

Ms.  
Coll.  
00629

Satin, Mark papers  
(1946- )  
Activist, Author, Political Theorist

Mark Satin papers

Gift of Mark Satin 2012

Extent: 2 boxes (0.5 metre)

Includes correspondence, documents and other material related to the activities of Mark Satin and the Toronto Anti-Draft Programme; Vietnam War resisters; the *Manual for Draft-Age Immigrants to Canada*.

Mark Satin retains all rights to his work.

**Note: Extra form required for use, available at Fisher Reference desk**

**Please see also the Jack Pocock Memorial papers, Ms. Coll. 00331 and the Anne Buttrick papers, Ms. Coll. 00385 for related materials**

Biographical information:

Excerpted from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia:

<http://www.radicalmiddle.com>

**Mark Ivor Satin** (born 16 November 1946) is an American political theorist, author, and newsletter publisher.

After emigrating to Canada at the age of 20, Satin co-founded the Toronto Anti-Draft Programme, which helped bring American Vietnam War resisters to Canada. He also wrote the *Manual for Draft-Age Immigrants to Canada* (1968), which sold nearly 100,000 copies. After a period that author Marilyn Ferguson describes as Satin's "anti-ambition experiment", Satin wrote *New Age Politics* (1979), which identifies an emergent "third force" in North America pursuing such goals as simple living, decentralism, and global responsibility. Satin spread his ideas by co-founding an American political organization, the New World Alliance, and by publishing an award-winning international political newsletter, *New Options*. He also co-drafted the foundational statement of the U.S. Green Party, "Ten Key Values".

After a period of political disillusion, spent mainly in law school and practicing business law, Satin launched a new political newsletter and wrote an award-winning book, *Radical Middle* (2004).

Many mid-1960s American radicals came from small cities in the Midwest and Southwest, as did Satin: he grew up in Moorhead, Minnesota, and Wichita Falls, Texas. His father, who saw combat in World War II, was a college professor and author of a Cold War-era textbook on Western civilization. His mother was a homemaker.

Ms.  
Coll.  
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(1946- )

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In early 1965, at age 18, he dropped out of the University of Illinois to work with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in Holly Springs, Mississippi. Later that year, he was told to leave Midwestern State University, in Texas, for refusing to sign a loyalty oath to the United States Constitution. In 1966 he became president of a Students for a Democratic Society chapter at the State University of New York at Binghamton, and helped induce nearly 20% of the student body to join. One term later he dropped out, then emigrated to Canada to avoid serving in the Vietnam War.

## **Toronto Anti-Draft Programme**

As 1967 began, many American pacifists and radicals did not look favorably on emigration to Canada as a means of resisting the Vietnam War. At first, Students for a Democratic Society and many Quaker draft counselors opposed promoting the Canadian alternative, and Canada's largest counseling group, the Anti-Draft Programme of the Student Union for Peace Action (SUPA)—whose board consisted largely of Quakers and radicals—was sympathetic to such calls for prudence. In January 1967 its spokesman warned an American audience that immigration was difficult and that the Programme was not willing to act as "baby sitters" for Americans after they arrived. He added that he was tired of talking to the press.

When Mark Satin was hired as director of the Programme in April 1967, he attempted to change its culture. His efforts continued after SUPA collapsed and he co-founded the Toronto Anti-Draft Programme, with largely the same board of directors, in October 1967.

Where the Programme once publicized the difficulties of immigration, Satin emphasized the competence of his draft counseling operation, and even told of giving cash to immigrants who were without funds. Instead of refusing to "baby sit" Americans after they arrived, Satin made post-emigration assistance a top priority. The office soon sported comfortable furniture, a hot plate, and free food; within a few months, 200 Torontonians had opened their homes to war resisters and a job-finding service had been established. Finally, rather than expressing indifference to reporters, Satin courted them, and many responded, beginning with a May 1967 article in *The New York Times Magazine* that included a large picture of Satin counseling Vietnam War resisters in the refurbished office.

The results of Satin's approach were noticeable: the Programme went from averaging fewer than three visitors, letters, and phone calls per day just before he arrived, to averaging 50 per day nine months later. In addition, the American anti-war movement became more accepting of emigration to Canada—for example, author Myra MacPherson reports that Satin's *Manual for Draft-Age Immigrants to Canada* could be obtained at every draft counseling office in the U.S. However, Satin's approach was distressing to the traditional pacifists and socialists on the Programme's board. The board clashed with Satin over at least 10 political, strategic, and performance issues. In May 1968, the board finally fired him.

### ***Manual for Draft-Age Immigrants to Canada***

Before Satin was fired, he conceived and wrote, and edited guest chapters for, the *Manual for Draft-Age Immigrants to Canada*, published in January 1968 by the House of Anansi Press in

Ms. Satin, Mark papers  
Coll. (1946- )  
00629 Activist, Author, Political Theorist

partnership with the Toronto Anti-Draft Programme. The Programme had issued brochures on emigration before – including a 12-page version under Satin's watch – but the *Manual* was different, a comprehensive, 45,000-word book, and it quickly turned into an "underground bestseller". Many years later, Toronto newspapers reported that nearly 100,000 copies of the *Manual* had been sold. One journalist calls it the "first entirely Canadian-published bestseller in the United States".

The Programme was initially hesitant about producing the *Manual*, which promised to draw even more war resisters and publicity to it. "The [board] didn't even want me to write it", Satin says. "I wrote it at night, in the SUPA office, three or four nights a week after counseling guys and gals 8 to 10 hours a day – pounded it out in several drafts over several months on SUPA's ancient Underwood typewriter." When it finally appeared, some leading periodicals helped put it on the map. For example, The New York Review of Books called it "useful", and *The New York Times* said it contains advice about everything from how to qualify as an immigrant to jobs, housing, schools, politics, culture, and even the snow. After the war, sociologist John Hagan found that more than a third of young American emigrants to Canada had read the *Manual* while still in the United States, and nearly another quarter obtained it after they arrived.

According to journalist Lynn Coady, the FBI and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) attempted to wiretap the House of Anansi Press's offices. In addition, Anansi co-founder Dave Godfrey is convinced a 10-day government audit of the press was generated by FBI-RCMP concerns. Many people did not want the Programme to encourage draft-eligible Americans to emigrate to Canada and Satin routinely denied that the *Manual* encouraged emigration.

Satin was fired from the Programme soon after the appearance of the second edition of the *Manual*, which had a print run of 20,000. His name was removed from the title page of most subsequent editions.

### ***Confessions of a Young Exile***

In the 1970s Satin wrote a memoir revealing many such memories as a neopacifist activist during the years 1964–66, *Confessions of a Young Exile*, published by Gage, a Toronto publishing house soon to merge with Macmillan of Canada.

### ***New Age Politics, the book***

After graduating from the University of British Columbia in 1972, Satin wrote, designed, typeset, and printed the first edition of *New Age Politics* himself, in 1976. A 240-page edition was published by Vancouver's Whitecap Books in 1978, and a 349-page edition by Dell Publishing Company in New York in 1979.

### ***New World Alliance***

After U.S. President Jimmy Carter pardoned Vietnam War resisters in 1977, Satin began giving talks on *New Age Politics* in the United States. His first talk received a standing ovation, and he wept. Every talk seemed to lead to two or three more, and "the response at New Age gatherings,

Ms.  
Coll.  
00629

Satin, Mark papers  
(1946- )  
Activist, Author, Political Theorist

community events, fairs, bookstores, living rooms, and college campuses" kept Satin going for two years. By the second year he began laying the groundwork for the New World Alliance, a national political organization based in Washington, D.C. "I went systematically to 24 cities and regions from coast to coast", he told the authors of the book *Networking*. "I stopped when I found 500 [accomplished] people who said they'd answer a questionnaire ... on what a New Age-oriented political organization should be like – what its politics should be, what its projects should be, and how its first directors should be chosen."

The New World Alliance convened its first "governing council" meeting in New York City in 1979. The 39-member council was chosen by the questionnaire-answerers themselves, out of 89 who volunteered to be on the ballot. Political scientist Arthur Stein describes the council as an eclectic collection of educators, feminists, businesspeople, futurists, think-tank fellows, and activists. Satin was named staff member of the Alliance.

### ***New Options Newsletter***

After four or five New World Alliance governing council meetings, Satin became tired of what he saw as empty rhetoric, and decided to do something practical – start a political newsletter. He raised \$91,000 to launch the venture, from 517 people he had met on his travels, and within a few years had built it into what think-tank scholar George Weigel described as "one of the hottest political newsletters in Washington. Satin published 75 issues of *New Options* from 1984 to 1992. He wrote nearly all the articles. In 1989 *New Options* received *Utne Reader's* first "Alternative Press Award for General Excellence: Best Publication from 10,000 to 30,000 Circulation". In 1990 The Washington Post identified *New Options* as one of 10 periodicals spearheading "The Ideology Shuffle". Twenty-five of its articles were published as a book by a university press.

Seminal thinker Jane Jacobs (1916–2006), Satin's hero in the early 1960s, became an advisor to *New Options*.

### ***Radical Middle Newsletter***

However, even after Satin entered New York University School of Law in 1992, he expressed no desire to abandon his project of helping to construct a post-liberal, post-Marxist ideology.

After graduating in 1995, Satin worked for a Manhattan law firm focusing on complex business litigation. He also wrote about financial and legal issues. With six former law school classmates, he began planning a political newsletter that could accommodate all he was learning about business and law. In 1998 he returned to Washington, D.C., to launch *Radical Middle Newsletter*.

### ***Radical Middle, the book***

Satin's book *Radical Middle: The Politics We Need Now*, published by Westview Press and Basic Books in 2004, attempts to present radical centrism as a political ideology. It received the "Best Book Award" for 2003 and 2004 from the Section on Ecological and Transformational Politics of the American Political Science Association.

Ms. Satin, Mark papers  
Coll. (1946- )  
00629 Activist, Author, Political Theorist

In 2006, at the age of 60, he moved from Washington, D.C., to the San Francisco Bay Area to reconcile with his father, from whom he had been estranged for 40 years. "With the perspective of time and experience," Satin told one reporter, "I can see [my father] was not altogether out to lunch." Later that year Satin discovered his only life partner. He describes it as "no accident".

In 2009 Satin revealed he was losing his eyesight as a result of macular edema and diabetic retinopathy. He stopped producing *Radical Middle Newsletter* but expressed a desire to write a final political book. From 2009 to 2011 he presented occasional guest lectures on "life and political ideologies" in peace studies classes at the University of California, Berkeley.

## Books

- *Radical Middle: The Politics We Need Now*, Basic Books, 2004, orig. Westview Press, 2004. Radical-centrist ideas presented as an integrated political ideology.
- *New Options for America: The Second American Experiment Has Begun*, The Press at California State University / Southern Illinois University Press, 1991. Twenty-five cover stories from Satin's *New Options Newsletter*.
- *New Age Politics: Healing Self and Society*, Delta Books / Dell Publishing Co., 1979. New Age political ideas presented as an integrated political ideology.
- *Confessions of a Young Exile*, Gage Publishing Co. / Macmillan of Canada, 1976. Memoir covering the years 1964–66.
- *Manual for Draft-Age Immigrants to Canada*, House of Anansi Press, 1968. Preserve oneself and change the world. Satin wrote Part One ("Applying") and solicited and edited the materials in Part Two ("Canada"). OCLC accessed 28 September 2011.

## Newsletters

- *Radical Middle Newsletter*, 120 issues, 1999–2009. Originally hard-copy only, now largely online. Newsletter accessed 17 April 2011, ISSN accessed 28 September 2011.
- *New Options Newsletter*, 75 issues, 1984–1992. Always hard-copy only and not online, but 25 cover stories are collected in Satin's *New Options for America* book. ISSN accessed 28 September 2011.

Box 1 64 folders	From binder 1, Toronto Anti-Draft Programme material, 1967-1968 Includes Mark Satin biographical material, press clippings and book references about Mark Satin, unpublished memoir  From binder 2, Toronto Anti-Draft Programme material, Mark Satin personal correspondence and documents, 1957-71, TADP work documents, March 1968 <i>Manual for Draft-Age Immigrants to Canada</i>
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Folder 1	About Mark Satin papers
Folder 2	Printout photograph of Mark Satin counseling in 1967, with AN
Folder 3	Mark Satin Wikipedia biography
Folder 4	'Satin's Memoir of Real Life at TADP' Unpublished word processed text
Folders 5-7	Press clippings and book excerpts about Satin at TADP, 1967
Folders 8-10	Press clippings, 1968
Folder 11	Clippings, 1970
Folder 12	Clippings, 1976
Folder 13	Clippings, 1977-1978
Folder 14	Clippings, 1990s
Folders 15-16	Clippings, 2000s
Folder 17	Explanatory notes by Mark Satin regarding 'binder 2'
Folder 18	Notes by Mark Satin regarding '15 Letters to TADP, 1967-68'
Folders 19-20	Letters to TADP, 1967, from potential immigrants
Folders 21-23	Letters to TADP, 1968, from potential immigrants
Folder 24	'Five Examples of Satin's TADP work documents' with notes by Mark Satin
Folders 25-27	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', with Mark Satin notes
Folder 28	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's

Ms.  
Coll.  
00629

Satin, Mark papers  
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Activist, Author, Political Theorist

	Life, 1957-71', including Ted Gold material
Folder 29	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', Dad to Mark, July 25, 1965, TLS
Folder 30	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', Jo Ellen Erzyb, ALS (formerly Jo Ellen Braveman)
Folder 31	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71'
Folder 32	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', 2 family letters to Mark Satin, ALS, November 25, 1966 and December 17, 1966, from Rome, Italy
Folder 33	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', Jo Ellen Braveman, ALS
Folder 34	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', Mark Satin emigration day documents, February 23, 1967
Folder 35	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', ALS, TLS from parents, March 1967
Folder 36	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', ALS, Jo Ellen Braveman, April 25, 1967
Folder 37	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', ALS, mother, May 10, 1967
Folder 38	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', ALS, Jo Ellen Braveman, May 1967
Folder 39	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71' TLS, Ruth Herring, June 4, 1967
Folder 40	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', Mark Satin to editor, <i>The New</i>

Ms.  
Coll.  
00629

Satin, Mark papers  
(1946- )  
Activist, Author, Political Theorist

	<i>York Times Magazine</i> , TL
Folder 41	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', statement by Mark Satin, June 18, 1967, typescript, written for Clay Ruby and Vince Kelly, TADP lawyers
Folder 42	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', copies of print/press
Folder 43	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', ALS Wynell Cox, August 19, 1967
Folder 44	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', TLS, Fall 1967, Charlie Tabasko
Folder 45	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', blank cheque, with the names ' Mr. Mark Satin or Mrs. Cynthia Heather Satin'
Folder 46	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', ALS, January 27, 1968, Wynell Cox
Folder 47	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', 'Now in November: American Draft Dodgers/Exiles in Toronto'
Folder 48	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', TLS, Eugene Thomas, early 1968
Folder 49	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', TLS, Ben Drake, June 3, 1968
Folder 50	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', TLS, Dad, July 6, 1968
Folder 51	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', ALS, Diane (sister), July 18, 1968



Ms.  
Coll.  
00629

Satin, Mark papers  
(1946- )  
Activist, Author, Political Theorist

Folder 52	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', 'Love Generation' by Heather Dean, Fall 1968
Folder 53	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', TLS, Bernard Jaffe, TADP, December 3, 1968
Folder 54	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', ALS, Kathy Noell, February 1969
Folder 55	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', long ALS, Mom, March 10, 1969
Folder 56	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', Aunt Fay and Uncle in New York City, ALS, March 16, 1969
Folder 57	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', ALS, Karen Livingston, Spring 1969
Folder 58	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', holograph first draft of essay on Vancouver history, Spring 1969
Folder 59	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', long TLS, Heather Dean, December 1969
Folder 60	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', long TLS to parents (not sent), January 22, 1970, from Rochdale
Folder 61	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', Heather Dean, long ALS to husband of Kathy Noells, mid-1970, from Rochdale
Folder 62	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', TLS, Dad, late December 1970
Folder 63	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's

Ms.  
Coll.  
00629

Satin, Mark papers  
(1946- )  
Activist, Author, Political Theorist

	Life, 1957-71', TLS, Dad, December 29, 1970
Folder 64	'50 Letters and Other Documents from Satin's Life, 1957-71', long ALS, Heather Dean, February 1971
Box 2 23 folders and 2 items in box	Binders 3 and 4, material related to the 'New Age Politics'
Folder 1	Biographical information
Folder 2	Memoir of Writing 'New Age Politics' and beginning of tour
Folder 3	'Five Documents Satin Used to Promote or Spread "New Age Politics"'
Folders 4-8	'50 Press Clips and Book Excerpts about "New Age Politics"'
Folders 9-12	'50 Documents from Satin's Talks and Workshops on "New Age Politics"'
Folders 13-16	'50 Letters and other Documents from Satin's Life, 1972-79'
Folder 17	Sweden appearance poster
Folder 18	<i>Manual for Draft-Age Immigrants to Canada.</i> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition, March 1968, with typescript note by Mark Satin pasted on cover
Folder 19	<i>Manual for Draft-Age Immigrants to Canada.</i> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition, March 1968, with typescript note by Mark Satin pasted on cover, enlarged photocopy version
Folder 20	<i>New Age Politics: the Emerging New Alternative to Liberalism and Marxism.</i> 1977, 4 <sup>th</sup> printing, with typescript note by Mark Satin on cover

Ms.  
Coll.  
00629

Satin, Mark papers  
(1946- )  
Activist, Author, Political Theorist

Folder 21	<i>New Age Politics: the Emerging New Alternative to Liberalism and Marxism.</i> 1977, 4 <sup>th</sup> printing, enlarged photocopy version, with typescript note by Mark Satin on cover

1. Item in box: *New Age Politics Healing Self and Society: the emerging new alternative to Marxism and Liberalism.* 1978 Canadian edition. Typescript note by Mark Satin taped to front cover.
2. Item in box: *New Age Politics Healing Self and Society.* 1979 U.S. edition. Typescript note by Mark Satin taped to front cover.