

# Preliminary Guide to the Albert J. Solnit Papers

MS 1809



compiled by Diane E. Kaplan

January 2003

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1809

**CREATOR:** Solnit, Albert J., 1919-2002

**TITLE:** Albert J. Solnit papers

**DATES:** 1952-2001

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 12.5 linear feet (9 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of Solnit's resource and writings files concerning subjects of prime interest to him, such as child development, parenting, adoption, and custody. The papers also include audio and video recordings of Solnit's lectures and photographs.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1809>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1809>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.        box

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Ben Solnit, 2002.

## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Original audiovisual materials, as well as preservation and duplicating masters, may not be played. Researchers must consult use copies, or if none exist must pay for a use copy, which is retained by the repository. Researchers wishing to obtain an additional copy for their personal use should consult Copying Services information on the Manuscripts and Archives web site.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Albert J. Solnit Papers (MS 1809). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Albert J. Solnit was born on August 26, 1919, in Los Angeles, California. He completed his undergraduate education and medical training at the University of California, Berkeley and served as a psychiatrist in the U. S. Army Air Forces before coming to Yale University in 1948. In 1960, he was named professor of pediatrics and psychiatry. Solnit served as director of the Child Study Center (1966-1983) and was a tireless advocate for the needs of children. He chaired the Connecticut Advisory Council on Children and Youth Services and was commissioner of the Connecticut State Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (1991-2000). He served as managing editor of "The Psychoanalytic Study of the Child" and wrote important books on family law and psychology and child custody and placement issues. Solnit died as the result of a car accident on June 21, 2002.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers consist of Solnit's resource and writings files concerning subjects of prime interest to him, such as child development, parenting, adoption, and custody. The papers also include audio and video recordings of Solnit's lectures and photographs.

## Collection Contents

b.1	Anna Freud	1968-1972
b.1	Curriculum vitae	1999-2001
b.1	Compleat Pediatricians	1970-2000
b.1	Seminars and special lectures	Circa 1977-1988
b.1	Children in traction study	1964
b.1	Writings sorted by topic	
b.2	Adolescence	1969-1985
b.2	Adoption and best interests of the child	1980-1997
b.2	Aggression	1966-1978
b.3	Best interests of the child	1979-1985
b.3	Child abuse	1977-1985
b.3	Child advocacy	1985
b.3	Child development	1981-1983
b.3	Child development -mental health	1955-1985
b.3	Child placement issues	1975-1983
b.4	Child placement issues	1977-1986
b.4	Child rearing and child advocacy; Child and parents	1975-1982
b.4	Children's rights	1974-1985
b.4	Day care (and treatment)	1991
b.4	Death	1968-1985
b.4	Divorce and custody	1978-1984
b.5	Divorce and custody	1983-1984
b.5	Education	1954-1987
b.5	Family	1975-1979
b.5	Family support	1975-1979
b.5	Freud	1984
b.5	Holocaust	1977-1985
b.5	Hospital and children	1970-1981
b.5	Infancy -risk and vulnerability	1975-1983

b. 5	Infantile neurosis	1952-1977
b. 5	Meditation	n. d.
b. 5	Mental health	1978, 1991
b. 5	Object constancy	1981-1986
b. 6	Object constancy	1982-1985
b. 6	Parenthood	1972-1973
b. 6	Pediatrics	1975-1977
b. 6	Prevention	1971-1979
b. 6	Psychiatry Board of Review	1979
b. 6	Psychoanalysis	n. d.
b. 6	Psychoanalysis and child development research	1983
b. 6	Psychoanalytic education	1979-1994
b. 6	Residential treatment	1980
b. 6	Television	1979-1981
b. 6	Trauma	1979-1984
b. 6	Miscellaneous papers	1971, n. d.
b. 7	Clippings	1966-1982
b. 7	Photographs	1960s-1990s
b. 8	Audio and video tapes Original audiovisual materials, as well as preservation and duplicating masters, may not be played. Researchers must consult use copies, or if none exist must pay for a use copy, which is retained by the repository. Researchers wishing to obtain an additional copy for their personal use should consult Copying Services information on the Manuscripts and Archives web site.	1989-1995
b. 9	Memorabilia	1970, 1972, 1985, undated

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Adoption  
Child development  
Child psychology

### **Names**

Solnit, Albert J., 1919-2002

### **Corporate Body**

Yale University. Child Study Center