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1) Censorship in libraries occurs in many ways. The first that I shall discuss is censorship imposed by members or organizations within the community that a particular library serves. Many times, these groups or individuals threaten librarians with harassment or they steal the books from the shelves themselves. To effectively deal with pressure from such people, librarians should develop "reconsideration policies" and include them in their overall collection development policies. By doing this, librarians are able to protect themselves and assure the complainants that their complaints are taken seriously. Too many times, no such policies are ever written, and the would be censors succeed in forcing librarians to remove the materials they don't approve of.

A second kind of censorship is imposed on librarians themselves. Very often personal bias overrides the need to be objective in developing collections. For instance, a librarian with a particular political point of view may inadvertently order ^{only} materials that he/she agrees with. This form of censorship is very subtle and difficult to control because most librarians don't realize they are engaging in this kind of censorship.

A third kind of censorship occurs with regards to children and their access to adult materials. Many ^{public} libraries across the country contain locked book cases or materials available only upon request. This practice violates the fifth article of the Library Bill of Rights which states that access to materials shall not be denied to a

person because, among other factors, of his or her age. In the ALA's Library of Rights interpretations, it states that librarians don't have the right to act as a child's parents when showing appropriate materials.

Only the parents themselves can restrict what a child reads.

Finally, another subtle form of censorship occurs when librarians use only the reviewing sources of the trade such as Booklist and the Wilson Library Bulletin to decide whether or not to purchase materials. Many books and other materials never get reviewed on such sources and are thus never acquired by libraries. This very unfortunate practice happens all too often. For example, many books on religion are never reviewed and thus never ordered. Yet there

exists a thriving publishing industry
in such materials.

25 2. There are several factors that need
to be considered regarding the identified
needs of present patrons versus those
potential needs of present + future
patrons. The most obvious and im-
portant factor has to do with
a library's funding resources. If
a library can't even afford to do
a community analysis, it sure isn't
going to be able to expand its collection
to meet the potential needs of
its user + target groups. A community
analysis would be necessary to as-
ertain who are the potential
users. Another important factor is
where the funding comes from. If it
comes from the tax base of the

community, then ^{the library} has a duty to serve the entire community, not just the user population. Another factor that is important to consider is the goals of the library as an institution. Depending on the type of library, each should have its own collection development policy and mission statement which define what its purposes are. In an academic library for example, it would be very important for librarians to keep track of what is happening in respective fields of study of the school it serves. To be effective the library should keep on top of the current + potential trends in each field.

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3.

One trend in book publishing which is occurring is the increased use of electronic publishing. For academic libraries this has very profound implications. First of all, electronic publishing encompasses a entirely different format than the usual monograph or book. The use of databases, computers and all their respective components has to be dealt with. In the natural sciences much is already being done with electronic publishing. Scholars are even using computers to write, discuss and share their work. Academic librarians must decide whether it is important enough to spend their already limited funds on such things as databases, computer terminals etc. in lieu of book format?

Another trend which is occurring

in the publishing industry that affects academic libraries is that because of the expense entailed in publishing, many publishers are only producing works that are written by respected authors. Those who are new to a field are having an increasingly more difficult time getting their works published. One of the consequences of this phenomena is that a lot of good scholarship is being ignored by the major presses, and consequently new writers are turning to non-conventional means of getting their works published. In terms of its effect on academic libraries, this means that librarians in such institutions will have to use a lot more care + ingenuity in searching for materials worth acquiring. More work on their part will be needed.

4. in finding such resources

13 4. and programs offered.

Many academic libraries survey what is being taught in the classrooms of their respective institutions, and they also take into account who is teaching in these institutions. For example here at the U of A, because one of the foremost scholars on the Reformation is working here, the collection development policy is being revised to make room for more materials on the subject. Another way academic libraries handle assessment of needs is by soliciting book lists from professors + students. Researchers here also are able to give lists of needed materials to librarians. Generally, using the above criteria, librarians

research interests

~~the~~ the subject approach
exists regardless of whether or not
a policy exists.

assign code numbers to the
different subject areas covered
in their collection development
policies, if they have one. Generally,
these range from comprehensive
collection development to basic
collection development.

librarians use information about programs offered
in order to make decisions regarding scope +
depth of collection. For example, they would
make decisions differently if the Reformation
scholar was only going to offer several
courses in an area as opposed to a
masters or Ph.D in that area.