

Finding Aid to the Victoria Schneider papers (#2000-57)

Repository: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society

Collection Title: Victoria Schneider papers

Collection Number: 2000-57

Physical Description: 1.25 linear feet (1 manuscript box, one ½ manuscript box, and one small oversized box)

Creator: Victoria Schneider

Date (inclusive): 1993-1999

Language of Material: English

Abstract: Victoria Schneider is an activist and sex worker best known for her lawsuit against the City and County of San Francisco, concerning an unlawful strip search during her booking at the San Francisco County Jail. The collection extensively documents Schneider's lawsuit against the city, as well as her personal history and gender transition.

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of item], Victoria Schneider papers (2000-57), The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society.

Conditions Governing Access:

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights:

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Acquisition Information:

The collection was donated to the GLBT Historical Society by Victoria Schneider in 2000.

Processing Information:

Finding Aid created by Isaac Fellman in 2019.

This finding aid uses terminology for LGBTQ people that was in current use at the time of its creation. Descriptive language for queer identities evolves quickly and some of these terms may now be dated or even offensive. Finding aids are themselves historical documents; they reflect the moment in which they were written and often reflect the terms that subjects used for themselves. Please contact the GLBT Historical Society Archivist with questions or comments.

Biographical/Organizational History Note:

Victoria Schneider is an activist and sex worker best known for her lawsuit against the City and County of San Francisco, concerning an unlawful strip search during her booking at the San Francisco County Jail. Schneider had been placed in the men's cells, and had requested to be moved to the women's; the search was ostensibly conducted to determine her gender. Born intersex and assigned male, Schneider identified strongly as a woman and had transitioned to live as such. Schneider won her lawsuit and was awarded \$750,000 in damages from a federal jury.

Scope and Content:

The collection extensively documents Schneider's lawsuit against the city, including correspondence with attorneys and supporters, Schneider's deposition (during which she was cross-examined at length about her gender identity), other legal documents, fliers and press releases seeking public support, and related material. It also contains some personal items, such as correspondence with supporters, photographs, makeup, and an extensive autobiography dictated to social worker and sex-work advocate Johanna Breyer.

Subject Terms:

Transgender people