



AIUSA

Oral History

Questionnaire

AIUSA Archives Advisory Committee (AAAC) ● phone: 303 258 9246 ● email: evmmoore@gmail.com,
<http://www.amnestyusa.org/about/archives.html>

***WE SUGGEST THAT YOU READ THROUGH THIS WHOLE
QUESTIONNAIRE BEFORE BEGINNING TO FILL IT OUT.***

The AIUSA Archives reside at Columbia University's Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research at Butler Library in New York City. Your AIUSA archival materials should be **saved!** Contact Ellen V. Moore, AIUSA Archives Advisory Committee, AAAC, staff liaison (contact information above) to determine when and how your materials can be deposited at Columbia University.

This questionnaire will become part of the AIUSA Archives and will be held in confidence until whatever date you request. The AIUSA Archives Advisory Committee may follow up reception of this completed questionnaire with a request for a live audio or video-taped interview by a committee member or by a Columbia University Oral History graduate student, if and when, time and resources become available.

_____ No need to keep my questionnaire confidential.

_____ Please keep my questionnaire confidential until _____(year).

_____ YES, I agree to be interviewed about AI and AIUSA in the future.

_____ NO, I do not wish to be interviewed about AI and AIUSA in the future.

1. Biographical data: Please state your name and any other biographical information you're comfortable sharing. Please read through the entire questionnaire before answering any questions.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone nos.: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Website _____

Your roles in AIUSA/AI and dates of service (current or most recent first)

2. For how long have you worked with/for AIUSA overall? (dates) _____ to _____

3.a If your AIUSA involvement is pre-1976:

-- Contrast the early years of AI with the current picture.

-- What were the early years like? What challenges did you face in pleading human rights in the USA and on the world stage?

-- What were the difficulties of human rights advocacy during the Vietnam War, during the Sanctuary movement and Central American wars?

-- In your opinion, how have perceptions about human rights NGOs changed over the years?

3.b What first motivated your involvement with Amnesty? Describe, SVP.

What keeps you involved or why did you leave AIUSA?

What obstacles do or did you face in your Amnesty work?

What pleasures do/did you derive from your involvement?

Did you consider yourself an AIUSA “organizer? (Local, national, international?) Talk a little bit about that role including what aspects went well, what were difficult?

Do you have any suggestions for AIUSA organizing in new arenas, with new constituencies, within minority communities, with children and educators in schools and other settings, in faith communities, and what do think the place of youth 14-25 in AIUSA is?

4. What are the major human rights areas about which you're concerned. (list please)

Describe the nature of your work with AIUSA, for example, local /national/international positions, country specialist (co-group) projects, campaigns , task forces, steering committees.

[note: The purpose of the AIUSA Archives is to provide an accurate, historical picture of AIUSA, please be candid with your comments and generous with your submissions.]

Do you have any observations to make about "staff/volunteer" relations?

What in your estimation is the role of the AIUSA Board of Directors and how have AIUSA boards performed over the years?

5. Assess the current work of AI. in your view:

Where does Amnesty fit in the global human rights picture?

What are the most difficult issues facing Amnesty?

What strategies are currently working well for Amnesty?

Which strategies do you find to be less promising?

How effective is Amnesty in 2006?

What observable outcomes would you point to in assessing the work of Amnesty?

6. Describe the relationship between AIUSA and the IS as you understand it.

7a. Where do you see Amnesty going in the future? Do you know about the mandate to mission changes? What is your understanding of this change, and where do you stand on whether these changes are a good idea, why or why not..

7b. Do you utilize the amnestyusa.org web site? Why/why not? What's your assessment of the AIUSA web site and the amnesty.org (international) web site? Are you aware of the international email discussion listserve <amnesty_d>? Is amnesty_d useful? explain.

8. What will be the role of human rights NGOs in the 21st century?

9. It's the year 2100, and your videotaped interview is about to be seen in a college seminar titled "The Struggle for Human Rights in the Late 20th Century." Speak to the class. (Please take as much time and room as you need.)

10. Write out and respond to a question you wish we'd asked you, but didn't.

11. Please list the names of people, (including a very brief description and contact information), with whom you worked in human rights and AIUSA, so that we may contact them for interviews which will become part of the AIUSA Archives.

Thanks for help developing this questionnaire go to Thelma and the late John Boeder, Twin Cities Local Group 37 (Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN) and Susan Whalen, former CU-B Archivist/Oral Historian, Boulder, Colorado. If you'd like to serve on the AAAC, please contact Ellen V. Moore.

Thank you for taking time to fill in this questionnaire which will become part of the AIUSA Archives.
Please return this form to AIUSA Archives staff liaison:

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