Independent Voices – Feminist and LGBT Series Overview

Reveal Digital’s *Independent Voices* is the most extensive digital collection of underground, alternative, and literary newspapers and magazines from the fifties through the eighties that has ever been conceptualized and created. Two of *Independent Voices* most important series are the Feminist Periodicals and LGBT Periodicals. Sourced largely from Duke University’s Sallie Bingham Center and Northwestern University’s Deering Library, these closely related series include cover-to-cover complete runs of over 120 women’s papers. Groups represented by these publications include the Redstockings, New York Radical Women, Daughters of Bilitis, Chicago Women’s Liberation Union, The Furies, Third World Women’s Alliance and many others.

These publications sparked the women’s movement in the fifties and early sixties and propelled the second wave of feminism in the late sixties and early seventies. The value of the collection lies not only in the papers from the famous feminists and lesbians, but also in the voices of the many unheralded individuals who drove the movement. The strength of the underground press was in the fact that it was everywhere. Publications in *Independent Voices* come from large towns and small, campus and community, in every region of the country.

Abortion, rape, unequal pay, women in the service, child care, women’s self-help, pornography, gender roles, and every other major issue of the period was extensively covered in the pages of the feminist and lesbian underground press.

“Our feminist publications, especially early feminist periodicals, are in great demand by researchers, many of whom have a hard time traveling to Duke to use them. Now that many of them are scanned and included in *Independent Voices*, we’re thrilled that the collection will be available to a much larger audience.”

Laura Micham
Director, Sallie Bingham Center, Duke University
Key titles include:

- **CWLU News: Newsletter of the Chicago Women's Liberation Union** (and three papers associated with CWLU: *Womankind, Blazing Star, and Secret Storm*)
- **The Furies.** One of the first major radical lesbian papers (Charlotte Bunch)
- **It Aint Me Babe.** First national feminist underground paper
- **Lesbian Connection** (still published today; Margy Lesher)
- **Lesbian Tide** (Jeanne Cordova)
- **Meeting Ground** (Carol Hanisch)
- **No More Fun and Games: A Journal of Female Liberation** (Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz and Dana Densmore)
- **Notes from the [First/Second/Third] Year** (a series of groundbreaking papers published by the Redstockings, Anne Koedt and Kathie Sarachild)
- **off our backs.** First national feminist underground paper from the east coast
- **SPAZM.** Published in the Bay Area by Laura X before she joined *It Aint Me Babe*
- **Triple Jeopardy** Seminal black feminist publication

**Coming Soon:**

- **Black Woman’s Voice** Seminal black feminist publication (Frances M. Beal)
- **Branching Out.** First national feminist underground paper from Canada
- **The Ladder.** Important lesbian paper from the fifties (permission given by publisher Barbara Grier shortly before she died)
- **The Matriarchist** (permission granted by Barbara Love, editor of *Feminists Who Changed America*)
- **Newsreport** (Susan Brownmiller)
- **Vice Versa.** Considered the first gay/lesbian paper, from 1947 (permission given by caregiver for publisher Edythe Eyde with Edythe’s permission)
- “a kind of memo,” the article that is often credited with giving the feminist movement its jumpstart (authors Casey Hayden and Mary King)

Complete title lists are available at: