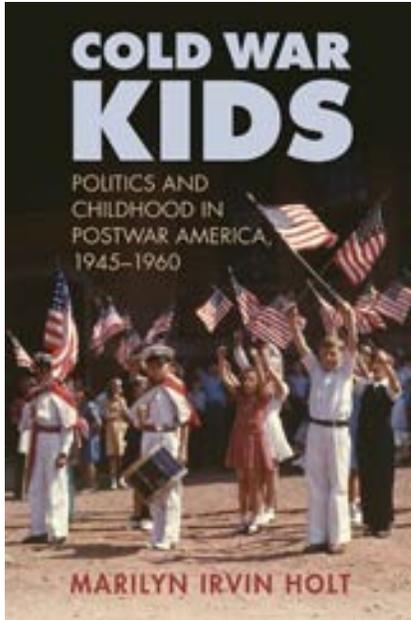


February 2015

Marilyn Holt to Discuss *Cold War Kids: Politics and Childhood in Postwar America*

On **Wednesday, February 18 at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives at Kansas City will host **Marilyn Irvin Holt** who will discuss her book *Cold War Kids: Politics and Childhood in Postwar America, 1945-1960*. A free light reception will precede the lecture at 6:00 p.m.



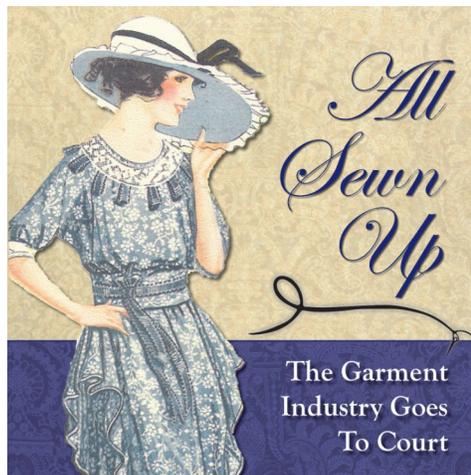
Today we take it for granted that political leaders and presidential administrations will address issues related to children and teenagers. But in the not-so-distant past, politicians had little to say, and federal programs had less to do with children-except those of very specific populations. Holt shows how the Cold War changed it all. Against the backdrop of the postwar baby boom, and the rise of a distinct teen culture, *Cold War Kids* unfolds the little-known story of how politics and federal policy expanded their influence in shaping children's lives and experiences-making way for the youth attuned political culture that we have come to expect.

To make a reservation for this **free program** call 816-268-8010 or email kansascity.educate@nara.gov. Requests for ADA accommodations must be submitted five business days prior to events.

All Sewn Up: The Garment Industry Goes to Court Exhibition

On Tuesday, February 24, the National Archives at Kansas City will open a new exhibit titled *All Sewn Up: The Garment Industry Goes to Court*. The exhibit explores the relationship between the Federal government and the garment and beauty industry from the 1870s to the 1950s.

Found in the holdings of the National Archives at Kansas City are records from Federal court cases that involve the garment and beauty industry. The exhibit showcases select cases demonstrating the variety of lawsuits that have made their way through the legal system, seeking to provide Federal protection for the consumer, for the company, or for the workers. Some of these cases involve well-known names, such as Levi Strauss or Carhartt, seeking patent protection for their products. Others involve common citizens hoping to receive financial compensation following "beauty disasters," such as exploding bottles of nail polish and hair loss from permanents. More importantly, other cases chronicle significant events in the history of the labor movement and the rise of unions in the garment industry.



All Sewn Up is available for viewing Tuesday-Saturday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. Admission is free. To schedule a group tour call 816-268-8013 or email mickey.ebert@nara.gov.

Inside This Issue

GEMS FOR GENEALOGISTS	2
CIVIL RIGHTS PROGRAM SERIES	2
HIDDEN TREASURES FROM THE STACKS	3-4

Upcoming Events

Unless noted, all events are held at the National Archives
400 West Pershing Road
Kansas City, MO 64108

- FEBRUARY 5 - 10:00 A.M.
GENEALOGY WORKSHOP:
PRESERVING YOUR DIGITAL HERITAGE
- FEBRUARY 5 - 6:30 P.M.
FILM SCREENING AND
DISCUSSION: *MALCOLM X: MAKE IT PLAIN*
- FEBRUARY 18 - 6:30 P.M.
AUTHOR LECTURE:
COLD WAR KIDS BY
MARILYN HOLT
- FEBRUARY 24 - 8:00 A.M.
EXHIBIT OPENING:
ALL SEWN UP: THE GARMENT INDUSTRY GOES TO COURT

February Gems for Genealogists

The National Archives at Kansas City will offer one free genealogy workshop in February. *Preserving Your Digital Heritage: Methods to Preserve Your Digitally Born Files* will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2015, from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri.

Workshop Description:

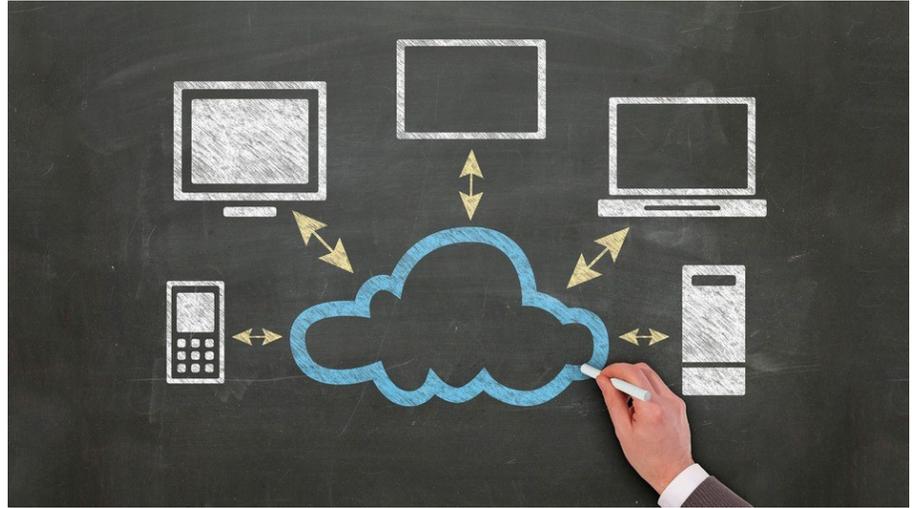
Preserving Your Digital Heritage: Methods to Preserve Your Digitally Born Files

Thursday, February 5, 2015 from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

In the past, your family's photographic collection probably consisted of prints made with a single family camera. In the 21st century, we've gone digital with our phones, tablets, computers, and cameras. Technology has made it easier to capture memories, but has complicated the process of storing them. Keeping track of and preserving your digital files on multiple devices can be overwhelming. This session will show you how to organize, centralize, and protect your collections for yourself and those to come.

To make a reservation for this **free workshop**, please call 816-268-8000 or email

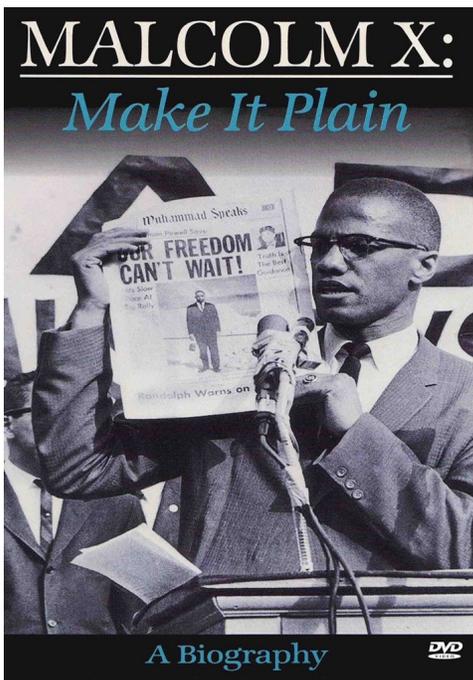
kansascity.archives@nara.gov. Requests for ADA accommodations must be submitted five business days prior to events.



The Civil Rights Century: Milestones in Black History Series

Screening and Discussion of *Malcolm X: Make it Plain*

On **Thursday, February 5 at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives will present, in partnership with Greater Kansas City Black History Study Group, scholars and historians **Dr. Fred Knight and Garrett Felber**, who will provide commentary and answer questions following a screening of *Malcolm X: Make it Plain*. Professors Felber and Knight will be broadcast via video technology. A free light reception will precede the lecture at 6:00 p.m.



Malcolm X, born Malcolm Little in 1925, was an African American Muslim minister and a human rights activist. To his admirers he was a courageous advocate for the rights of blacks, a man who indicted white America in the harshest terms for its crimes against black Americans; detractors accused him of preaching racism and violence. In 1946, at age 20, he went to prison for larceny and breaking and entering. While in prison, he became a member of the Nation of Islam, and after his parole in 1952 quickly rose to become one of its leaders. However by March 1964, Malcolm X had grown disillusioned with the Nation of Islam and its leader. He ultimately repudiated the Nation and its teachings and embraced Sunni Islam. In February 1965, he was assassinated by three members of the Nation of Islam. This February marks the 50th anniversary of his death.

This event is the part of a program series titled ***The Civil Rights Century: Milestones in Black History*** and is presented in partnership with the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) Greater Kansas City Black History Study Group. To make a reservation for this **free program** call 816-268-8010 or email kansascity.educate@nara.gov. Requests for ADA accommodations must be submitted five business days prior to events.

Hidden Treasures from the Stacks

A Force to be Reckoned With

No one disputed that Nichole Force, an incoming student at Pierce City (Missouri) Junior High School, loved sports and was a good athlete. During her elementary school years, she actively participated in swimming, diving, organized softball, organized baseball, organized basketball, and elementary school football. She was known for her toughness, playing most of one baseball season with her left arm in a cast. She was also recognized for her skill. Earle Staponski, the former principal of her elementary school, stated that he had seen Nichole play football and "if she is not the best football player, she is the second best."

In spring 1982, Nichole told her parents that she wanted to play football on the junior high school's seventh grade team, a team made up exclusively of boys. Her mother took her daughter's request to school officials. The coach said he would allow Nichole to play as long as the school administration also agreed. After two meetings the school board voted unanimously that Nichole would not be allowed to play football. Disappointed by the decision, she told her mother, "But Mom, there has to be a reason. They didn't give a reason. Just being a girl is not a reason. I don't want to be "protected." I want to take my chances like anybody else. Besides, if somebody has to be protected doesn't that mean they are weaker and not as good?"

Nichole's parents filed a lawsuit in Federal court against the school district seeking that its refusal to allow her to play football was based solely on the fact that Nichole was a female rather than a male and that a sex-based determination of that sort violated her right to the equal protection of the laws under the Fourteenth Amendment.

The legal process took so long that the 1982 football season came and went without Nichole being allowed to play on the team. However, the Force family pressed on, and the case was eventually heard in the U.S. District Court in Joplin, Missouri, in 1983. U.S. District Judge Ross T. Roberts ruled in August 1983 that the school district was "permanently enjoined from refusing to allow Nichole Force to compete for membership on the Pierce City Junior High School eighth grade interscholastic football team on the same basis that males are allowed to compete." The Court explained, "Nichole Force obviously has no legal entitlement to a starting position on the Pierce City Junior High School eighth grade football team, since the extent to which she plays must be governed solely by her abilities, as judged by those who

(continued on next page)

JS 44C (Rev. 9/81) CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet.

<p>PLAINTIFFS Renee Force Vinson Force Nichole Force</p>	<p>DEFENDANTS Pierce City R-VI School District John A. Williams, Superintendent Raymond Dykens, Principal</p>										
<p>COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF <u>Lawrence</u> (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)</p>	<p>COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED DEFENDANT <u>Lawrence</u> (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED <u>10308</u></p>										
<p>ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER) Karon D. Ramsey 2116 E. 63rd St. KC Mo. 64130</p>	<p>ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN) <u>82-5093- ed-gw-D</u></p>										
<p>(PLACE AN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN ONE BOX ONLY) BASIS OF JURISDICTION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 U.S. PLAINTIFF <input type="checkbox"/> 2 U.S. DEFENDANT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 FEDERAL QUESTION (U.S. NOT A PARTY) <input type="checkbox"/> 4 DIVERSITY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IF DIVERSITY, INDICATE CITIZENSHIP BELOW. (28 USC 1332, 1441)</p>											
<p>CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE U.S. CIVIL STATUTE UNDER WHICH YOU ARE FILING AND WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE) <u>14th Amend to U.S. Constitution, 42 U.S.C. § 1981</u> <u>plaintiff seeks preliminary and permanent injunction enjoining defendants from refusing to allow her to compete in a high athletic program solely on basis of gender</u></p>											
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<p>RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY</p> <p>JUDGE _____ DOCKET NUMBER _____</p> <p>CIVIL CASES ARE DEEMED RELATED IF PENDING CASE INVOLVES:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. PROPERTY INCLUDED IN AN EARLIER NUMBERED PENDING SUIT <input type="checkbox"/> 2. SAME ISSUE OF FACT OR GROWS OUT OF THE SAME TRANSACTION <input type="checkbox"/> 3. VALIDITY OR INFRINGEMENT OF THE SAME PATENT COPYRIGHT OR TRADEMARK</p>											
<p>DATE <u>October 1, 1982</u> SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD <u>Karon D. Ramsey</u></p>											

Above: The "civil cover sheet" for the case, explaining the cause of action. National Archives at Kansas City, Record Group 21, Records of the District Courts of the United States, U.S. District Court for the Southwestern (Joplin) Division of the Western District of Missouri, Civil Case Files, 1938-1987 (National Archives Identifier: 585977), Force v. Pierce City, Civil Case No. 82-5093.

coach her. But she seeks no such entitlement here. Instead she seeks simply a chance, like her male counterparts, to display those abilities. She asks, in short, only the right to try.”

I do not suggest there is any such thing as a constitutional "right to try." But the idea that one should be allowed to try - to succeed or to fail as one's abilities and fortunes may dictate, but in the process at least to profit by those things which are learned in the trying - is a concept deeply engrained in our way of thinking; and it should indeed require a "substantial" justification to deny that privilege to someone simply because she is a female rather than a male. I find no such justification here.¹⁶

It is, accordingly

ORDERED the trial of this action on the merits shall be and is hereby consolidated with the hearing on plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction, pursuant to Rule 65(a)(2), Fed. R. Civ. P.; and it is further

ORDERED that defendant John A. Williams, as Superintendent of Schools of the Pierce City R-VI School District, and defendant Raymond Dykens, as Principal of the Pierce City Junior High School, and defendant Pierce City R-VI School District, and each of them shall be and are hereby permanently restrained and enjoined from refusing to allow Nichole Force to compete for membership on the Pierce City Junior High School eighth grade interscholastic football team on the same basis that males are allowed to compete, during the time that she shall be enrolled in or eligible for enrollment in the eighth grade at such school facility; and it is further

ORDERED that the Missouri State High School Activities Association

16. For those interested, or merely curious, there would appear to be five other reported cases, involving football in whole or in part, which reach the same result reached here: Leffel v. Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Ass'n, supra (all sports); Clinton v. Nagy, supra (football); Attorney General v. Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, Inc., supra (all sports); Darrin v. Gold, supra (football); and Commonwealth v. Pennsylvania Interscholastic Association, supra (all sports). I find no cases involving football which reach a contrary result.

Nichole and her family were thrilled with the judge's decision. An article in the August 31, 1983, *Joplin Globe* quoted Nichole as saying, "I wanted to play because I'm just good at it, and it's a really fun sport." She also said her teammates were looking forward to have her join the team. "They were happy about it," she said. "They wanted me to play."

Force played for one season as a wide receiver and halfback. Nearly 30 years after the court's ruling, she recalled in a 2012 interview with the *Globe* that her victory in the courtroom did not lead to victory on the playing field. "I did not enjoy playing once I was on the team. I had loved football all my life, but by the time I won the right to play on the junior high team, the psychological and emotional toll of the case had drained any love I had for playing the sport." She continued, "The community's outrage over my playing did far more damage than any hits I sustained on the field."

The case of *Force v. Pierce City* is one of several court cases held by the National Archives at Kansas City concerning women seeking an equal playing field. For more information about the case visit the National Archives online catalog at <http://www.archives.gov/research/catalog/>.

Left: Excerpt from the Judge's decision in the case. National Archives at Kansas City, Record Group 21, Records of the District Courts of the United States, U.S. District Court for the Southwestern (Joplin) Division of the Western District of Missouri, Civil Case Files, 1938-1987 (National Archives Identifier: 585977), *Force v. Pierce City*, Civil Case No. 82-5093.



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