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# ALA Change-Agents Seek Local Control of Public Libraries

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# Monday, July 20, 2009

## ALA Change-Agents Seek Local Control of Public Libraries

### MEMBER BLOG

Members of the American Library Association are change-agents within their communities. 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; on successful student learning outcomes; on the sustainability of critical engagements with the past and the extending access to tools for charting a new future; and on the usefulness of work/life in every field of human endeavor. And this blog would like to show them off.

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,](#)
- Like the library directors who:

[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?