

Censorship And The American Library The American Library Ociations Response To Threats To Intellect Freedom 1939 1969 Contrtions In Librarianship And Information Science

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[First Amendment and Censorship | Advocacy, Legislation](#)

Censorship and the American Library: The American Library Association's Response to Threats to Intellectual Freedom, 1939-1969 (Contributions in Librarianship and Information Science) by Louise Robbins (Author)

[Amazon.com: Censorship and the American Library: The](#)

Even if a challenge seems to involve a book, Doyle warns against subtler forms of censorship in school libraries, such as authors who find their topics or audiences limited by administrators and the urge to anticipate controversy and self-censor.

[Censorship Beyond Books | American Libraries Magazine](#)

One early incident concerning censorship, involving a substantial number of librarians, occurred in 1924 when the Librarians' Union of the American Federation of Labor reported that Carnegie Libraries fostered "a system under which only books approved in a certain manner may be placed on Carnegie Library shelves and that amounts to censorship and is so intended."

[Intellectual Freedom and the American Library Association](#)

Censorship of information is an issue that has been plaguing libraries for decades (Emery, 1994; Oppenheim & Smith, 2004), and is an issue the profession of librarianship still faces today.

CENSORSHIP IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Before 1960, most censorship in the United States was also carried out by the government, both federal and local, and related mainly to obscenity, blasphemy and sedition. Although not consistently enforced, censorship laws were an impediment to the free circulation of ideas (ALA, 1986, p. 81).

[Censorship and the Public Librarian](#)

Censorship is something every librarian has to be aware of when developing their collection and I wrote about this and about our challenged materials policy in my post Developing a Library Collection. The Online Dictionary of Library and Information Science (as cited in Givens, 2009, p. 22) defines censorship as the "prohibition of the productions, distribution, circulation, or display of a work by a governing authority on grounds that it contains objectionable or dangerous material."

[Censorship and Developing a Library Collection | Getting](#)

The American Library Association urges librarians to think of the dangers to democracy as a result of censorship by maintaining the position that "freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions and enables change to come by choice.

[Librarians Beware: Self-Censorship | Intellectual Freedom Blog](#)

What is the difference between a challenge, banning and censorship? From the American Library Association's website: "A challenge is an attempt to remove or restrict materials, based upon the objections of a person or group. A banning is the removal of those materials. Challenges do not simply involve a person expressing a point of view; rather, they are an attempt to remove material from the curriculum or library, thereby restricting the access of others."

[Banned... or censored? | Banned Books & Censorship](#)

Censors pressure public institutions, like libraries, to suppress and remove from public access information they judge inappropriate or dangerous, so that no one else has the chance to read or view the material and make up their own minds about it. The censor wants to prejudice materials for everyone. How Does Censorship Happen?

[Intellectual Freedom and Censorship Q & A | Advocacy](#)

Book censorship is the removal, suppression, or restricted circulation of literary, artistic, or educational material "of images, ideas, and information " on the grounds that these are morally or otherwise objectionable in the light of standards applied by the censor. Censorship is "the regulation of speech and other forms of expression by an entrenched authority".

[Book censorship in the United States | Wikipedia](#)

The American Library Association opposes any use of government prerogatives which leads to the intimidation of the individual or the citizenry from the exercise of free expression. ALA encourages resistance to such abuse of government power, and supports those against whom such governmental power has been employed.

[Libraries and Censorship, by Karen Coyle](#)

Louise S. Robbins, Associate Professor and Director, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, is author of Censorship and the American Library: The American Library Association's Response to Threats to Intellectual Freedom, 1939-1969.

[The Dismisal of Miss Ruth Brown: Civil Rights, Censorship](#)

The American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom assists libraries facing censorship threats or "book challenges." Banned Books Week helps raise public awareness of the ongoing threats to intellectual freedom.

[Love Libraries](#)

The National Coalition Against Censorship joins with the American Library Association Office of Intellectual Freedom in opposing a proposed bill in Missouri that threatens the freedom to read in the state's public libraries.

[Proposed Library Legislation in Missouri Threatens Freedom](#)

Censorship. The American Library Association promotes the freedom to choose or the freedom to express one's opinions even if that opinion might be considered unorthodox or unpopular and stresses the importance of ensuring the availability of those viewpoints to all who wish to read them. Next: Finding Books & Media >>.

[Home | ENG 152: Censorship | LibGuides at McHenry County](#)

1x More than 480 books were challenged or banned in libraries, schools and universities across the country in 2018, according to the American Library Association, which organizes the annual Banned Books Week to highlight the threat of censorship.

[Banned Books: Librarians Push Back Against Censorship](#)

"The Lincoln Parish Library regards censorship as a purely individual matter and holds that while anyone is free to personally reject materials that they may consider offensive, one cannot exercise..."

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