

## **THE PETER BLOS (1904-1997) PAPERS**

**Dates of Papers: 1923-1997**

**Bulk Dates: 1964-1990**

7 Linear Feet

(14 Boxes)

The Oskar Diethelm Library  
DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
525 East 68<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, New York 10065

Arranged and Described by:  
Daniel O'Connor, graduate student Intern  
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### **Provenance**

The Peter Blos Papers were given to the Oskar Diethelm Library, DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College, by Mrs. Betsy Blos, the late widow to Peter Blos, in the year 2000. Approximately 350 books were donated along with the papers and have been cataloged and added to the library's book collection.

### **Administrative/Biographical Note**

Peter Blos (1904-1997) was one of the central figures in child and adolescent analysis. Born in 1904 in Karlsruhe, Germany, he studied education at the University of Heidelberg and then obtained a PhD in biology from the University of Vienna. While in Vienna, Blos made the acquaintance of Anna Freud, who requested his help in creating a school for children undergoing analysis. The project was supported and encouraged by Evan Rosenfeld, Dorothy Burlingham, a Tiffany heir and friend of Anna Freud's, and August Aichhorn, an Austrian educator and psychoanalyst. Burlingham's children attended the school, along with children of other individuals prominent in the psychoanalytic field. Blos recruited an old friend, Erik Homburger Erikson (later a leading figure in psychoanalysis) to join him. The Experimental School, as it was called, employed psychoanalytic principles and encouraged the children to think for themselves.

Blos immigrated to the United States in 1934 to escape the rise of Nazism. He originally settled in New Orleans to teach at a private school, but then left for New York to continue his psychoanalytic training. While in New York, Blos became involved in a major study on adolescence. Blos worked with people from different professions during this time, including anthropologist Margaret Mead, pediatrician Benjamin Spock, and psychoanalyst Erik Erikson. He published his first book, *The Adolescent Personality*, in 1941.

Over the course of his career, Blos taught at the Jewish Board of Guardians, the New York Psychoanalytic Society, and the Columbia Psychoanalytic Center. *On Adolescence*, published in 1961, is his fourth book and the one that gave him national and international recognition. Blos died in 1997 in his country home in Holderness, New Hampshire at the age of 93.

## **Related Resources**

The Library of Congress Manuscript Division holds a [small collection of papers](#) donated by Peter Blos.

## **Scope and Content**

This collection consists of correspondence, professional writing, drafts, notes, photographs, and other personal and professional materials dating from 1923-1997. The materials are primarily in English, but also includes letters, manuscripts, and notes in German and Swedish. The papers are divided into nine series: **Correspondence (1966-1995)**, **Lectures (1949-1995, n.d.)**, **Manuscripts (1966-1995, n.d.)**, **Marta Grone Correspondence (1957-1964, n.d.)**, **Case Seminars (1957-1963, n.d.)**, **Miscellaneous (1950-1993, n.d.)**, **Reprints (1935-1991)**, **Photographs**, and **Certificates (1934-1988)**.

There are oversized materials in the following series: **Manuscripts**, **Reprints**, **Certificates**, and **Miscellaneous**. These materials are stored together in oversize boxes 12 (legal size) and 13 (oversize flat box).

## **Restrictions**

Some material in series **V Case Seminars** is restricted due to private health information. Restricted material has been removed and filed separately.

### **Series I: Correspondence, 1966-1995 (Box 1)**

This series is organized in the order in which it was received. It contains Blos' professional (and some personal correspondence). Material relate to writings, translations, lectures, paper requests, and appointments.

### **Series II: Lectures, 1949-1995, n.d. (Box 1-3)**

This series, arranged by lecture/discussion, contains an assortment of papers read by Blos at lectures and symposiums. It also contains Blos' notes from lectures, colloquiums, symposiums, and discussions.

### **Series III: Manuscripts, 1966-1995, n.d. (Box 3-6, 12, 13)**

This series, arranged by manuscript title, consists of published works by Peter Blos and others. Some of these include "Freud and the Father Complex," "Son and Father," and "The Place of the Adolescent Process in the Analysis of the Adult." In addition to the finished copies, the collection includes a number of oversized drafts pasted together on yellow lined paper and marked with handwritten edits. They are all housed in oversize box 12 and box 13 (folders 1-5). The content of this series is mostly in English with some of the drafts and finished manuscripts in German.

**Series IV: Marta Grone Blos Correspondence, 1957-1964, n.d. (Box 6-7)**

This series is arranged in chronological order, preserving the groupings by which they were organized at the time of donation. The groupings are titled: “Pa’s Disease (sjukdom),” “Pa’s Letters (brev),” and “Elsa/Pa’s Letters (brev).” The letters in this series are written in Swedish and contain private correspondence between Marta Blos, Peter Blos’ first wife, and her family.

**Series V: Case Seminars, 1953-1963, n.d. (Box 7)**

This series has been maintained in its original order. Some materials are restricted due to private health information. The restricted folders have been removed and are housed separately.

**Series VI: Reprints, 1935-1991 (Box 7-8, 13)**

This series is arranged chronologically and contains reprints of articles and papers from journals, magazines, and newspapers, including works by Peter Blos and other authors. Some materials are oversized and are stored in flat box 13, folders 6-7.

**Series VII: Certificates, 1934-1988 (Box 8, 13)**

This series has been arranged chronologically and includes various certificates, awards, commendations, and memberships. Some materials in this series are oversized and are stored in flat box 12, folder 8.

**Series VIII: Miscellaneous, 1950-1993, n.d. (Box 8-10, 13)**

This series includes book reviews, notes, personal journals, and other miscellany. Some materials are oversized and are stored in flat box 13 folders 9-10.

**Series IX: Photographs, 1990-1994 (Box 11)**

This series includes a photo album of buildings from Vienna, professional photographs taken in 1990, and photographic negatives.

**Box and Folder List:**

**Box 1: Series I, Correspondence, 1966-1995**

**Folder:**

1	Professional correspondence	1966-1978
2	Professional correspondence	1985-1988
3	Professional correspondence	1988

4	Professional correspondence	1988-1989
5	Free Press correspondence	1984-1992
6	New York Psychoanalytic Institute correspondence	1959-1987
7	Publication correspondence	1983-1995
8	Vienna/Zurich lecture correspondence	1986-1987
9	Vienna/Zurich lecture correspondence	1986
10	Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic correspondence	1966
11	Book translation correspondence	1980
12	Metropolitan Museum of Art correspondence	1984
13	The Freudian Society	1988-1989
14	The Bureau of Child Guidance	1966

**Box 1: Series II, Lectures, 1949-1963**

**Folder:**

15	Lectures/conference notes	1949-1955
16	Lectures/conference notes	1956-1959
17	Psychopathology of Adolescence/ Maladaptive Behavior	1963
18	Discussion notes on Dr. Brody's paper	1961-1962

**Box 2: Series II, Lectures, 1966-1988**

**Folder:**

1	American Psychoanalytic Association Fall Discussion Panel	1966
2	Albert Einstein College of Medicine Child Psychiatry Lecture	1966
3	Lecture notes on adolescence	1966

4	Technical Problems of Adolescent Analysis, workshop notes	1967
5	New York Psychoanalytic Society, "Drug Use by Adolescents" lectures	1968
6	Nunberg Lecture papers	1969
7	Nunberg Lecture papers	1969
8	Nunberg Lecture papers	1969
9	Lecture and course notes on adolescence	1968-1977
10	Lecture and course notes on late adolescence	1970-1977
11	Colloquium notes, the New York Psychoanalytic Institute	1979-1988
12	Freudian Society Panel/lecture notes	1979
13	Freudian Society lecture and course notes	1982
14	"History of Developmental Theory" lectures/discussions	1895-1987
15	Postgraduate Center for Mental Health lecture	1987
16	Masculinity Conference lecture and notes	1987
17	Lecture notes	1974-1986
18	Lecture notes	1977-1980
19	Lecture notes	1987

**Box 3: Series II, Lectures, 1985-1988, n.d.**

**Folder:**

1	Freud Lecture papers	1988
2	Freud Lecture papers	1988
3	Male Adolescent lectures	1985-1988
4	Adolescent lectures	n.d.
5	Workshop notes	n.d.

6	History of Developmental Theory lectures/discussions	n.d.
7	Adolescent lectures by Alex Holder	n.d.
8	Miscellaneous notes	n.d.

**Box 3: Series III, Manuscripts, 1982-1986**

\*see also oversize materials in Box 12, 13

**Folder:**

9	“Son and Father” 2 <sup>nd</sup> draft	1982
10	“Son and Father” with introduction	1982
11	Vienna draft “Freud and the Father Complex”	1986
12	“Freud and the Father Complex” (German)	1986
13	“Freud and the Father Complex” English translation	1986

**Box 4: Series III, Manuscripts, 1983-1995, n.d.**

**Folder:**

1	“Freud and the Father Complex” translation	1986
2	“Freud and the Father Complex” draft (German)	n.d.
3	Autobiographical essay copy	1995
4	Autobiographical essay first typing	n.d.
5	Autobiographical essay “Memories”	n.d.
6	Autobiographical essay “Vienna Years,” annotated draft	n.d.
7	Autobiographical notes	n.d.
8	<i>Imago Mundi</i> , original-copyedited	1983-1993
9	<i>Imago Mundi</i> , draft and notes	1983-1993

10	<i>Imago Mundi</i> , draft and notes	1983-1993
11	<i>Imago Mundi</i> , draft and notes	1983-1993
12	<i>Imago Mundi</i> , draft and notes	1983-1993
13	“Modification in the Traditional Psychoanalytic Theory of Female Adolescent Development”	1980
14	“The Contribution of Psychoanalysis to the Psychotherapy of Adolescents”	1981

**Box 5: Series III, Manuscripts, 1966-1995, n.d.**

**Folder:**

1	“Maladaptive Behaviour” first draft	1968
2	“Maladaptive Behaviour” first draft	1968
3	“Maladaptive Behaviour” first draft typed	1968
4	“Maladaptive Behaviour” second draft	n.d.
5	“Maladaptive Behaviour” second draft	n.d.
6	“Maladaptive Behaviour” third draft	1968
7	“Maladaptive Behaviour” draft notes	n.d.
8	“Maladaptive Behaviour” draft notes	n.d.
9	“Maladaptive Behaviour” draft notes	n.d.
10	“Maladaptive Behaviour,” “Family Myth” notes	n.d.
11	Institute New York School “Maladaptive Behaviour” notes	n.d.
12	“Le Mot Juste” An Apercu	1995
13	“Old Age”	n.d.
14	“The Second Individuation Process of Adolescence,” edited copy	1966

15	Child Analysis Papers *removed "When Parents are Patients" to restricted materials	1993
16	"Fantasy and Reality in Psychoanalysis- Once Again" with notes	1993
17	"Romantic Love and the Adolescent Process"	1991

**Box 6: Series III, Manuscripts, 1974-1990, n.d.**

**Folder:**

1	Austen Riggs Center "The Place of the Adolescent Process in the Analysis of the Adult"	1988
2	"The Place of the Adolescent Process in the Analysis of the Adult"	1989
3	"About a Psychoanalytic Theory on Adolescence" draft	1987
4	"The Relevancy of the Adolescent Process for The Psychotherapy of the Adult" draft	n.d.
5	"The Place of Adolescence in the Psychoanalytic Theory of Neurosis" draft	1987
6	"The Place of the Adolescent Process in the Analysis of the Adult" draft	1988
7	Child Development	1974
8	<i>The Search for Samuel B.</i> , A Play by Eugene Mahon	1990

**Box 6: Series IV, Marta (Grone) Blos Correspondence, 1959-1960**

**Folder:**

9	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence ("Pa's Disease")	1959-1960
10	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence ("Pa's Disease")	1960-1960
11	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence ("Pa's Disease")	1960-1960
12	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence ("Pa's Disease")	1960-1960
13	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence ("Pa's Disease")	1960-1960



14	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence (“Pa’s Letters”)	1958-1950
15	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence (“Pa’s Letters”)	1959-1959
16	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence (“Pa’s Letters”)	1959-1960

**Box 7: Series IV, Marta (Grone) Blos Correspondence, 1957-1964, n.d.**

**Folder:**

1	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence (“Elsa/Pa’s Letters”)	1958-1959
2	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence (“Elsa/Pa’s Letters”)	1959-1960
3	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence	1957-1959
4	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence	1959-1962
5	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence	1962-1964
6	Marta (Grone) Blos correspondence	1964-1964
7	Marta (Grone) Blos, Otto Grone journal reprints	n.d.
8	Marta (Grone) Blos, miscellaneous	n.d.

**Box 7: Series V, Case Seminars, 1953-1963**

**Folder:**

9	Child Therapy Seminar on Technique	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	1953-1957
10	Child Therapy Seminar on Technique	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	1961-1962
11	Hawthorne Symposium on Female Delinquency		1959
12	Case discussions on acting out		1962
13	Case discussions miscellaneous		1963
14	Miscellaneous case seminars/discussions	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	1959-1963
15	New York Psychoanalytic Institute, Magruder Case Seminars	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	1960

16	New York Psychoanalytic Institute, Magruder Case Seminars	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	1960-1961
17	New York Psychoanalytic Institute, Esman Case Seminars	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	1961
18	New York Psychoanalytic Institute, Becker Case Seminars	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	1958-1961
19	New York Psychoanalytic Institute, Zavitzianos Case Seminars	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	1961-1962
20	New York Psychoanalytic Institute, Zavitzianos Case Seminars	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	n.d.
21	New York Psychoanalytic Institute, Furer Case Seminars	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	1961
22	Hawthorne case discussions	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	1957-1960
23	Montefiore Hospital Adolescent Case Discussion	<b>RESTRICTED</b>	1962

**Box 7: Series VI, Reprints, 1935-1975**

\*see also oversize materials in Box 13, folders 6-7

**Folder:**

24	Miscellaneous article reprints	1935-1948
25	Miscellaneous article reprints	1937-1958
26	Sigmund Freud House Catalogue	1975

**Box: 8 Series VI, Reprints, 1985-1991**

**Folder:**

1	<i>Journal Psychoanalysis</i> Seminar Zurich	1987
2	<i>International Journal of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy</i>	1987
3	Austen Riggs Center <i>International Review Psychoanalysis Journal</i>	1985-1991
4	<i>Association for Child Psychoanalysis Newsletter</i>	1990

**Box 8: Series VII, Certificates, 1934-1988**

\*see also oversize materials in Box 13, folder 8

**Folder:**

5	Certificates	1948-1966
6	Certificates	1934-1947
7	Certification	1958-1988

**Box 8: Series VIII, Miscellaneous, 1950-1993, n.d.**

\*see also oversize materials in Box 13

**Folder:**

8	The New School	1950
9	Book reviews, <i>The Young Adolescent</i>	1972
10	Book reviews, <i>The Young Adolescent</i>	1973
11	III Reunion, Mexico Pan-American Forum of Adolescence	1975
12	The American Psychoanalytic Association Psychoanalysis of the Young Adult	1984
13	Book reviews, <i>Son and Father</i>	1986
14	The Association of Child Psychoanalysis	1987
15	Austen Riggs Center	1988
16	Miscellaneous	1989
17	Interview transcript (German)	1993
18	Erik Erikson Memorial	1994
19	Book review, <i>Rensal The Redbit</i>	n.d.
20	Material on adolescence	n.d.
21	Material on adolescence	n.d.

22	Adolescent process notes	n.d.
23	Miscellaneous	n.d.

**Box 9: Series VIII, Miscellaneous, 1961-1963**

**Folders:**

1	Study trip - Europe journal	1963
2	Journals I and II	1961-1962
3	Journals III and IV	1962
4	Journals V and VI	1962-1963

**Box 10: Series VIII, Miscellaneous, 1963-1965**

\*see also oversize materials in Box 13, folders 9-10

**Folder:**

1	Journals VII and VIII	1963-1964
2	Journals X and XI	1965
3	Journal IX and Jerusalem conference notes	1964-1965
4	Student books (German), Meldungsbuch des Studierenden – Peter Blos, Universitat zu Wien (2 items)	1925

**Box 11: Series IX, Photographs 1990-1994**

**Folder:**

1	Photographs and negatives	1990
2	Vienna photograph album	1994

## Oversize materials

### Box 12: Series III, Manuscripts (legal size box)

#### Folder:

1. *The Young: A Game Show in Two Parts* (German), *Der Jungling Ein Schau-Spiel in 2 Bildern* n.d.
2. *Die Schenke ein aufzug, das Winzerfest ein Gedicht, Der Fischzu ein Spiel in Versen* (German) n.d.
3. Vienna Draft "Freud and the Father Complex" (German) 1986
4. "The Inner World of the Adolescent" 1985
5. "The Place of the Adolescent" draft 1987
6. "Reflections on Writing the Freud Lecture" 1988
7. "Freud and the Father Complex" draft (German) n.d.
8. "The Relevancy of the Adolescent Process for the Psychotherapy of the Adult" 1988

## Oversize Materials

### Box 13: Series III, Manuscripts (oversize flat box)

#### Folder:

1. "Son and Father" 4<sup>th</sup> draft 1982
2. "The Place of the Adolescent in the Analysis of the Adult" 1987
3. "The Contribution of Psychoanalysis to the Psychotherapy of Adolescents" draft n.d.
4. "The Place of Adolescence in the Theory of Neurosis" 2<sup>nd</sup> draft n.d.
5. "About a Psychoanalytic Theory on Adolescence" draft 1987

### Box 13: Series VI, Reprints

6. Miscellaneous article reprints n.d.

7      Miscellaneous article reprints      1955

**Box 13: Series VII: Certificates**

8      Certificates      1923-1994

**Box 13: Series VIII, Miscellaneous**

9      III Reunion, Mexico Pan-American Forum of Adolescence Map      1975

10     Newspapers      1991-1997

**Box 14: Restricted Materials**

        Restricted materials removed from Series V, Case Seminars, Box 7