

Untold stories of the protests

- Even people who were there cannot agree on how long the sit-in lasted and how many occupiers were in the building.
- The key role of lesbians and radical organizations like the Black Panther Party has only recently begun to emerge.
- Women wheelchair riders led the San Francisco Section 504 protest.
- Many nondisabled allies helped inside the building.
- Many disabled people thought the San Francisco protesters were too radical and believed it was wiser to work within the system.
- A lot of HEW employees supported the protest.
- Some occupiers got past the Federal security guards with relative ease; a few even snuck off for showers or to the beach!
- Deaf people participated in the sit-in but the Deaf community has mixed feelings about the Section 504 regulations as mainstreaming in education threatens Deaf language and culture.