

# Guide to the Robert Lane and Dana Ward Interview Transcripts on Political Ideology

MS 2121



compiled by Michelle Wickham

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 2121

**CREATOR:** Lane, Robert Edwards

**TITLE:** Robert Lane and Dana Ward interview transcripts on political ideology

**DATES:** Circa 1958-1978

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3.33 linear feet (8 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English (Latin script)

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists of transcripts of interviews conducted by Robert E. Lane in the 1950s for his book, "Political Ideology: Why the American Common Man Believes What He Does," and transcripts of follow-up interviews conducted by Dana Ward in the 1970s for his dissertation "Ideology and Generations: An Intergenerational Restudy of Robert Lane's Political Ideology." Lane interviewed fifteen New Haven working class men about their political and social views and Ward, then a student of Lane's at Yale University, interviewed children of those men twenty years later. The transcripts are anonymized and filed by interviewee number.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.2121>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.2121>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Dana Ward, 2021.

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### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright has been transferred to Yale University for the words of Dana Ward in this collection. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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### Preferred Citation

Robert Lane and Dana Ward Interview Transcripts on Political Ideology (MS 2121). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Robert E. Lane, American political scientist and political psychologist, was born August 19, 1917 in Philadelphia and died in December of 2017. He was the Eugene Meyer Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Yale University and a fellow of both the British Academy and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was also a research associate at Yale's Institution for Social and Policy Studies. Robert Lane was an advocate for behavioralism as an approach to the study of political science.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection consists of transcripts of interviews conducted by Robert E. Lane in the 1950s for his book, "Political Ideology: Why the American Common Man Believes What He Does," and transcripts of follow-up interviews conducted by Dana Ward in the 1970s for his dissertation "Ideology and Generations: An Intergenerational Restudy of Robert Lane's Political Ideology." Lane interviewed fifteen New Haven working class men about their political and social views and Ward, then a student of Lane's at Yale University, interviewed children of those men twenty years later. Interview questions generally pertain to the subject's views on the United States economy, foreign policy, political leaders, race relations, and their own personal work and family life. The transcripts are anonymized and filed by interviewee number.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged under the following headings: Robert E. Lane interview transcripts and Dana Ward interview transcripts. The folders are arranged therein by interviewee number.

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## Collection Contents

### Robert E. Lane interview transcripts

b. 1, f. 1-2	Interviewee 1	1958
b. 1, f. 3-4	Interviewee 2	1958
b. 1, f. 5-6	Interviewee 3	1958
b. 1, f. 7-8	Interviewee 4	1958
b. 2, f. 1-2	Interviewee 5	1958
b. 2, f. 3-4	Interviewee 6	1958
b. 2, f. 5	Interviewee 7	1958
b. 2, f. 6-7	Interviewee 8	1958
b. 3, f. 1	Interviewee 9	1958
b. 3, f. 2	Interviewee 10	1958
b. 3, f. 3-4	Interviewee 11	1958
b. 3, f. 5-6	Interviewee 12	1958
b. 4, f. 1-2	Interviewee 13	1958
b. 4, f. 3-4	Interviewee 14	1958
b. 4, f. 5-6	Interviewee 15	1958
b. 4, f. 7	Index	Undated

### Dana Ward interview transcripts

The folder for interviewee 25 is missing from this series.

b. 5, f. 1	Interviewee 1	Circa 1978
b. 5, f. 2	Interviewee 2	Circa 1978
b. 5, f. 3	Interviewee 3	Circa 1978
b. 5, f. 4	Interviewee 4	Circa 1978
b. 5, f. 5	Interviewee 5	Circa 1978
b. 5, f. 6	Interviewee 6	Circa 1978
b. 5, f. 7	Interviewee 7	Circa 1978
b. 5, f. 8	Interviewee 8	Circa 1978
b. 6, f. 1	Interviewee 9	Circa 1978
b. 6, f. 2	Interviewee 10	Circa 1978

b. 6, f. 3	Interviewee 11	Circa 1978
b. 6, f. 4	Interviewee 12	Circa 1978
b. 6, f. 5	Interviewee 13	Circa 1978
b. 6, f. 6-7	Interviewee 14	Circa 1978
b. 6, f. 8	Interviewee 15	Circa 1978
b. 6, f. 9	Interviewee 16	Circa 1978
b. 7, f. 1	Interviewee 17	Circa 1978
b. 7, f. 2	Interviewee 18	Circa 1978
b. 7, f. 3	Interviewee 19	Circa 1978
b. 7, f. 4	Interviewee 20	Circa 1978
b. 7, f. 5	Interviewee 21	Circa 1978
b. 7, f. 6	Interviewee 22	Circa 1978
b. 8, f. 1	Interviewee 23	Circa 1978
b. 8, f. 2	Interviewee 24	Circa 1978
b. 8, f. 3	Interviewee 26	Circa 1978
b. 8, f. 4	Interviewee 27	Circa 1978
b. 8, f. 5	Interviewee 28	Circa 1978
b. 8, f. 6	Interviewee 29	Circa 1978
b. 8, f. 7	Interviewee 30	Circa 1978

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Geographic Names**

United States -- Foreign policy  
United States -- Politics and government

### **Subjects**

Communism -- 20th Century  
Economic policy  
International relations -- 1950-1980  
Labor unions  
Labor -- United States -- Case studies  
Political science  
Political science -- Study and teaching  
Race relations -- United States  
Working class  
Working class -- United States -- Case studies

### **Names**

Lane, Robert Edwards  
Ward, Dana

### **Contributors**

Lane, Robert Edwards  
Ward, Dana