How to Record and Preserve Feminist History

Feminism in psychology is important! Preserving both your and others’ contributions to the field ensures that this work lives on.

Oral History is the collection and preservation of information about the past through interviews of those with firsthand knowledge. Recording and transcribing these interviews produces invaluable documentation of past events. Consider conducting and participating in your own oral histories!

Examples of oral history projects:
- *Psychology’s Feminist Voices Online Archive*  
  http://www.feministvoices.com/presence
- *Voices of Feminism Oral History Project*  
  https://www.smith.edu/library/libs/ssc/vof/vof-intro.html
- *Lesbian Herstory Archives*  
  http://www.lesbianherstoryarchives.org/supmatermain.html

Where to find more information about oral history?
- *Oral History Association*  
  http://www.oralhistory.org/resources/

Archives contain the primary source materials that have accumulated over the course of a person’s career or through the work of an organization. Help document the diversity of Feminist practice and experience in psychology by preserving your papers! (Spread the word to your friends too!)

Who to contact about preserving your papers?
- *Cummings Center for the History of Psychology*  
  https://www.uakron.edu/chp/archives/donating.dot
- *The Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America*  
  https://www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/schlesinger-library/collections/donate-materials

Or: contact the archivist at your home university!

Remember: *Together, we can tell HERstory*

Giving Voice and Rendering Visible: The How, What, and Why of Feminist History  
Association for Women in Psychology Conference 2016
What to Expect

So you’ve decided to participate in an oral history interview...

What are the aims of the interview?
What kind of questions will be asked?
Will the interview be audio or video recorded?
Will a transcript be made?
Who holds copyright?
Where will the oral history interview be kept and made available?

So you’ve decided to donate your papers to an archive...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donate</th>
<th>Toss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>Receipts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpublished Manuscripts</td>
<td>Personal Identification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation Drafts</td>
<td>Reprints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Notes</td>
<td>Duplicates or Copies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs/Slides/Negatives</td>
<td>Uninterpretable Raw Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video &amp; Audio Recordings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*When in doubt, talk to an archivist!*

Archives are expensive enterprises and donating materials (especially sending everything off all at once) can be a time consuming process. One option is to donate material regularly over a period of time, such as making a yearly deposit of items. And, if you can manage it, a monetary donation to the archives housing your collection is always appreciated!

**Note:** If you are concerned about donating potentially sensitive materials, consider restricting access to these items for a period of time rather than destroying them outright. Potentially controversial materials today may be less problematic in future years and can be invaluable items for future generations.