

**Duke University
Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library
Researcher Agreement**

Acknowledgement of legal responsibilities and privacy rights

By my signature below, I affirm that I have read, understand, and agree to the following conditions:

- For the security of the materials, the library will retain in perpetuity a record of the materials I have requested for use. It is the policy of the University Library that the privacy of all users in regard to circulation records will be respected in compliance with federal and state laws and professional standards.
- In consulting 20th and 21st century collections I may have access to records and personal writings of living individuals whose privacy rights and/or literary and copyrights must be respected. Unpublished as well as published writings are protected by copyright. Materials such as private legal records, counseling records, student and faculty records and information, job candidate information, letters of recommendation, employment records, certain congressional papers, professional dream interpretation, and medical records may all be protected by law or by third-party privacy rights.

Living individuals have a legally enforceable right to privacy and release of personally identifiable information contained in archival collections may give rise to liability (e.g., for defamation of character or invasion of privacy). I acknowledge that the use of names of living individuals or other personally identifiable information from any of the above kinds of protected materials in anything I write, publish in any form, exhibit, or broadcast is prohibited without their consent.

- Duke University and the Duke University Libraries assume no responsibility for infringement of literary property rights and copyright, or for liability to any person for defamation or invasion of privacy that results from my use of Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library collections.

Signed _____ **Date** _____

Print Name: _____