

# PURDUE

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## FINDING AID TO THE GARY FISHER PAPERS, 1948-2000

**Purdue University Libraries  
Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections  
Research Center  
504 West State Street  
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907-2058  
(765) 494-2839**

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Processed by: Kristin Leaman, June 27, 2011  
Updated: November, 2019

## Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator Information</b>	Fisher, Gary, 1931-
<b>Title</b>	Gary Fisher papers
<b>Collection Identifier</b>	MSP 84
<b>Date Span</b>	1948-2000, predominant 1962-1963
<b>Abstract</b>	The Gary Fisher papers (0.5 cubic feet; 1948-2000) contains a notebook of Fisher's anecdotes including recollections of his colleague Joyce Martin, patient notes pertaining to LSD psychotherapy treatment for children suffering from mental illness, articles and reports, his doctoral thesis, academic transcripts, his curriculum vitae, correspondence, and photographs.
<b>Extent</b>	0.5 cubic foot (1 mss. box)
<b>Finding Aid Author</b>	Kristin Leaman, 2011
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Repository</b>	Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center, Purdue University Libraries

## Administrative Information

<b>Location Information:</b>	ASC
<b>Access Restrictions:</b>	Patient files have been redacted to protect the privacy of those individuals. The original patient files are restricted for 75 years from the date they were created, circa 1960s.
<b>Acquisition Information:</b>	May 10, 2011; Bess Granby; Donation
<b>Accession Number:</b>	20110510
<b>Preferred Citation:</b>	MSP 84, Gary Fisher papers, Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries
<b>Copyright Notice:</b>	In the extent that he owns the copyright, the donor has assigned it to the Archives. The copyright of some items in the collection maybe held by their respective authors. Consult a reference archivist for details.

## **Subjects and Genres**

### **Persons**

Fisher, Gary (1931–2012)

### **Topics**

Hallucinogenic drugs  
Hallucinogenic drugs -- Therapeutic use  
LSD (Drug)  
LSD (Drug) -- Therapeutic use  
LSD (Drug) -- Therapeutic use -- History  
LSD (Drug) -- Therapeutic use -- Case studies  
Psychedelic medicine  
Psychic trauma in children  
Psychiatry – Case studies  
Psychotherapy  
Psychotherapy patients

### **Form and Genre Types**

Articles  
Photographs  
Experience reports  
Personal narratives  
Psychedelic session reports  
Research notes

## Biography of Gary Fisher

Gary Fisher was born in Canada on June 2, 1931. He graduated with his Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Utah and received further training from Al Hubbard with the Saskatchewan Group. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, Fisher treated children ranging from the ages of four to thirteen who suffered from autism and schizophrenia with LSD and psychotherapy. While not all of his patients showed improvement, several of the children did benefit and showed marked improvement. Fisher also used LSD and psychotherapy to help dying patients. Once LSD was made illegal in 1962, Fisher had to cease his LSD research. He served as an assistant professor in the Division of Behavioral Sciences and Healthy Education in the School of Public Health at UCLA and has published several articles on his LSD research with autistic and schizophrenic children, as well as on his treatment of dying patients. Among his publications are "Some Comments Concerning Dosage Levels of Psychedelic Compound For Psychotherapeutic Experiences," "Successful Outcome of a Single LSD Treatment in a Chronically Dysfunctional Man," and "Treatment of Childhood Schizophrenia Utilizing LSD and Psilocybin." Fisher, now living in southern California, is also an artist who states that his own psychedelic experiences influenced his art.

Sources:

"Gary Fisher." *The Vaults of Erowid*. Last modified August 17, 2011.  
[http://www.erowid.org/culture/characters/fisher\\_gary/fisher\\_gary.shtml](http://www.erowid.org/culture/characters/fisher_gary/fisher_gary.shtml)

"Gary Fisher, Ph.D....psychedelic research pioneer." *Matrix Masters*. Lawrence Hagerty, 2000-2006.  
<http://pn.matrixmasters.com/speakers/Fisher-bio.html>

## Collection Description

### Scope

The Gary Fisher papers (0.5 cubic feet; 1948-2000) contains a notebook of his anecdotes including recollections of his colleague Joyce Martin, patient notes pertaining to the LSD psychotherapy treatments for children suffering from mental illness, articles and reports, his doctoral thesis, academic transcripts, his curriculum vitae, correspondence, and photographs.

### Descriptive Rules

Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition / Describing Archives: A Content Standard

### Processing Information

All materials have been placed in archival housing. The materials have been organized into the following folders: Academic transcripts & CV, Doctoral Thesis, Correspondence, Notebook, Patient Notes, Photographs, Articles & Reports. Appropriate materials have been redacted in order to protect the privacy of patients. Rusty staples and paper clips were removed for preservation purposes.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

### **1 Box, Gary Fisher papers, 1948-2000**

#### Folder

1. Academic transcripts and CV, 1948-1974
2. Doctoral Thesis, "Response to Aggressive Humor by Depressive, Sociopathic, and Normal Persons," 1962
3. Correspondence, 1968-1975
4. Notebook of Fisher's anecdotes, unknown
5. Patient Notes, 1962-1963
6. Patient Notes, 1962-1963
7. Photographs, 1962 and 2008  
Photographs of Fisher with patients, 1962  
  
Photographs of Fisher's artwork, 2008 (?)
8. Articles and Reports, 1962-1969

Fisher, Gary (et al). *An Investigation to Determine the Therapeutic Effectiveness of LSD-25 and Psilocybin on Hospitalized Severely Emotionally Disturbed Children*. circa 1963. (typed manuscript)

Fisher, Gary. *The Psychotherapeutic Treatment of Acute Functional Disorders Arising from Psychedelic Drug Abuse*. Unpublished. (typed manuscript)

Fisher, Gary. "Treatment of Childhood Schizophrenia Utilizing LSD and Psilocybin," *MAPS*. Vol. 7, No. 3, Summer 1997. (typed manuscript)

Fisher, Gary. "On the Pseudo-Humanistic Education of the Psychotherapist," *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*. Spring, 1962.

Fisher, Gary (et al). Report: *An Investigation to Determine Therapeutic Effectiveness of LSD-25 and Psilocybin on Hospitalized Severely Emotionally Disturbed Children*. February 10, 1963. [3 copies] (photocopies and typed manuscript)

Martin, Joyce A. "A Case of Homosexuality and Character Disorder in a Man of 37 Treated by L.S.D. and Resolved within Four Months," *Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics*. Vol. 15, 1967. [2 copies] (photocopy of typed

manuscript)

Fisher, Gary. "Loneliness," *The Art and Science of Psychotherapy*. Vol. 3, 1967. (photocopy of typed manuscript)

Fisher, Gary. "Psychedelic Drug Usage: Socio-Political and Psychological Considerations," *California School Health*. Vol. 4, 1968. (typed manuscript)

Fisher, Gary. "Death, Identity, and Creativity," *Voices*. Vol. 5, 1969. (photocopy)

9. Articles and Reports, 1970-2000

Fisher, Gary. "Psychotherapy for the Dying: Principles and Illustrative Cases with Special Reference to the Use of LSD," *OMEGA*. Vol. 1, No. 1, 1970. (photocopy)

Fisher, Gary and Guy W. Steuart. "The Health Education Specialist: His Function in Mental Health and Social Change," *International Journal of Health Education*. Vol. 14, 1971. (typed and photocopied)

Fisher, Gary. "Self-Actualization of *Paranormals*," *Journal of Personality Assessment*. Vol. 35, 1971. (photocopy)

Corrected transcript version of Gary Fisher's tapes by Sylvia Thyssen, MAPS Networks Coordinator. May 22, 1997. (hand-written manuscript)

Fisher, Gary. "Treatment of Childhood Schizophrenia Utilizing LSD and Psilocybin," *MAPS*. Vol. 7, No. 3, Summer 1997. (photocopy)

Fisher, Gary and Joyce Martin. "The Psychotherapeutic Use of Psychodysleptic Drugs," circa 1998. (print out)

Fisher, Gary. "Successful Outcome of a Single LSD Treatment in a Chronically Dysfunctional Man," *MAPS*. Vol. 9, No. 2, 1999. (photocopy)

Fisher, Gary. "Counter-Transference Issues in Psychedelic Psychotherapy," *MAPS*. Vol. 10, No. 2, Summer 2000. (photocopy)