

**S0670 Malone, Ora Lee ( 1918- )**  
**Research Papers 1940-1990**  
**4 Boxes, 15 Folders**

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Mrs. Ora Lee Malone donated her research papers to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at the University of Missouri-St. Louis on June 22, 1992. Mrs. Malone is a well-known labor leader, civil rights activist, advocate of voters' rights and community volunteer in St. Louis and Southern Africa.

Mrs. Malone was born on December 24, 1918, in Brooksville, Mississippi, raised in Whistler, Alabama she experienced discrimination and segregation in the 1930s and 1940s. She endured the oppression and became involved in boycotts and other activities, including the Boswell Amendment. This amendment allowed registrars to disqualify African Americans to vote. The U.S. Supreme Court overturned it.

In 1951 Mrs. Malone moved to St. Louis and found employment as a piece-worker in the California Manufacturing Company. The company had no union and the employees were not treated fairly. The plant employed mostly African Americans, and unions were not interested in organizing to protect their jobs. In 1956 she organized the company's employees and they joined the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union. Mrs. Malone was elected the shop steward. She also became the union's first African American business representative. Malone also was instrumental in organizing the Coalition of Labor Union for Women. She lobbied in Washington, D.C. for the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and 1970 and for the Mills Bill, which regulated the flow of imports. She also helped organize the St. Louis branch of the A. Philip Randolph Institute. Malone has affiliations with the St. Louis' National Association for the Advancement Color People (N.A.A.C.P.); St. Louis Chapter of the Women's Political Caucus; New Democratic Coalition; Legislative Chairman for The Christian Women's Fellowship.

Ora Lee Malone also has had a profound interest in the well being of the South in the civil rights, human rights, and the women labor unions in South Africa.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**

This collection documents Ora Lee Malone's interest and involvement in labor unions and South African apartheid. It contains newsclippings, pamphlets and correspondence.

**SERIES DESCRIPTIONS**

**SERIES 1: CORRESPONDENCE, 1940-1970, folders 1-4**

Folders 1-4, arranged chronologically, pertaining to correspondence to Ora Lee Malone from many different individuals.

**SERIES 2: LABOR UNIONS, 1974-1985, folders 5-7**

Folders 5-7, arranged chronologically, historical materials on the Coalition of Black Trade Unionist and the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers.

**SERIES 3: SOUTH AFRICA APARTHIED, 1970-1990, folders 8-15**  
Folders 8-15, arranged chronologically, this series contains newsclippings and pamphlets pertaining to South African.

**FOLDER LIST**

**BOX 1**

**SERIES 1: CORRESPONDENCE, 1940-1990, folders 1-4**

1. Awards, 1940, 1960
2. Correspondence, 1971-1979
3. Correspondence, 1980-1983
4. Correspondence, 1983-1990

**BOX 2**

**SERIES 2: LABOR UNIONS, 1974-1985, folders 5-7**

5. Coalition of Black Trade Unionist, C.B.T.U., 1975-1985
6. Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, C.B.T.U., 1985-1990
7. Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers, A.C. T. W. U., 1974

**BOX 3**

**SERIES 3: SOUTH AFRICAN APARTHIED, 1970-1990, folders 8-15**

8. Newsclippings, 1970s
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14. Pamphlets, 1973-1979
15. Pamphlets, 1981-1990

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