Many things were changing on campus during these two decades, but rules and regulations for females that appear amazingly restrictive to modern readers remained in force in the residence halls. Women students had gained a voice though, and provided some of the supervision in the dorms. Though groups such as the Women’s Resident Students League and the Women’s Judicial Board, they were also able to elect their own representatives to make recommendations on rules and regulations which governed dormitory students’ lives and decisions concerning possible violations of such rules.

Rules

Examples of the rules which governed female students’ lives can be found in the *Cue Student Handbooks* from the 1950s. They included scheduled time for meals, study, and even lights out, and it was not unheard of for students to be discovered studying with a flashlight under the covers. They had to sign out when leaving campus for a weekend or a holiday and freshmen even needed written permission from their parents to go home for the weekend. [http://libs0400.acadlib.iup.edu/depts/speccol/exhibits/studenthandbook/cue1956-57.pdf](http://libs0400.acadlib.iup.edu/depts/speccol/exhibits/studenthandbook/cue1956-57.pdf)

When they went anywhere, students had to return to the dorms by a certain hour unless they called and notified the Dean of Women that they would be late – delayed buses, inclement weather, broken down cars, illnesses notwithstanding.
Phone access was shared by many, and women had to take their turns at phone proctor duty watching the phones to make certain no one talked for too long. Freshmen’s lives were the most regulated. They were not allowed out of their rooms after 11:00 pm, could only take showers until a certain hour, and had study hours from 7-9 pm.

Women had to make their beds before noon daily and were never allowed in male students' apartments. Slacks and shorts were forbidden in offices, to classes, to evening meals or to Sunday dinner. They could not even be worn in the Library, which was considered a classroom, or on a trip downtown. Women were not allowed to be seen in public lounges in bathrobes or curlers and women were not allowed to sunbathe on campus grounds, and of course “no intoxicating beverages” were allowed. Smoking (an unhealthy privilege won during the war) was permitted, but only in lounges specifically designed for that purpose.

**Discipline**

The Women’s Judicial Board was an elected group of female students that made decisions on alleged violations of rules. Cases were brought before them and they would assign black marks to students who they found in violation.

Judicial Board minutes from 1951 show black marks given for students who are late returning from weekends at home, even when they had car trouble or for taking showers at prohibited times. Women were called in because
someone smelled smoke around their room to determine if they had been smoking or for making “excessive noise.” When a certain number of black marks had been accumulated, the violator was condemned to a “strict campus,’ which meant they could not leave their room all weekend. This was given to one woman who had returned late from a date.

Female students were not always satisfied with the system, particularly towards the end of the period. The records of the Women’s Judicial Board include a letter dated April 5, 1965, from freshmen Lois Lutz and Mary Radvan. They lodged a protest against the rules themselves and the manner in which they were enforced, condemning the Boards for enforcing what the writers considered to be “ridiculous rules” but then “ignoring more serious affairs.” The Judicial Board’s response was to invite them in to discuss it.