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Look For the Union Label at the ALA

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Friday, February 25, 2011

Look For the Union Label at the ALA



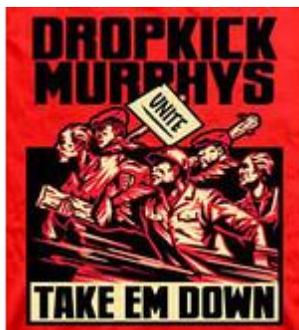
The American Library Association [ALA], ever jumping into non-library issues, has [joined the jihad](#), fretted about [fried librarian giblets](#), touted the "[public option](#)" in health care, advocated for "[gay marriage](#)," [secretly promoted net neutrality](#), and is currently [pushing in public schools a George Soros curriculum for school-aged children](#)—and I called the head of the ALA section responsible for this and she had no clue who created the curriculum she is promoting.

Now the ALA [supports public sector unions](#) seeking to retain their huge benefits at public expense despite many states being broke precisely because of these benefits. For a historical perspective, perhaps the ALA should read:

- "[Public Unions Must Go; A Death Knell for Government Unions? If Only](#)," by **Jonah Goldberg**, *National Review*, 23 February 2011
- "[Even FDR Understood: No Collective Bargaining for Public Servants; There is No Legitimate Role for Government Unions](#)," by **Peter Ferrara**, *Pajamas Media*, 23 February 2011

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, for example, has said, "[The second big issue we must tackle this year is our antiquated and unsustainable pension and benefit system. Nearly 75 percent—3 out of every 4 dollars—of our State's municipal and county budgets are driven by personnel and labor costs.](#)"

The ALA supports "standing up for workers' rights" nonetheless:



CHICAGO - As thousands protest proposed collective bargaining legislation in Wisconsin, Michigan and Indiana, American Library Association (ALA) President Roberta Stevens released the following statement in support of those standing up for workers' rights.

“While governments are facing financial challenges, addressing deficits should not serve as an opportunity to strip away the hard-won right of workers to collectively bargain,” said Stevens.

“As library visits continue to soar, with job seekers and families turning to our libraries to gain new skills and free access to education resources, the value of library service and staff should be recognized and protected.

“The ALA supports library employees in seeking equitable compensation and recognizes the principle of collective bargaining as an important element of successful labor-management relations. We affirm the right of employees to organize and bargain collectively with their employers, without fear of reprisal. These are basic workers' rights that we defend for thousands of academic, public and school library professionals.”

The American Library Association is the voice of America's libraries and the millions of people who depend on them. With more than 63,000 members, the ALA is the oldest and largest library association in the world and represents all types of libraries and librarians.

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Source: "[American Library Association President Roberta Stevens on Proposed Collective Bargaining Legislation](#)," by **Macey Morales**, *American Library Association*, 24 February 2011.



Joyce Latham

Just to be clear this has nothing to do with libraries, commenter **Joyce M. Latham** said, "[GOOD to see ALA take a position on worker rights and labor action. Joyce M. Latham.](#)" This is Joyce M. Latham from Wisconsin, specifically from the [School of Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee](#). This is the same [propagandist who misled a local Wisconsin community to give up legal means to protect children from harm in West Bend, WI.](#)

Just to be clear this is the ALA backing unions, "CyberGoddess" and ALA Councilor-at-Large **Sue Kamm** said, "[Former Councilor Ruth Gordon is wondering why ALA hasn't made a statement about the union-busting tactics in Wisconsin. So do I. \(Wonder, that is.\) If this is a statement that should properly come before ALA/APA, how do we get something started? Enquiring minds want to know.](#)" This was days before the ALA President's statement.

As **Andrew McCarthy** put it, the "[Left has demonstrated to an appalled country just how ugly they intend to make things — thug leaders calling for blood in the street, the Nazi/Mubarak/Mussolini rhetoric, lawmakers abdicating their duty and shutting down the legislative process when they can't get their way.](#)" By supporting the unions, the supposedly free speech ALA is implicitly supporting anti-semitism, assault, free speech violations, and "sheer hatred" by union thugs:



Tabitha Hale.

Christian. American. Capitalist.

- "["That's Assault!": Union Protester Whacks Young FreedomWorks Activist,](#)" by **Meredith Jessup**, *TheBlaze*, 24 February 2011.
- "["Video: CWA Union Thug Strikes Young Female FreedomWorks Activist; Updated"](#)", by **Michelle Malkin**, *Michelle Malkin*, 23 February 2011.
- "["Union Thuggery Descends On FreedomWorks,](#)" by **Tabitha Hale**, *RedState*, 23 February 2011.
- "["Bad Jew,"](#) by **FreedomWorksAction**, *YouTube*, 23 February 2011.

["The people driving this train, and driving us into bankruptcy, are left-wing activists whose power hinges on maintaining this perverse system in which unions effectively sit on both sides of the negotiations, passing piles of public money over and under the table."](#) The ALA, siding with unions in yet another left-wing, non-library issue, has placed itself in the driver's seat.

Look for the union label at the ALA.

NOTE ADDED 25 FEBRUARY 2011:

Joyce M. Latham has responded (to all) to a courtesy email I sent to her and all other people named in this blog post as follows: "Worker rights are human rights and libraries are, first and

foremost, about human rights. It's good to see ALA weigh in on this. My heart-felt congratulations to Roberta Stevens."

Roberta Stevens replied (to all) as follows: "Thanks, Joyce."