

Letters To The Editor

To The Editor

Many Bartlesville parents are still sincerely concerned about the possibility that their children are being exposed to subversive literature in the public library. Recently you suggested that some literature was dangerous to immature minds, and that it ought to be locked up and given out only to adults. The idea is reasonable, but it immediately brings up the problem of how to determine what should be locked up.

May I suggest that the following kinds of literature should be restricted:

(1) Publications of any organization listed as subversive by the Attorney General.

(2) Publications sponsored by the Soviet government, by any Communist satellite country, or by the former Nazi and Fascist regimes of Germany and Italy.

(3) Any literature which advocates violent overthrow of the government, or any other illegal actions, or promotes atheism or hatred of any racial or religious groups.

(4) Source materials of subversive and hate - promoting movements, such as the "Communist Manifesto", "Mein Kampf", or "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion".

Of course, the library does not have much that would fall into these classifications, suggesting a broad plan to take care of any development.

The selection of material to be restricted should be made first by the librarian and library board. If anyone wishes to protest the restriction of any literature or wishes to advocate restriction of any literature, he should submit specific reasons to the library board in writing. It seems a very reasonable idea that such person should also be willing to sign a statement that he does not belong to a subversive or hate - promoting organization or is not acting in behalf of such organization.

Very truly yours,
Robert W. Manuel
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