

Elisabeth R. Geleerd Papers

A Finding Aid to the Papers in the Sigmund Freud Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2009

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm83060566>

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Prepared by T. Michael Womack

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009
Revised 2010 April

Collection Summary

Title: Elisabeth R. Geleerd Papers

Span Dates: 1927-1969

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1945-1969)

ID No.: MSS60566

Creator: Geleerd, Elisabeth R. (Elizabeth Rozetta), 1909-1969

Extent: 6,500 items

Extent: 14 containers

Extent: 6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English, Dutch, and German

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm83060566>

Summary: Psychoanalyst. Correspondence, memoranda, manuscripts of articles and speeches, reports, lecture notes, patient case files, financial records, legal papers, photographs, and other papers pertaining primarily to Geleerd's career as a psychoanalyst.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Bonaparte, Marie, Princess, 1882-1962--Correspondence.

Burlingham, Dorothy T.--Correspondence.

Freud, Anna, 1895-1982--Correspondence.

Geleerd, Elisabeth R. (Elisabeth Rozetta), 1909-1969.

Harley, Marjorie.--Correspondence.

Isakower, Otto, 1899-1972--Correspondence.

Jones, Ernest, 1879-1958--Correspondence.

Knight, Robert P. (Robert Palmer), 1902-1966--Correspondence.

Loewenstein, Rudolph Maurice--Correspondence.

Mead, Margaret, 1901-1978--Correspondence.

Menninger, Karl A. (Karl Augustus), 1893-1990--Correspondence.

Menninger, William Claire, 1899-1966--Correspondence.

Organizations

American Psychoanalytic Association.

Menninger Clinic.

New York Psychoanalytic Institute.

New York Psychoanalytic Society.

Southard School.

Subjects

Child analysis.

Psychoanalysis--Societies, etc.

Psychoanalysis--Standards.

Psychoanalysis--Study and teaching.

Psychoanalysis.

Occupations

Psychoanalysts.

Provenance

The papers of Elisabeth R. Geleerd, psychoanalyst, were given to the Library of Congress by the Sigmund Freud Archives, Inc., in 1982.

Processing History

The papers of Elisabeth R. Geleerd were arranged and described in 1991. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Related Material

Related collections in the Manuscript Division include the papers of Rudolph Maurice Loewenstein, Geleerd's husband and colleague.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Elisabeth R. Geleerd is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Elisabeth R. Geleerd are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Elisabeth R. Geleerd Papers, Sigmund Freud Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1909, Mar. 20	Born, Rotterdam, Netherlands
1934	M.D., Medical School, University of Leyden, Leyden, Netherlands
1934-1936	Externship, Medical School, University of Leyden, Leyden, Netherlands
1936-1940	Received psychiatric and psychoanalytic training for the analysis of children and adults at the Vienna Institute for Psychoanalysis, Vienna, Austria (1936-1938) and the London Institute for Psychoanalysis, London, England (1938-1940)
1940	Immigrated to the United States
1940-1945	Staff member, Menninger Clinic, Topeka, Kans. Child analyst, Southard School, Topeka, Kans.
1943-1945	Director of psychotherapy, Southard School, Topeka, Kans.
1946	Married Rudolph Maurice Loewenstein
1946-1969	Conducted private psychoanalytic practice, New York, N.Y.
1947-1969	Instructor, New York Psychoanalytic Institute, New York, N.Y.
1955-1969	Member, Educational Committee, New York Psychoanalytic Institute, New York, N.Y.
1967	Edited <i>The Child Analyst at Work</i> . New York: International Universities Press
1969, May 25	Died, New York, N.Y.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Freudian psychoanalyst Elisabeth Rozetta Geleerd (1909-1969) span the years 1927-1969, with the bulk of the items concentrated in the period after 1945, when Geleerd moved to New York City. A native of the Netherlands, Geleerd completed her medical degree at the University of Leyden in 1934. From 1936 to 1938 she received psychoanalytic training at the Vienna Institute for Psychoanalysis. The Nazi persecution of Jews forced Geleerd to leave Austria for England in 1938, where she specialized in the analysis of children at the London Institute for Psychoanalysis and at the Hampstead Child-Therapy Clinic. To escape the war, Geleerd immigrated to the United States in 1940. She worked at both the Menninger Clinic and the Southard School in Topeka, Kansas, until 1945, when she moved to New York. The next year she opened a private psychoanalytic practice and married fellow analyst Rudolph Maurice Loewenstein. For the next two decades she maintained a successful practice and worked to improve educational standards for the training of analysts by serving on an educational committee and as an instructor at the New York Psychoanalytic Institute. Geleerd died unexpectedly in 1969. Included in her papers are correspondence, writings, miscellaneous biographical information, and other material pertaining to her work and to the history of psychoanalysis--particularly child analysis--during her lifetime. The papers are arranged into the following series: [Correspondence](#), [Professional Papers](#), [Subject File](#), and [Writings](#).

With the exception of some immigration and naturalization papers and a few patient files, the collection contains no documentation of Geleerd's early life in the Netherlands or her training in Vienna and London in the 1930s. The papers primarily chronicle her life in the United States, particularly after 1945. Among the prominent correspondents in the Geleerd Papers are Princess Marie Bonaparte, Dorothy T. Burlingham, Anna Freud, Marjorie Harley, Otto Isakower, Ernest Jones, Robert P. Knight, Margaret Mead, and Karl A. and William Claire Menninger. Subjects discussed in the [Correspondence](#) series range from family and personal affairs to professional matters. Some material is in Dutch and German.

The series entitled [Professional Papers](#) provides insight into Geleerd's involvement in psychoanalytic organizations on the local, national, and international level. She was particularly active in the American Psychoanalytic Association, the New York Psychoanalytic Institute, and the New York Psychoanalytic Society in the areas of child analysis, education, and professional standards. The patient case files primarily come from the time during which Geleerd lived in England and Kansas.

The [Subject File](#) contains material relating to Geleerd's personal life and includes biographical information, classroom lecture notes, newspaper clippings, condolence letters, diplomas and certificates, bank records, expense accounts, insurance records, investments, tax records, photographs, legal records, travel information, and medical records. Of particular interest are the Freud-Burlingham reports issued during World War II by the Foster Parents' Plan, a clinic run by Anna Freud and Dorothy T. Burlingham for young London children whose lives were disrupted by the war.

The [Writings](#) series contains more than fifteen papers by Geleerd on various psychoanalytic themes. Also included are unidentified manuscripts, invitations to give talks or write papers, and numerous papers discussing writings by others, and drafts and offprints of writings by others. Subjects discussed include adolescence, neurosis, masturbation, depression, denial, the ego, Sigmund Freud, separation-individuation, and the mother-child relationship. The collection contains book reviews and correspondence of Geleerd's best-known edited work, *The Child Analyst at Work*.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- [Correspondence, 1932-1969](#)
- [Professional Papers, 1938-1969](#)
- [Subject File, 1927-1972](#)
- [Writings, circa 1940-1969](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-3	<p><u>Correspondence, 1932-1969</u></p> <p>Letters sent and received by Geleerd, with attached and related matter. Organized alphabetically by name of correspondent.</p>
BOX 3-7	<p><u>Professional Papers, 1938-1969</u></p> <p>Organization and patient case files, including correspondence, memoranda, reports, minutes, and conference material. Arranged alphabetically by name of topic or type of material within the organization files and by name of person within the patient case files.</p>
BOX 7-11	<p><u>Subject File, 1927-1972</u></p> <p>Correspondence, reports, clippings, classroom lecture notes, diplomas, certificates, financial and legal records, and photographs. Organized alphabetically by name of topic or type of material.</p>
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Correspondence, 1932-1969

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Writings, circa 1940-1969

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