box 1. Folder 7. American Jewish Committee. Committee on Communism, 1947-1964, undated
Box 1. Folder 8. American Jewish Committee. Community Service Department, 1947-1974
Box 1. Folder 9. American Jewish Committee. Desegregation in Washington, D.C., 1953-1973
Box 1. Folder 10. American Jewish Committee. Eichmann, Adolph, trial, 1961-1972
Box 2. Folder 1. American Jewish Committee. Election bigotry, 1952-1972
Box 2. Folder 2. American Jewish Committee. Germany, 1951-1973
Box 2. Folder 3. American Jewish Committee. Group voting, 1953-1972
Box 2. Folder 4. American Jewish Committee. Israel, 1948-1973
Box 2. Folder 5-6. American Jewish Committee. MacIver Report, 1951-1953, undated
Box 2. Folder 7. American Jewish Committee. Passion plays, 1949-1972
Box 2. Folder 8. American Jewish Committee. Quarantine of anti-Semitic agitators, 1946-1972

Box 2. Folder 9. American Jewish Committee. Quarantine - Beaty and Crommelin, 1952-1972

Box 2. Folder 10. American Jewish Committee. Quarantine - group libel laws, 1947-1972

Box 3. Folder 1. American Jewish Committee. Quarantine - Jewish War Veterans, 1953-1972

Box 3. Folder 2-4. American Jewish Committee. Quarantine - Rockwell, George Lincoln, 1959-1966

Box 3. Folder 5. American Jewish Committee. Quarantine - Smith, Gerald L. K., 1944-1972

Box 3. Folder 6. American Jewish Committee. Religion in the public schools, 1955-1973

Box 3. Folder 7. American Jewish Committee. Research reports, 1959

Box 3. Folder 8. American Jewish Committee. Rosenberg, Julius and Ethel - case, 1952-1956

Box 4. Folder 1. American Jewish Committee. Ruby, Jack, 1963-1973

Box 4. Folder 2. American Jewish Committee. Southern anti-Semitism, 1956-1973

Box 4. Folder 3-5. American Jewish Committee. Soviet anti-Semitism, 1949-1965, undated

Box 4. Folder 6. American Jewish Committee. Sunday blue laws, 1952-1960

Box 4. Folder 7. American League Against Communism, 1949-1972, undated

Box 4. Folder 8. Association of Jewish Community Relations Workers, 1948-1972, undated

Box 4. Folder 9. Central Conference of American Rabbis. Soviet Jewry, 1959-1973

Box 4. Folder 10. Schwartz, Fred. Communism, 1957-1964

Box 6. Folder 1-5. American Jewish Committee. Various subjects, 1947-1964

Box 6. Folder 6. Association of Jewish Community Relations Workers, 1950-1959

Box 6. Folder 7. Jewish Community Relations, 1968-1978

Box 6. Folder 8. Jewish War Veterans and American Legion, 1963-1967

Box 6. Folder 9. Marcus, Jacob Rader, 1967-1984

Box 6. Folder 10. Miscellaneous, 1943-1959

Box 6. Folder 11-12. National Conference of Christians and Jews, 1966-1977

Series B. Oral History Interview, 1974

Extent 0.2 linear feet (0.5 Hollinger box)

Box and Folder Listing

Box 5. Folder 1-2. Oral history interview, 1974

Series C. Writings, 1914-1984 (bulk 1949-1954)

Extent 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of correspondence and reviews pertaining to two of Fineberg's books, *Punishment Without Crime* and *The Rosenberg Case - Fact and Fiction*. Along with press releases and addresses, and papers and course work from Fineberg's years at the University of Cincinnati.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 5. Folder 3. Punishment Without Crime. Correspondence and reviews, 1949-1951, 1972, and undated

Box 5. Folder 4. The Rosenberg Case - Fact and Fiction. Correspondence and reviews, 1953-1954, 1973

Box 7. Folder 1. The Rosenberg Case - Fact and Fiction. Correspondence and miscellaneous, 1950-1984

Box 7. Folder 2. The Rosenberg Case - Fact and Fiction. Correspondence: Lehrman, Nathaniel, 1983

Box 7. Folder 3. Press releases and addresses, 1926-1979

Box 7. Folder 4. University of Cincinnati papers and course work, 1914-1916

Box 7. Folder 5. Autobiographical writings, undated