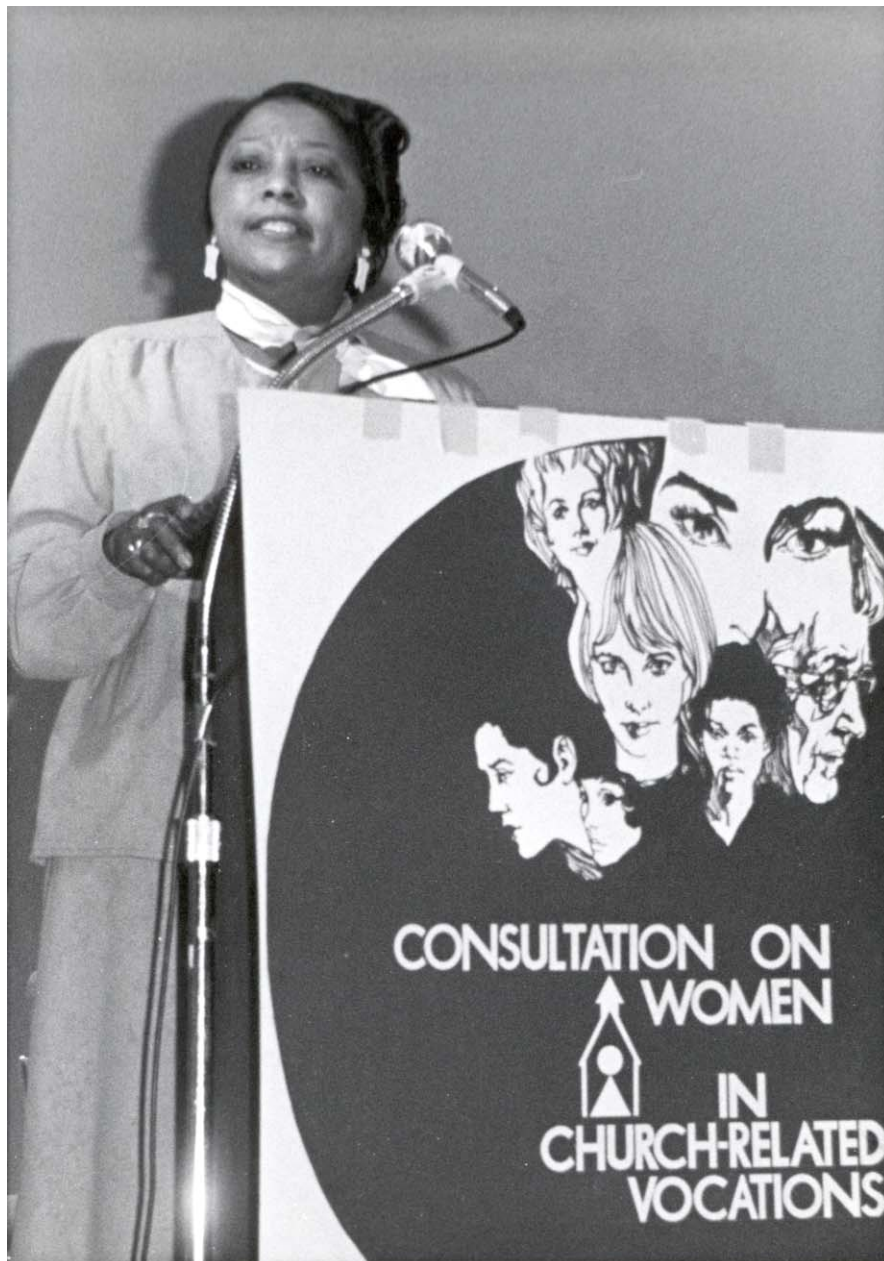


**CONSULTATION ON WOMEN IN  
CHURCH-RELATED VOCATIONS  
COLLECTION  
AR 504**



**Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives**

**Updated November, 2011**

# Consultation on Women in Church-Related Vocations Collection

## AR 504

### Summary

Main Entry: Consultation on Woman in Church-Related Vocations Collection

Date Span: 1977 – 1979

Abstract: The Consultation on Women in Church-Related Vocations was a project developed as a result of the rising number of women seeking employment with Southern Baptist mission agencies. A conference was held in September, 1978, and the Collection includes material from the conference, its planning, and the findings report.

Size: 1 linear ft. (one document box)

Collection #: AR 504

### Historical Sketch:

In its January, 1977 meeting, the Inter-Agency Council of the Southern Baptist Convention approved a project that came to be called "Consultation on Women in Church Related Vocations" (an original working title of Consultation on Women in Ministry was dropped soon after detailed planning began.) The project originated in the Missions Coordination sub-committee of the Inter-Agency Council. It was suggested in response to a discussion about how the mission agencies would respond to the rising number of women seeking employment with them.

Upon invitation from the chairman of the Missions Coordination Sub-Committee, the following Southern Baptist Convention Agencies became sponsors of the Consultation: Home Mission Board, Sunday School Board, Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood Commission, Foreign Mission Board, Christian Life Commission, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Historical Commission, Radio and Television Commission, Southern Seminary, and Southeastern Seminary. One representative from each of these agencies served as a steering committee. Sub-committees, staffed by sponsoring agencies, were appointed in the areas of arrangements, program and research, findings, finance, publicity, and publications.

The program committee, in attempting to "define the situation," took a poll of women employees in Southern Baptist agencies. The survey results were made available in the publication "Findings." A conference was held September 20 – 22, 1978 in Nashville, Tennessee, at the Baptist Sunday School Board. Approximately 300 persons participated in the conference.

**Scope and Content:**

The collection consists of 1 linear ft. of material that documents the planning of the conference. The material came from several sources, primarily Bobbie Sorrill, chairperson of the Program and Research sub-committee, Johnni Johnson, chairperson of the Publicity and Publications sub-committee, and Ron Tonks, representative for the Historical Commission. The collection includes committee files, budget information, photographs, clippings, press releases, programs, minutes of the steering committee and sub-committees, copies of papers presented at the meeting, and a copy of the findings report.

**Arrangement**

Alphabetically by folder title

**Preferred Citation**

Consultation on Women in Church-Related Vocations Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

**Access Restrictions**

None

**Subject Terms**

Sorrill, Bobbie, 1935 –  
Baptist Women in Ministry  
Women in church work  
Baptist women

**Related Materials**

Consultation on Women. *Summary of the Consultation on Women* [sound recording], Rec R298t  
Blevins, Carolyn. *Women place in Baptist life*, 2003  
McBeth, Leon. *Women in Baptist life*, 1979  
Women in Baptist Life Collection, SBHLA, AR160

**Container List****Box 1**

- 1.1 Anti-women material – Willel W. G. Reitzer
- 1.2 Background information
- 1.3 Bibliography
- 1.4 Budget and financial material, 1977 – 1979
- 1.5 Clippings
- 1.6 Findings report (includes overview, papers presented at meeting, responses from audience and survey results)
- 1.7 Historical Commission correspondence, 1977 – 1978
- 1.8 Papers and speeches presented
- 1.9 Photographs
- 1.10 Press Release and background data
- 1.11 Program and brochure

- 1.12 Program Committee Correspondence – Bobbie Sorrill, October, 1977 – August, 1978
- 1.13 Program Committee Correspondence – Bobbie Sorrill, September – November, 1978
- 1.14 Program Committee – Minutes/agendas
- 1.15 Publicity and Publications Committee – Biographical data on speakers
- 1.16 Publicity and Publication Committee material, November, 1977 – July, 1978
- 1.17 Publicity and Publication Committee material, August – December, 1978
- 1.18 Registrants for conference
- 1.19 Steering Committee minutes
- 1.20 Survey form for women employees of Southern Baptist Agencies
- 1.21 Woman's Missionary Union response to consultation
- 1.22 Work sheets