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**Descriptive Summary**

**Identifier**  ICU.SPCL.KEENM

**Title**  Keen, Mike. Papers

**Date**  1933-1997

**Size**  7 linear feet (14 boxes)

**Repository**  Special Collections Research Center  
University of Chicago Library  
1100 East 57th Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

**Abstract**  Mike Keen (PhD Notre Dame, 1985) is a Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Indiana, South Bend. This collection contains copies of FBI files kept on prominent intellectuals, primarily sociologists, suspected of communism. These include W.E.B. DuBois, Margaret Mead, Talcott Parsons, and members of the Frankfurt School. Keen used the files when researching his 1999 book Stalking the Sociological Imagination. The collection also contains some of Keen’s research notes and his correspondence with the FBI. The files themselves cover the 1930s through 1960s; Keen’s notes and correspondence date from the 1990s.

**Information on Use**

**Access**

The collection is open for research.

**Citation**

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Keen, Mike. Papers, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

**Biographical Note**

Mike Keen is a Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Indiana, South Bend, where he joined the faculty in 1987. His research and teaching interests center on sustainability and the sociology of science; he is the founding director of the IU South Bend Center for a Sustainable Future, which offers a minor in Sustainability Studies. He is also accredited in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

Scope Note

This collection contains Keen’s copies of FBI files kept on prominent intellectuals, primarily sociologists, suspected of communism. These include Hannah Arendt, W.E.B. DuBois, Margaret Mead, Talcott Parsons, and members of the Frankfurt School. Some, like Edith Abbott, were faculty at the University of Chicago. The files were censored and released in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, and used by Keen to research Stalking the Sociological Imagination: J. Edgar Hoover’s FBI Surveillance of American Sociology (1999).

The collection begins with Keen’s correspondence, and is organized afterwards by sociologist; members of the Frankfurt School are grouped together. Additional notes and correspondence between Keen and the FBI can be found in individual files. The files themselves cover the 1930s through 1960s, the bulk of them dating from the 1940s and 1950s. Some photocopies are of poor quality and many have substantial redactions. Keen’s notes and correspondence date from the 1990s.

Related Resources

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html

Abbott, Edith. Papers

Burgess, Ernest W. Papers

Ogburn, William Fielding. Papers

Znaniecki, Florian. Papers

Subject Headings

- Keen, Mike Forrest
- United States. Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Frankfurt school of sociology
- Sociology -- United States -- History -- 20th century
- Sociologists -- Political activity -- United States
- Sociologists -- United States -- History -- 20th century

INVENTORY

Box 1
Folder 1
  Keen, Freedom of Information Clearing House, correspondence
Box 1
Folder 2
Keen, correspondence with FBI
Box 1
Folder 3
Keen, correspondence with Tom Bottomore
Box 1
Folder 4
Abbott, Edith
Box 1
Folder 5
Addams, Jane
Box 1
Folder 6
Allworth, Edward
Box 1
Folder 7-10
American Sociological Association
Box 2
Folder 1-7
American Sociological Association
Box 2
Folder 8
Arendt, Hannah
Box 2
Folder 9-10
Bernard, Jessie
Box 2
Folder 11-12
Blumer, Herbert
Box 2
Folder 13
Burgess, Ernest
Box 3
Folder 1
Burgess, Ernest
Box 3
Folder 2-9
DuBois, W.E.B.
Box 4
Folder 1
DuBois, W.E.B.
Box 4
Folder 2
Frankfurt School, Adorno, Theodor
Box 4
Folder 3
Frankfurt School, Bloch, Ernst
Box 4
Folder 4
  Frankfurt School, Borkenau, Franz
Box 4
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  Frankfurt School, Horkheimer, Max
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  Frankfurt School, International Institute for Social Research
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  Frankfurt School, Marcuse, Herbert
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  Frankfurt School, Marcuse, Herbert
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  Frankfurt School, Pollock, Friedrich
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   Lynd, Robert

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   Lynd, Robert

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   Mead, Margaret

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   Mills, C. Wright

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   Mills, C. Wright

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   Myrdal, Gunnar

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Folder 6
   Nearing, Scott

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Folder 1-4
   Nearing, Scott

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  Ogburn, William
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  Parsons, Elsie Clews
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  Stouffer, Samuel
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  Van Kleeck, Mary
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  Van Kleeck, Mary
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Folder 3
  Veblen, Thorstein
Box 14
Folder 4
  Znaniecki, Florian Witold