SRRT TASK FORCE NOTES

ETHNIC MATERIALS INFORMATION EXCHANGE

- EMIE Round Table Approved:
  The Ethnic Materials Information Exchange (EMIE) Task Force has been elevated to the status of Round Table. The decision by the Committee on Organization (COO), was regarded by EMIE members attending ALA-Philadelphia as a step towards upgrading future EMIE programs in cooperation with other agencies interested in library work, with and for the benefit of ethnic groups all over the country. The petition to COO had been presented by David Cohen, past EMIE coordinator and was supported by the Council Committee on Minority Concerns and the Advisory Committee to the Office of Library Outreach Services.

- Past Programs of EMIE available on Tape:
  1974 Ethnicity and Librarianship, What is it?
  1975 Advances in Multiethnic Media Since 1965
  1976 Multiethnic Workshop: Advances in Training and Service
  1977 Ethnicity and Librarianship: The New Pluralism
  1978 Tracking Community Ethnicity
  1979 Getting to Know Your Ethnic Community
  1980 Selected Outstanding Programs Servicing Ethnic Groups in the Local Community
  1981 Building Bridges: Strategies for Multilingual Collection Development
  1982 No Way But Up: Impacting Ethnic Communities

For ordering information and prices, write to: ALA Publishing, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611

(continued on p. 9)
To: SRRT Members

From: Linda Pierce, SRRT Coordinator

The Philadelphia Conference proved to be exciting, interesting, tiring, and a reminder of how much the American Library Association needs SRRT and its members.

The major controversy of the conference was the recommendation of the Executive Director to the Executive Board to eliminate the Office for Library Outreach Services (OLOS) as part of the cutbacks necessary to balance the budget. Approval of this recommendation would have meant elimination of the Office, termination of Jean Coleman's position, and distribution of her responsibilities to other offices.

At the membership meeting on Monday, July 12th, overwhelming support was voiced for OLOS and a resolution to continue the Office and its functions was unanimously passed by membership. Council also supported the continuation of the Office and the membership resolution. The Executive Board met Thursday and voted not to discontinue the office.

I feel that this decision was a sign that SRRT can make a difference in ALA actions and policy and should be seen as encouraging to all SRRT members. SRRT Task Forces introduced several resolutions to membership. Those which were passed supported the right of the Chicago Public Library to vote on unionizing (Library Union Task Force) and supported the nuclear freeze campaign (Peace Information Exchange Task Force). Another resolution dealt with monitoring and working against bills currently before Congress which would deny funds to agencies which perform, reimburse, or refer people for abortions; such bills would limit the accessibility of information and could conceivably affect libraries and information centers (Feminist Task Force).

Action Council met three times during the conference. The agenda included election of new officers, a report on the ALA Committee on Planning's project of developing procedures to monitor how well ALA groups are meeting ALA priorities, discussion of the budget, and a request to support a new task force on International Human Rights (see p. 4).

The formation of another task force and requests for additional funds from existing task forces means that the SRRT budget is becoming increasingly tight. The best way to solve this problem is through increased membership. One of my goals as coordinator of Action Council will be to build our membership base. I will be working with Bonnie Jo Dopp who was appointed membership coordinator of SRRT. Membership figures for all round tables are provided on p. 9 in this Newsletter.

Names of all Action Council members and officers are listed on p. 11 and I encourage everyone to contact these people with suggestions, questions, complaints or any information about SRRT/ALA activities that you think we should be aware of. As the new coordinator of Action Council, I am particularly interested in hearing from SRRT members. There is no way that SRRT can be a viable and effective round table without support and input from individual members. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all outgoing Action Council members and officers. In particular, I would like to thank Barbara Pruett, 1980-82 Coordinator; Betty Turock, 1980-82 Treasurer; Marjorie Joramo, 1980-82 Conference Arrangements Coordinator; and Bill Galaway, 1981-82 Secretary. All of these people spent many long hours of work on SRRT business and their efforts have resulted in new procedures, a new constitution, and a smoothly running round table. They deserve our thanks and appreciation.


ALTERNATIVE NOTES

ANGE IN TITLE (HEAVEN FORBID)

Handout given to participants in a workshop held in Philadelphia, included a section on Changes. "If it decided that a change in size, format, (Heaven forbid!) title is necessary..."

the reader will turn to the first page this Newsletter, it will become apparent that the title is actually SRRT Social Responsibilities Round Table Newsletter ALA, and not the SRRT Newsletter, as it is popularly called.

which lists it as A L A Social Responsibilities Round Table Newsletter and ALA Social Responsibilities Roundtable. I did not find a listing in CONSER.

those who have never tried to catalog or once a periodical may think this a trivial matter, but anyone who has ever dealt in any way with periodicals will realize that something must be done.

Ford Berman, a past editor, refers to it in Technicalities, V.2#6, June 1982, as SRRT Newsletter and since that what is generally known as, it would seem that thus it should remain.

a banner, then, needs to be changed to reflect its true title. At an Action Council meeting in Philadelphia, it was suggested that SRRT members be notified I asked for suggestions. Please do by letter to the editor (address on 2) so that this problem can be solved in San Antonio in January.

UNTEERS WANTED

Seek librarians in the New York City area willing to assist in the nitty-gritty work of preparing bibliography sheets for "An Annotated Gay/Lesbian Bibliography of Resources Selected from Non-Homosexual Periodicals, with Subject Headings and sss-References." The project requires that the group work together once every three months for about two hours, and meet once a year to prepare the final draft the Gay Books Bulletin - an effort that involves a few hours of time and the typing of about ten pages worth of bibliographic materials each. If you are interested in volunteering, write:

Edward C. Paoloella,
Bibliography Editor
Gay Books Bulletin
P.O. Box 480
Lenox Hill Station
New York, New York 10021

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

The June 1982 issue of Choice, V.19#10, has a bibliographical essay on "International Human Rights," by Natalie Hevener. It is a useful checklist with a good general introduction, but is quite dated and even lacking some important titles.

For example, of the serials mentioned, Human Rights Directory (published by Human Rights Internet, 1979) has been updated by three separate directories and the 1972 volume by Inter-American Commission on Human Rights has been followed by two editions of Inter-American Yearbook on Human Rights (last published in 1976, which is perhaps indicative of the status of human rights in Latin America since then.) A glaring oversight is the absence of the annual Amnesty International Report from the list in Choice.

The five-volume work, Case Studies on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, a World Survey, ed. by Willem A. Veennhoven (Matinus Nijhoff, 1976) and Karel Vasak's The International Dimensions of Human Rights; Textbook for Teaching at the University Level (UNESCO, 1979) Reprinted by Greenwood Press) should seemingly have been listed, as should a book like The Fourth World; Victims of Group Repression, ed. by Ben Whitaker (Schocken Books, 1973)- albeit "minority rights" could be technically distinguished from "human rights" in some people's minds.

(continued on p. 8)
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TASK FORCE

Coordinator: Mr. Lee Regan
5832 Doris Place
Alexandria, VA 22311
(703) 820-2092 (home)
(202) 462-4320 (work)

Statement of Purpose:
The SRRT Task Force on International Human Rights serves to extend the concerns of American librarians for social justice to all peoples throughout the world. The recognition of issues on the national level to which SRRT and other groups in ALA are committed, including such concerns as children's rights; freedom of information and intellectual freedom; rights of institutionalized persons and of minorities; women's rights; civil and other rights, is inseparable from the promotion and protection of these rights in other countries.

Functions:
1. To coordinate the identification of human and informational resources with which to address the problems and issues of international human rights;
2. To promote within the library profession an increased awareness of international human rights;
3. To serve as a forum and to provide support for any persons who wish to address aspects of international human rights issues within the library profession and within libraries and library programs;
4. To identify and to serve as a coordinating unit for communicating with similar groups in other professional societies, such as the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Bar Association and others.

Immediate Goals:
1. To inform the ALA membership of the establishment of this Task Force;
2. To develop a network of persons in ALA who are concerned about promoting and sharing information about international human rights;
3. To plan and implement meetings and communications for effectively meeting the purposes of the Task Force.

Other Goals:
1. To encourage librarians, as citizens as well as information providers, to be personally knowledgeable about and to participate in the work of international human rights organizations, such as Amnesty International;
2. To conduct correspondence with librarians in other countries to assess specific information-related human rights problems, such as censorship and denial of access to information;
3. To promote professional attention to the works of authors and organizations, and to periodical publications which are banned, censored, or otherwise repressed in their country of origin; or in support of librarians in foreign countries whose concern for freedom of information is endangered;
4. To engage in other activities which alert or promote attention in the United States and in foreign countries to the issues of human rights.

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE MEN'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT

With the advent of the women's liberation movement, some new number of men are re-examining their lives, and finding alternatives to traditional gender-based behavior and roles. There are a growing number of men who are willing to search for new ways to live their lives. While not organized on a national level, there are thousands of men's groups which meet in cities all over the country on a regular basis. The focus of the men's movement is still very personal. Individual growth through consciousness raising groups is one way to discover gradually that he can turn to other men for reaffirmation that the choices that they made and are continuing to make are right.

There are a number of important elements to the philosophy of men's liberation. Perhaps the first and most important is the importance of being in touch with and being comfortable with one's own feelings. For generations, young boys have been told that crying is not manly, that the best way to express anger is by lashing out physically, and that in general feelings do more harm than good. This concept may be one of the primary causes of the significantly higher incidence of heart attacks, ulcers, successful suicides among the male population.

Another very important tool for a man interested in personal growth is the body of literature written about men's issues in recent years. By reading these books, primarily written by men who have gone through changes in their lives, one who is beginning the process can discover alternatives for growth, and make informed choices about his alternatives. Even for those men who have successfully changed their lives, it is still important to touch base now and then to reaffirm that the choices that they made and are continuing to make are right.

The following list of men's books has been compiled over a number of years, from many sources. Some of these books may not have been specifically written with the men's movement in mind, but they are relevant nonetheless. All citations have been checked in Books in Print.


Buscaglia, Leo. LOVE. Fawcett Book Group, 1982.


Finally, on a societal level, men must be willing to share the reins of power. That includes politics, finance, opinion leadership, law, and any other situation in which one person holds power over another. The liberated man begins to see the awful absurdity and injustice of allowing a few members of less than half of the species to control the overwhelming majority of real power in this country, and the world.

In the future, men and women both will probably join in a common cause: the removal of all gender-based legislation from the books. It may then be possible to have a fairer system for marriage, divorce, inheritance, and all other legal activities where one gender has an advantage over the other.

This dream may be a long time coming. It has been said that it is only in the generation of the children of the children that those who make a change that the change comes to maturity.

Whether we like it or not, we are all in this together. Oppressed in such a way that it will be impossible for the born to be thrown off in the classic, violent manner. If men and women can help one another and be tolerant of the new roles that one or the other are trying, be supportive of change, be willing to provide fair and uncritical feedback, or day we may wake up to find we have a lot fewer problems than we had not so long ago.

Jim Rucker
The SRT Men’s Issues Task Force began at Denver Midwinter as a proposal to serve as a focus within ALA whereby gender-based legal, social, psychological, emotional and professional limitations placed on men can be addressed. Body progress has been made since then. The ALA membership has been informed of the Task Force through American Libraries, through the SRT newsletter, through the SRT listserv and through major school public and academic libraries, and through distribution of literature from the SRT booth at the Philadelphia conference.

A membership data base of persons in ALA who are concerned about men’s issues is growing. It contains not only names and addresses but as well, in most cases, includes a response to an interest survey which had as its purpose to identify the issues and the types of activity of interested members. This data base is presently being keyed and analyzed. It is planned to include in the next issue of the newsletter some results of that analysis.

An organizational meeting was held during the Philadelphia conference. This provided an opportunity for discussions, to add significantly to the membership data base, and to identify specific immediate plans. Two pages of the SRT newsletter will be available for a Task Force newsletter on a regular basis. This arrangement is thought at this time to be less expensive, to reach a larger audience and to require less energy overhead than would a separate newsletter. The newsletter is a quarterly publication. Contributions are requested and should be addressed to P.O. Box 740 College Park, MD 20740.

Several hundred copies each of an Introduction to the Task Force, an interest survey, a bibliography of information resources on men’s issues and a membership registration form were distributed in Philadelphia. These are available upon request at the above address. The two membership requirements are that the person be a member of SRT (and therefore receive the Newsletter) and that the person removes his/her entry in the Task Force membership list at one per year.

The Philadelphia experience provided many new contacts with both men and women who recognize men’s issues as the yet unaddressed side of a “person” liberation movement. Sexism results in immediate and critical needs equal mostly for a man’s worth of consciousness raising. First, the Task Force must clearly be for every man and every woman. Men’s issues are not just problems for men. A nearly ten-year shorter life expectancy for men and a male-only draft registration law are everybody’s problems just as women’s earning $0.50 on the dollar is everybody’s problem. The need for consciousness raising on this point could be no more blatant than it is in the text of the APA resolution passed in Philadelphia to rescind the ALA boycott of non-ERA states. The final “be it further resolved” annouces that the American Library Association is on record as strongly in support of equal rights for women.

Equal rights are for everyone. Progress toward the goal of equal rights requires energy from everyone.

Second, the Task Force must skillfully raise consciousness about its scope of purpose. Sexism results in gender-based advantages and disadvantages for both men and women. The women’s movement has utilized us only to issues, disadvantages. Women’s movement has not addressed how beautiful it is to be a mother because that message requires no special effort. For the same reason, the task force need not address the advantages of economic and political power for men. Our purpose is to focus on men’s disadvantage issues. Clarity on this point is a critical issue not only for us to be able to enlist both men and women but as well to enable us as individuals to continue to adequately support the women’s movement. One great difficulty is to come up with a name for the Task Force (and therefore the Newsletter) which says all of this. Any ideas for this sticky problem will be greatly appreciated.

Third, the Task Force must skillfully define its scope of activity. Gender-role discrimination against men is pervasive, perhaps more so than for women. Unless can be defined with clarity, the place, at least in the outset, will work against our energies. Whether we are planning conference programs, publishing resource lists, interfacing with other men’s issues organizations or actively encouraging other organizations within ALA to grow out of their own sexism, the energy needs to be focused. Fourth, we need to plan now for whatever activities are to occur in San Antonio and Los Angeles. Conference events are planned for both dates. Meeting place has been scheduled for San Antonio and program space for Los Angeles. No program has been developed for Los Angeles as of this time. If that is to happen, the planning for it must be completed within the next two months. Further, the annual budget for July 1, 1983 - June 30, 1984 must be submitted at midwinter, 1983. SRT has limited funds to allocate to Task Force so who plans activities which will require financial support need to come forth with specific plans by midwinter.

Carl Hays, Chair and Action Council Representative
Censorship in Seattle

The Social Responsibilities Roundtable Interest Group of the Washington Library Association, was asked at its membership meeting during the Washington Library Association's Annual Meeting to support a Seattle retail store in its attempt to find rental space. The book store, Revolution Books, which is the retail outlet for Liberation Distributors, makes available works by Marx, Engels, Lenin, and Mao as well as socialist and Third World periodicals and pamphlets. The Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association noted, in a letter written in support of the store: "It distresses us as booksellers that Revolution Books, one of our members, is being denied access to retail space in what smacks of the basest form of censorship." A letter in The Nation, February 13, 1982, p. 162, by Edward Neil suggests that there is a pattern of discrimination nationwide:

"There have been six evictions and eviction attempts in little more than a year. In December 1980, the Berkeley, California, store was evicted by police; in May 1981, the Boston store was evicted; in New York City, the bookstore fought eviction attempts in December 1980 and July 1981; the Seattle store was evicted after a long court fight, in October 1981; and now, the New York City Revolution Books, at 15 East Thirteenth Street, again faces eviction.... All the landlords initially chose to rent to the bookstores, but later, sometimes within weeks and without any clearly stated reasons, changed their minds. On the face of it, it looks like a case of political harassment."

The Washington Group decided unanimously to support this book store's right to ental space.

Meeting in Seattle

A meeting, "Socially Responsible Collection Development," will be held on Monday, November 15, 1982, from 10 A.M. - 4 P.M. in the Service Center building of the King County Library, 300 8th Avenue, North Seattle, WA 98109.

This inquiry into marketing ideas for libraries will begin with a panel of experts, including Irene Heninger, Librarian for the Kitsap Regional Library; Professor Carol Obermiller, University of Washington; Sig Hanson, the Baker & Taylor Company; Dan Levant, representing the user, and an active member of the American Civil Liberties Union, and a small press representative. The intent is to challenge many prevalent marketing ideas. The meeting is free and open to the public.

Bernard Polishuk, Chair
SRRT/Washington Library Association

NEWS FROM STATE SRRT GROUPS
IS WELCOME. LET OTHER GROUPS KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING - THROUGH THE SRRT NEWSLETTER.

THANK YOU

Jean E. Coleman, Director of the Office of Library Outreach Services, wants to thank the members of SRRT for their support during the ALA Conference in Philadelphia, when due to budget cuts, it had been recommended that OLOS be eliminated. As Linda Pierce, SRRT Coordinator, reports in her memo to SRRT members on p. 2, the situation was resolved satisfactorily for OLOS and SRRT.
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

Other works, such as People Matter: Views on International Human Rights Policy, by Theo van Boeven (Meulenhoff, 1982) are too recent and "foreign" to expect on such a list, but this raises the most relevant point - of what use are these lists? How many of the titles on the Choice list are still in print? How many held in the average college or large public library? Perhaps the list in Choice should more properly be titled, "A Selected Retrospective National Bibliography on International Human Rights."

Lee Regan
International
Human Rights T.F.

NEW PAGES: NEWS AND REVIEWS OF THE PROGRESSIVE BOOK TRADE.
4426 S. Belsay Rd. Grand Blanc, MI 48439
$10/year.

A lively, informative quarterly reporting on issues such as censorship, alternative press collecting, pornography and the first amendment, and women in print. Extensive bibliographies accompany many of the articles. Full length book reviews are well-written, thorough and honest; and there is a classified section of shorter book and magazine reviews. News of what is happening within the progressive book trade and reports on literature being offered which might not be found elsewhere make this a valuable tool for librarians and interesting reading for the general public.

Contributing editors include Sandy Berman and Pat Case of the Alternatives-in-Print Task Force.

ALTERNATIVE PAPERS
$30.00 cloth. $14.95 paper.

"Stories, events, and issues that the mass media ignored, distorted, buried, or missed altogether, selected from alternative magazines, newspapers, journals, and sporadicals." Also includes a section on the alternative press itself - its recent history, its present, its future.

NICARAGUAN BIBLIOGRAPHY

The National Network in Solidarity with the Nicaraguan People at 1718 20th St. NW, Washington, DC 20009, offers a list of resources including publications, slide shows, films, posters, T-shirts, etc. Many miscellaneous resources in Spanish and English are available including Nicaraguan newspapers, books and pamphlets and speeches by Nicaraguan leaders.

ALTERNATIVE PRESS PUBLISHERS OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS: A DIRECTORY, published by the Cooperative Children's Book Center of Wisconsin, is a listing of 170 alternative presses currently publishing children's books in the United States and Canada. Each entry in the annotated directory includes address, phone number, name of contact person, information about discounts, prepayment and billing, and a description of children's books analyzed by subject, age level, genre and special emphasis. An address list for alternative press book distributors and a geographical index are also included. Copies are available prepaid for $5.00 (includes postage/handling) from The Friends of the CCBC, Inc. (Att'n: Directory) P.O. Box 5288, Madison, Wisconsin 53705-0288.

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

About the Far Right: A Reading List available from the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, Inc. Box 192 West Somerville MA 02144.

WOMEN'S HISTORY RESOURCES

An illustrated, 88 page paperbound guide for anyone undertaking research in women's history or feminism in general.

Includes resources, topics and collections within the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. $3.95 ($4.70, if billed) per booklet. Wisconsin residents add 5% sales tax. Order from and make checks payable to the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Publications Orders, 816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706.
CORETTA SCOTT KING AWARD

Winners of the Coretta Scott King Award for 1982, were:

Mildred Taylor, author of LET THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN (Dial)
John Steptoe, illustrator of MOTHER CROCODILE (Delacorte Press)

Honorable Mention winners were:

Alice Childress, RAINBOW JORDAN (Coward)
Kristin Hunter, LOU IN THE LIMELIGHT (Scribner)
Mary E. Mebane, MARY (Viking)
Tom Feelings, DAYDREAMERS (Dial)

Arrangements are being made for the acceptance speeches, written and presented by Steptoe, and written by Taylor and presented in her absence by Phyllis Fogelman, editor at Dial, to be printed and made available. Watch for an announcement.

ALA Council has accepted the Coretta Scott King Award as an official unit award of SRRT and will now be listed with the other ALA Awards.

You don’t have to be Black.... Any SRRT member interested in joining the Coretta Scott King Award Task Force is welcome to become part of what is an exciting selection and presentation.

(cont. on next page)

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SRRT TASK FORCE NEWS (cont. from p. 9)

MILITARISM AND THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE

At the Philadelphia meeting of Action Council, a suggestion was put forward that would relate next year's Task Force programs to militarism and the nuclear arms race.

Since the military mindset of those in power in our society threatens both social justice and human survival, would it not be appropriate for SRRT Task Forces to give some consideration to how the arms race is impacting on their particular concerns? There is a growing realization that issues of social justice are in one way or another related to militarism. Civil rights advocates, feminists, union organizers, fighters for gay rights, civil libertarians - all of us are affected by militarism, whether it be by the consequences of the budget shift from social services to the arms buildup, by the patriarchal socialization of our children that is at the heart of militarism, or by the domestic and foreign racist policies that maintain militarism. If unchecked, militarism will spread into ever increasing areas of our society and threaten the very existence of groups - like SRRT - committed to social change. The ultimate bond is our survival as human beings.

Last summer's ALA resolution to support the nuclear freeze was a forward step. Another professional organization - the National Education Association - at its convention last summer set the issue of militarism as its priority for the coming year. Let's follow that example. What more appropriate group within ALA to call for a dialogue on the issue than SRRT? If we take the lead now and by our actions show other divisions of ALA just how critical we regard this issue, we will be in a good position to offer proposals for a positive course of action.

That is the thinking behind the suggestion that SRRT Task Forces place the issue of disarmament and militarism for deliberation at mid-winter and consider ways that their present concerns relate to those issues. SRRT Task Forces may already have plans for the 1983 Conference; yet the issues are so linked that programs already scheduled can be adapted, however tangentially. The suggestion is that each program give some time to an analysis of the theoretical, economic and moral factors that tie the concerns of their Task Force to the nuclear arms race; when brought together there is a good chance that these analyses would offer the parameters of a very positive program for ALA.

Brad Chambers

SRRT TASK FORCES

Alternatives in Print
Patricia Case, Coordinator

Coretta Scott King Award
Effie Lee Morris, Coordinator

Ethnic Materials Information Exchange
David Cohen, Coordinator

Feminist
Betty Carol Sellen, Coordinator

Gay Liberation
Barbara Gittings, Coordinator

International Human Rights
Lee Regan, Coordinator

Library Union
Julie McCrarney, Coordinator

Men's Issues
Carl H. Hays, Coordinator

Peace Information Exchange
Elizabeth Morrissett, Coordinator

Tools for Consciousness Raising
Bradford Chambers, Coordinator

DO NONE OF THESE TASK FORCES RELATE TO YOUR 'CAUSE?' START A TASK FORCE OF YOUR OWN!
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