11-24-2013

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Why the American Library Association Wants Porn in Libraries

- Posted by National Director, Dee on November 24, 2013 at 5:47am in Corruption
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On November 18, a large group of people assembled to have their say at the Orland Park Public Library’s board meeting. Most were there because of the library’s policy that allows unfiltered access to any kind of porn or illegal material (including child porn). Not only concerned citizens showed up: three representatives from the American Library Association (ALA) and the president of the Illinois Library Association (ILA) were also there.

The two ALA lawyers who spoke (despite the library’s own policy of only allowing one speaker per group) defended the library’s decision to offer unfiltered access while never mentioning the specifics of what that really means: access to bestiality, identity theft, pedophiles accessing children online via chat rooms, and much more.

Many people have asked how is it possible that public libraries defend men watching porn near children as if the library is some sort of adult theater without dark curtains or an age limit. The ALA’s answer is: “freedom of information.” All information is equal, valid, and necessary for human consumption regardless of age.

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