



Advisors, Advocates and Activists: A Century and More of Social Work



Project Archivist: Jennifer Duffy ■ Research Advisor: Sarah Henning

Papers of John Spencer, Professor of Social Administration (b.1915 d.1978)

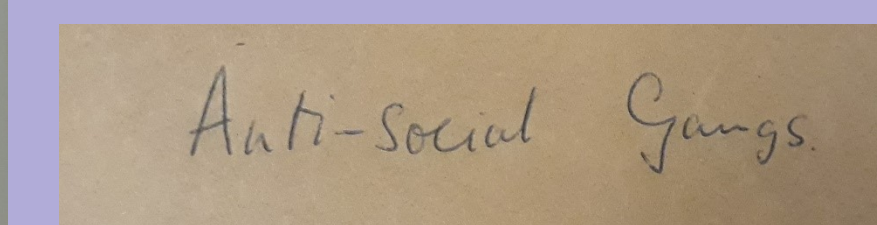
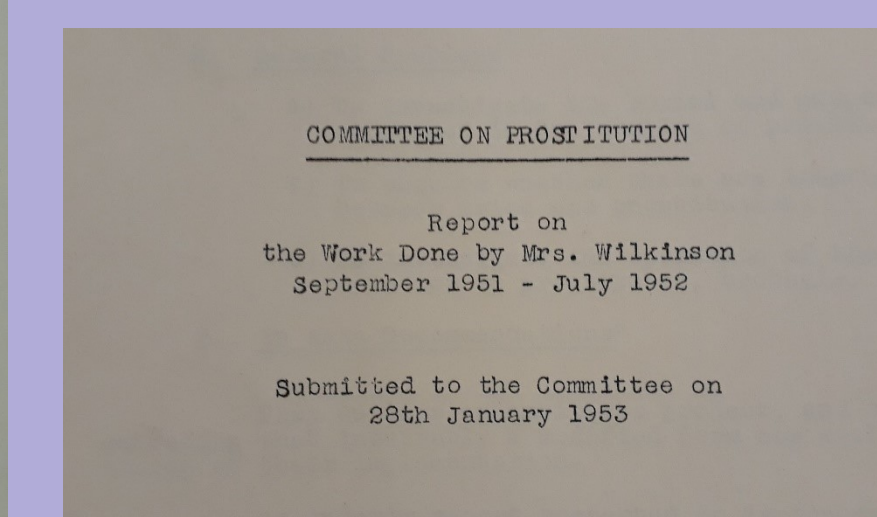
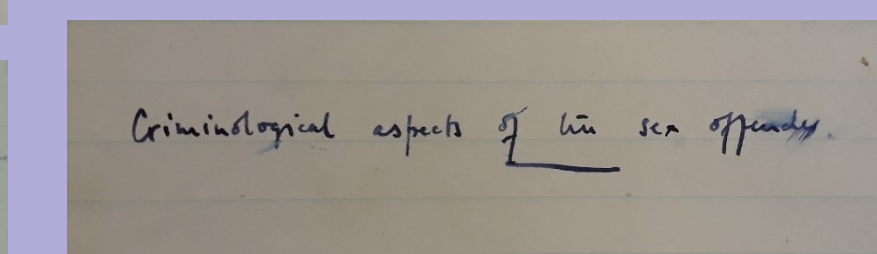
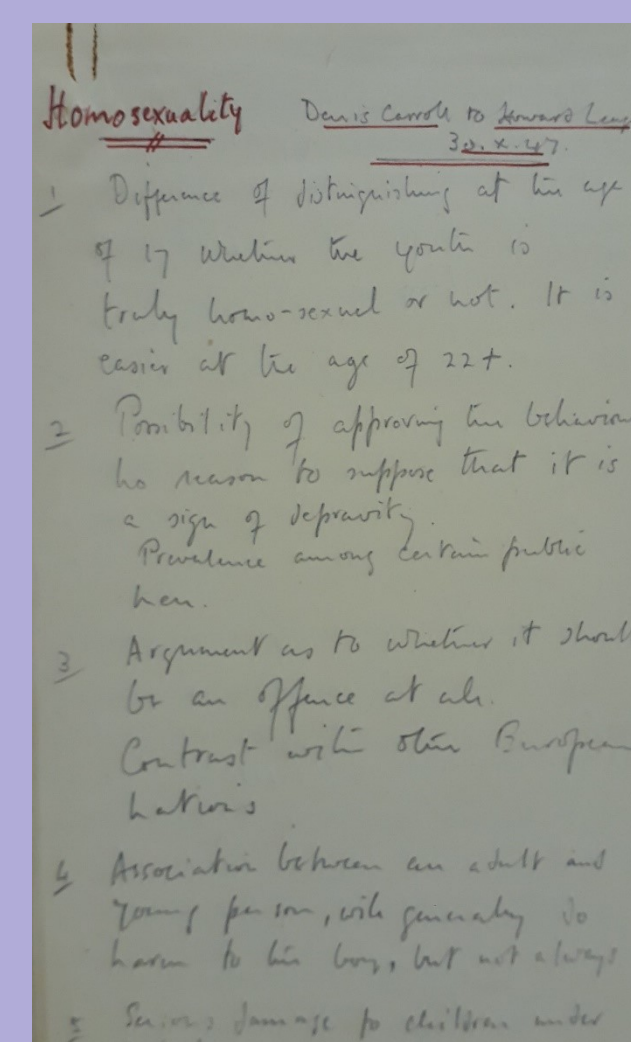
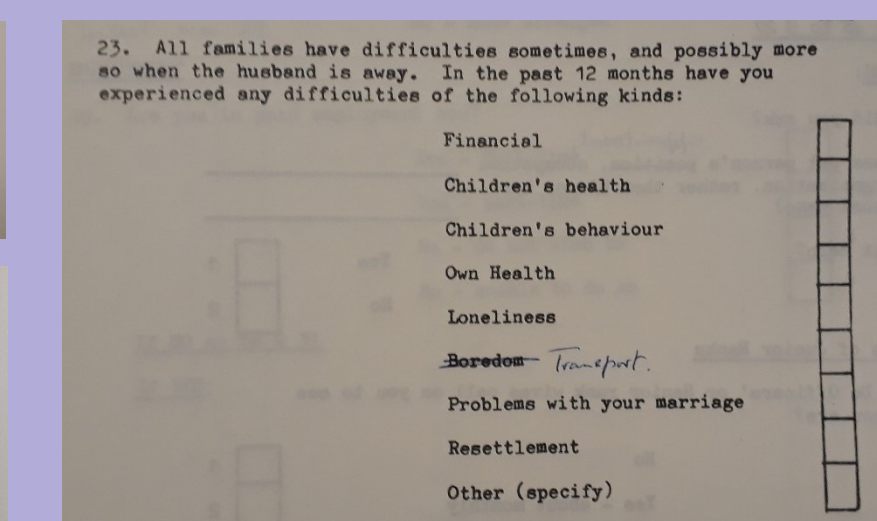
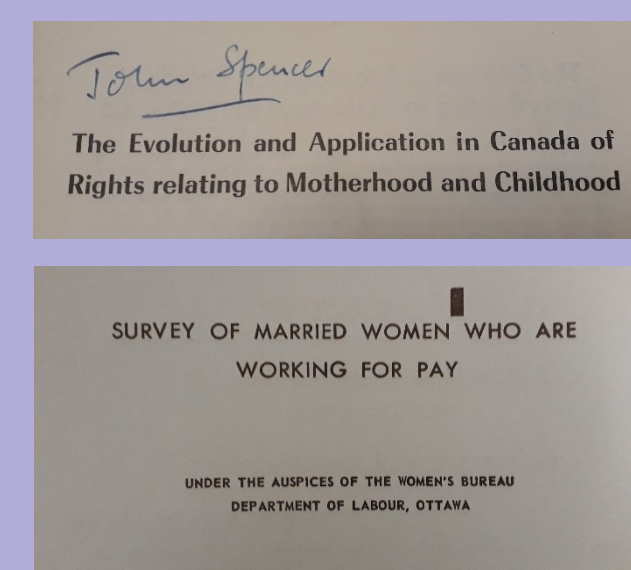
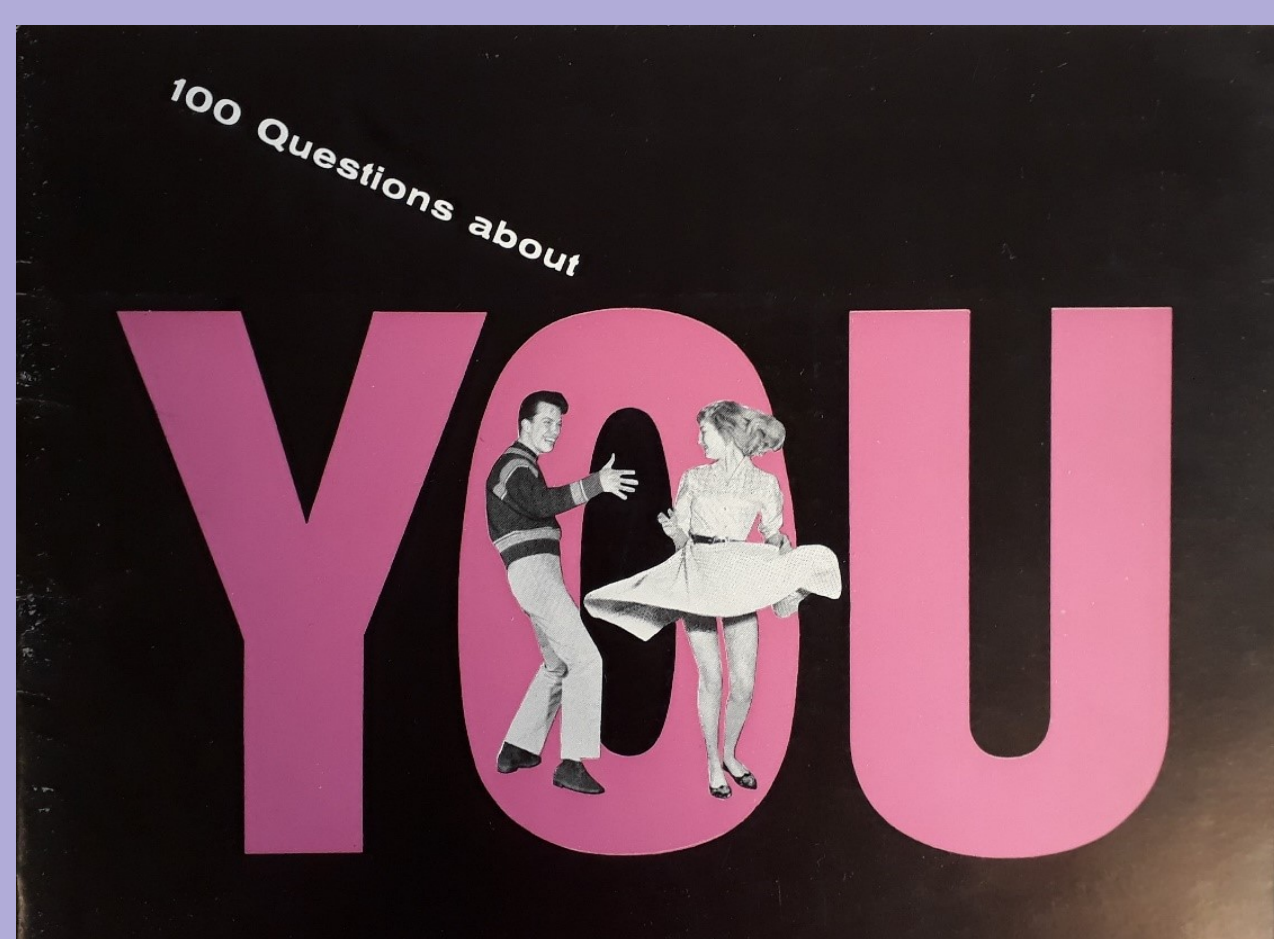
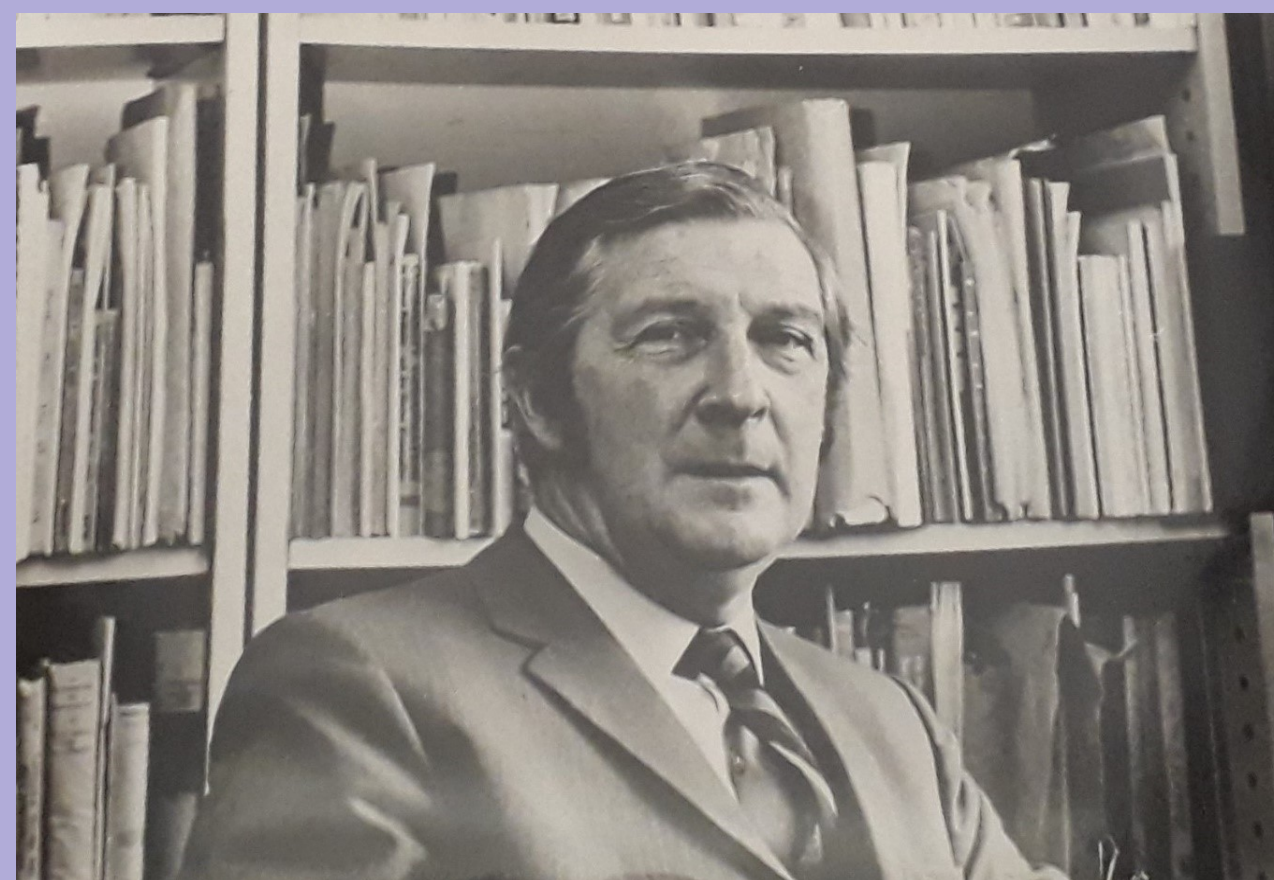
John Spencer's varied career took him from the London School of Economics to the University of Edinburgh via Bristol, Manchester and Toronto. His research interests included homosexuality, family life, working mothers, sex offenders, and prostitution, as well as mental health, the church and society, addiction and adoption. His many papers include field work relating to his research, lecture notes, conference papers and a collection of contemporary reference material.

KEY POINTS

- A Wellcome Trust funded project to organise, re-house, catalogue and make available records related to Edinburgh University's Department of Social Work which celebrated its centenary in 2018
- The material is held by the University's Centre for Research Collections, 6th Floor, Main Library
- Twitter: @socialwork100
- Project Blog: <http://libraryblogs.is.ed.ac.uk/socialwork100>

School of Social Study and Training

The School was formed in 1918 and by 1928 was fully under the control of the University. The first 3 directors of the school were female – Nora Milnes, Megan Browne and Marjorie Brown - and they fought tirelessly for its recognition and survival. Students went in to a number of fields – missionary work, teaching and research, mental health and labour management, while working with children, the elderly, immigrants, hospital patients and offenders.



Clockwise from bottom left:
Jessie Hood was appointed Colonial Liaison Officer in Bristol, addressing the needs of Jamaican immigrants; **Marlene Kwok** returned to Guyana and wrote *"The History of the Chinese in British Guyana"*; **Vera Hiddleston** became Head of Social Work at Jordanhill College of Education; **Yolanda Vitols** arrived in the UK as a refugee from Latvia and went into the field of mental health, working at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital; **Morag Henderson Norris** worked for many years as a social worker in Canada.

