

# The Sixties:

## Primary Documents and Personal Narratives, 1960 to 1974

*The Sixties: Primary Documents and Personal Narratives, 1960 to 1974* documents the key events, trends, and movements in 1960s America—vividly conveying the *zeitgeist* of the decade and its effects into the middle of the next. Through letters, diaries, memoirs, and oral histories; accounts from official, radical, and alternative organizations; posters, broadsides, pamphlets, advertisements, and rare materials; and Universal newsreel footage of the times—150,000 pages total upon completion—the collection tells the story of the Sixties. The collection is further enhanced by two dozen scholarly research guides, featuring richly annotated primary-source content that is analyzed and contextualized through interpretive essays by leading historians.

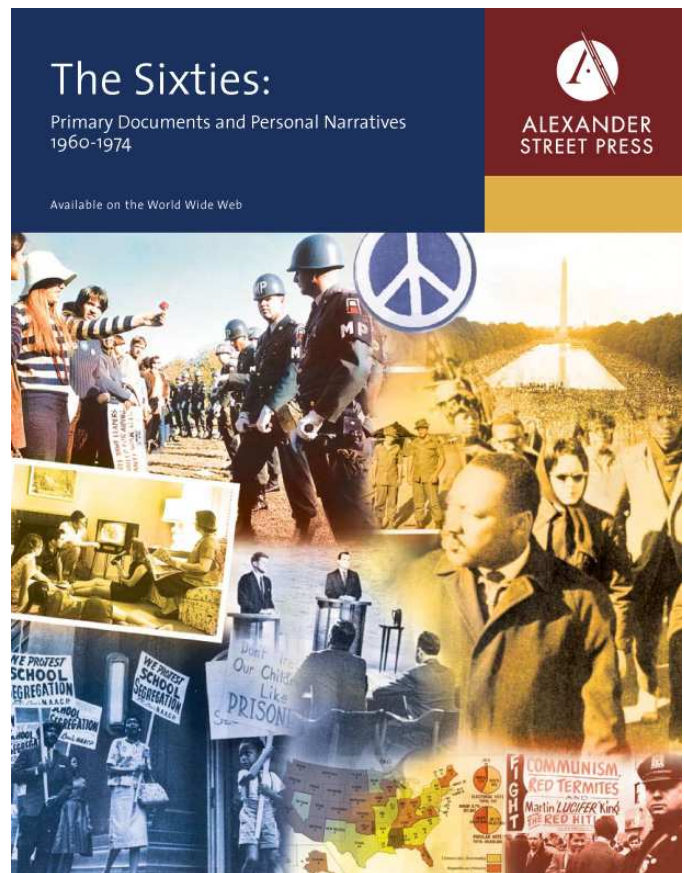
Freedom rides, sit-ins, the draft, the Equal Rights Amendment, Earth Day, the Free Speech Movement, the Stonewall riots, Woodstock, the Summer of Love, the Space Race . . . the events of the Sixties tested and defined the core values of America. But despite our familiarity with names, dates, and basic facts, there has been no single, comprehensive resource for study in this area. With *The Sixties*, researchers will now have personal accounts by the people who experienced events firsthand.

### Relevance to Scholarship

Much of the content in *The Sixties* is previously unpublished, ephemeral, or hard to access. In many instances culled from small local and personal archives, the materials identify the spirit of the era across place and time—particularly important for locations that have escaped popular study until now. Users will learn about student activism not just in Berkeley and New York City, but also across the Midwest and the South, in universities both urban and rural. Many of the materials are held in small and widely dispersed collections, inaccessible except onsite and yet essential for a comprehensive understanding of how social changes and movements affected people across the U.S. of all races, classes, and genders.

### Sources and themes

Carefully crafted under the guidance of our editorial advisors—led by Alexander Bloom of Wheaton College, editor of *Takin' It to the Streets: A Sixties Reader* (Oxford University Press, 1995), Rich Burke of the Statewide California Electronic Library Consortium, and Doug Rossinow of Metropolitan State University—the content touches on a broad range of themes including Civil Rights; the Vietnam War; the New Left and emerging neo-conservatism; the environmental movement; the women's movement and second-wave feminism; law and government; gay and lesbian activism; student activism; the media; arts, music, and leisure; the counter-culture; and technological changes.



## **Alexander Street's Semantic Indexing™—new ways to explore, search, and find**

Alexander Street's deep, *Semantic Indexing*™ offers 20 combinable search fields. Scholars can locate ephemeral material, audio, or specific sections within books or narratives; identify particular historical events, places, or notable people; and analyze all the content in ways previously impossible. Questions like these can now be answered from a single search screen:

- How did white and black student attitudes towards school integration efforts differ in Northern and Southern locations?
- What were the most frequent topics of discussion in women's consciousness-raising groups?
- How did student leaders view the role of popular music in their activism?
- How did the theories and methods of Chicano activism differ from other civil rights movements?

### **Research guides for contextual understanding**

The collection not only provides a rich trove of primary documents but also contextualizes the documents, through two dozen essays created exclusively for *The Sixties* by leading historians. Assembled around a major theme or research question, each research guide presents selected annotated primary-source documents and links them with an interpretive essay, historical context, and scholarly commentary. Collectively these document projects constitute a notable body of historical scholarship for advanced researchers, while also serving to introduce students to methods in primary-source research.

### **Publication details**

*The Sixties: Primary Documents and Personal Narratives, 1960 to 1974* is available on the Web, through one-time purchase of perpetual rights or annual subscription, with prices scaled to library type and budget. Please contact [sales@alexanderstreet.com](mailto:sales@alexanderstreet.com) to arrange for a free trial or to request a price quote. Visit <http://alexanderstreet.com> for information about all the collections in Alexander Street's *Social and Cultural History* series.

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