7-20-2009

ALA Change-Agents Seek Local Control of Public Libraries

Dan Kleinman

Follow this and additional works at: http://dc.uwm.edu/west_bend_library_challenge

Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

Recommended Citation
http://dc.uwm.edu/west_bend_library_challenge/326

This Blog Post is brought to you for free and open access by UWM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in West Bend Community Memorial Library (Wisconsin), 2009 by an authorized administrator of UWM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact kristinw@uwm.edu.
Monday, July 20, 2009

ALA Change-Agents Seek Local Control of Public Libraries

The American Library Association [ALA] has been directly targeting local communities for so long that it no longer hides its goals: "Members of the American Library Association are change-agents within their communities." This from the ALA's "MemberBlog" mission statement.

Excuse me? ALA members are "change-agents within their communities"? Previously, voting citizens were the "change-agents." No longer, I guess.

"From public to academic to school to research and special libraries, ALA members have an immediate, dynamic impact on the quality of life in a community...."

You can say that again.

- Like the library director in Holyoke, MA, covering the tracks of the child porn viewer.
- Like the library director in Sonoma County, CA, defying the local grand jury with false "slippery slope" arguments.
- Like the library director in Roswell, NM, recommending porn for children.
- Like the library director in West Bend, WI, refusing to respond to the library's own material reconsideration policy.
- Like the library director in Burlington, IA, misleading the public about Internet filters.
- Like the library director in Staunton, VA, claiming WiFi cannot be monitored.
- Like the library director in Royal Oak, MI, lying to stop Internet filters despite the library's own policy.
- Like the library director in Oak Lawn, IL, telling other library directors how to manipulate the media until the "storm" blows over.
- Like the library director in San Francisco, CA, getting caught (by an investigative team) lying about how "privacy screens" work.

Claim ALA rules control local communities,
Refuse to call the police,
Get angry when librarians call the police on porn viewers,
Apply ALA propaganda in local communities,
Claim forgetting reports of child pornography,
Are themselves child molesters.
Mislead the library board,
Are not sure how porn got past the selection process,
Seek to lift R rated movie restrictions.

They are having "an immediate, dynamic impact on the quality of life in a community." But what kind? And these people are supposed to be "change-agents within their communities"?

Quick poll. Is this what you want for your community?