

Resolution in Support of the Freedom to Read

The First Amendments's protection of freedom of speech and freedom of the press is hollow without the concomitant freedom to read. And contrary to the assertion made by US Assistant Attorney General Daniel Bryant, Americans should not "surrender their right of privacy when they buy books in bookstores or borrow them from libraries."

Subpoenas for searching the records of Booksellers and Libraries should not be granted without the showing of evidence for need.

We, therefore, join the faculty of Stanford University and other colleges and universities throughout the United States in calling upon our Administration and on executive and legislative leaders of the government of the United States "to work together to ensure that governmental actions against terrorism do not compromise research and education."

In particular, we call for amending the P.A.T.R.I.O.T. Act so that it does not threaten an American citizen's right of privacy respecting any activity that is protected by the First Amendment.

<http://bernie.house.gov/documents/opeds/20030121181535.asp>

We also call on the Justice Department to work together with Congress by supplying the information that Congress has requested concerning how **these** newly granted powers are being applied to libraries and book stores.

Resolved by: The Faculty Assembly of The University of Arkansas at Monticello
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