

EXHIBIT I

The purpose of this skit is to raise awareness of the USA Patriot Act and its implications for libraries in an entertaining way. Issues raised include the need to train staff, necessity for policies, necessity to be informed and consult legal counsel. Questions raised include: how do the consequences of an action affect it's being judged right or wrong? Can we have enough knowledge of what will happen or will not happen to make an ethical decision? Has our attitude to privacy changed after 9/11? How many are willing to trade some privacy for security? The Patriot Act does have a gag order. Audience members may need to be reminded of this before they share information.

For more information see:

Libraries and the Patriot Legislation - <http://www.ala.org/washoff/patriot.html>
especially Guidelines for Librarians on the USA Patriot Act

Hentoff, Nat. They're Watching What You Read. *The Progressive*. 66 (4), April 2002: 15.

Schneider, Karen G. The Patriot Act: Last Refuge of a Scoundrel. *American Libraries*. 33 (3), March 2002: 86.

The "sacrifice some privacy for security" character is based on:

Hauptman, Robert. The Sacrifice of Confidentiality. *American Libraries*. 33 (3), March 2002: 43.

When they Come A Knockin'
by Marc Meola
5/8/02

MR: KNOCK AT THE DOOR: (Walking in to the library and approaching a service desk). Hello, I'm Mr. Knock-At-The-Door, a federal agent conducting an investigation. I have a request for some information from your computers.

CLUELESS STUDENT WORKER: Um I'm just a clueless student worker. I don't know if I'm supposed to do that. Do you have a badge or anything?

MR: KNOCK AT THE DOOR: Sure, here it is. (Shows badge.) I'm sure you want to cooperate with me. You don't look like someone who wants to aid and abet evildoers. You could go to jail for that. You don't want to go to jail do you?

CLUELESS STUDENT WORKER: Gosh no! Here let me swivel this monitor around so you can see it. Let me get you the administrative passwords.

MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT: (walking by) Hello Clueless Student Worker. Can I be of some help here?

CLUELESS STUDENT WORKER: This is Agent Knock-At-The-Door. He needs some information.

MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT: I see. How do you do, I'm Ms. Intellectual Freedom Zealot and I'm a Librarian here. State law prohibits us from giving out any information about library patrons unless specifically directed to do so by our Spineless Director. Please step over here while I call him/her. (Brings up imaginary receiver to her ear and Begins dialing.)

MR: KNOCK AT THE DOOR: Ah, yes state law. Did you know that the USA Patriot Act overrides state laws? Now what I'm going to need is all your Internet sign-up sheets, Web logs, caches on individual computers, and all e-mail from your virtual reference service.

MS INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT: Hello Spineless Director? There's a Mr. Knock-At-The-Door to see you. Yes. Yes I'll send him right up. (Hangs up.) The Spineless Director wants to see you right a way. (Acidly) I'm sure he'll/she'll cooperate *fully* with your investigation.

MR: KNOCK AT THE DOOR: Thank you. And by the way, if you discuss the specifics of this request with anyone...you will be prosecuted.

Exit MR. KNOCK-AT-THE-DOOR left.

MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT waits for MR. KNOCK-AT-THE-DOOR to exit, then exits right (running).

Enter from left MR. SACRIFICE SOME PRIVACY FOR SECURITY Sits down as if at a computer terminal.

Re-enter MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT right (running, as if running into a new room. Slows down when she sees someone is in the room.)

MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT: Oh, hello Mr. Sacrifice Some Privacy For Security. Don't mind me, I'm just going to run this shredder over here for a little while.

MR. SACRIFICE SOME PRIVACY FOR SECURITY: What are you shredding?

MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT: Oh nothing. By the way, how long are you going to be at that terminal, I need to delete some server logs.

MR. SACRIFICE SOME PRIVACY FOR SECURITY: Delete server logs? Don't we have a policy on that?

MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT: We never got around to writing that policy, so I'm just going to delete everything now.

MR. SACRIFICE SOME PRIVACY FOR SECURITY: Well if it waited this long it can wait a little longer. I need to finish this report.

MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT: Ok look, I need your help. I can't give you the specifics, but there's an investigation going on and we need to shred and delete any and all records that relate to our patrons immediately!

MR. SACRIFICE SOME PRIVACY FOR SECURITY: Investigation? Woah! Who do you think you are, Ms. Enron? Don't you know if you start shredding after an investigation begins you could get in big trouble for obstructing justice and aiding and abetting criminal activity? I can't let you do that.

MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT: Get some backbone you wimp. Don't you know how important privacy and confidentiality are? If we start profiling and arresting people based on the web sites they visit and the e-mail they send, what kind of a society are we living in? What has happened to the Bill of Rights?

MR. SACRIFICE SOME PRIVACY FOR SECURITY: We are living in a society where a handful of people can do great violence to thousands. I support privacy and intellectual freedom but I've decided that I'm willing to sacrifice some privacy in exchange for security in order to prevent terrible acts of mass destruction. If we can help an investigation that might save lives we have a duty to do so. I can't let you delete these files.

MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT: Get out of that chair!

(They struggle.)

MR. SACRIFICE SOME PRIVACY FOR SECURITY No!

(Freeze action.)

NARRATOR 1: MR. SACRIFICE SOME PRIVACY FOR SECURITY was able to hold off MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT. The files were not deleted. As a result, the investigators were able to foil a plot in which a nuclear device was planted in an urban center. Thousands of lives were saved.

(Unfreeze action.)

MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ZEALOT: YES! I MUST DELETE THE FILES!

(Freeze action.)

NARRATOR 2: MS. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM forced MR. SACRIFICE SOME PRIVACY FOR SECURITY away from the terminal. She deleted all the files. As a result, investigators were unable to complete their investigation and an innocent person was not arrested.

What would you do?

THE END