At its Midwinter meetings in Washington, D.C., the Civil Rights Task Force will discuss how to amend the ALA policy statement on "Diversity," and/or produce a new declaration -- perhaps in league with COSWL, AASL, FIT, the EMIE Round Table, and various caucuses -- that would recognize the special vulnerability of children to racist, sexist, ageist, and handicapist material, and thus sanction "cultural authenticity" and nonstereotyping of human groups on the basis of innate, immutable characteristics (age, sex, ethnicity, and disability) as valid criteria in juvenile book and media selection.

This is not a new idea. I lately restated it in an Interracial Books for Children Bulletin editorial (v.14#5, p.3) and will pursue the same theme, calling for renewed dialogue among current "adversaries," in the next issue. But such considerations had once been formal, accepted ALA policy. The "Statement on Reevaluation of Library Materials for Children's Collections," adopted by the ALA Children's Services Division Board of Directors on January 23, 1973, began like this:

Librarians must espouse critical standards in selection and re-evaluation of library materials. It is incumbent on the librarian working with children to be aware that the child lacks the breadth of experience of the adult and that librarians have a two-fold obligation in service to the child:

1. To build and maintain collections of materials which provide information on the entire spectrum of human knowledge, experience and opinion.

2. To introduce to the child those titles which will enable him to develop with a free spirit, an inquiring mind, and an ever-widening knowledge of the world in which he lives.

And concluded this way:

The Board of Directors of the Children's Services Division, American Library Association, supports the Library Bill of Rights and Free Access to Libraries for Minors. Re-evaluation is a positive approach to sound collection building and should not be equated with censorship.

In 1976, at the behest of ALA's Intellectual Freedom Committee, CSD rescinded its "Reevaluation" statement. Yet its central points still merit support: that children are not adults and that rejecting juvenile material likely to harm children's self-image is not censorship, but rather a means of realizing the

(continued on p. 3)
To: SRRT Members

From: Linda Pierce, SRRT Coordinator

It is time for the American Library Association to begin collecting dues for 1984. Having just received my membership renewal form last week, I have been inspired to make a few comments about SRRT membership, SRRT dues, and ALA dues.

All of these issues will be brought before you in 1984. The one that I feel most strongly about is SRRT membership. It is imperative that SRRT be able to maintain a strong, vigorous membership base. We need the dues that members provide, but the more members we have, the greater the statement can be made to ALA concerning the importance of social responsibilities and SRRT. If people are willing to pay SRRT dues and participate in SRRT activities, it indicates that the organization is fulfilling an important role in ALA. SRRT needs additional revenue, and right now our only source of revenue is dues. The more members we can get, the more money we will have for the task forces to spend on programming and other areas. Right now the SRRT budget has enough reserves so that we can continue at the current rate of spending for about one more fiscal year before we will need to severely cut back on spending.

If you have any ideas on how to increase membership, please let me or Barbara Levinson, membership coordinator, know. I would like to suggest that each SRRT member take it upon her or himself to "find" a new SRRT member for 1984. A grassroots, personal approach makes more sense and usually provides better results than any other method.

Action Council will also be considering increasing SRRT dues at the Midwinter meeting. It has been suggested that SRRT dues be increased to either $7 or $10. No decision will be made on this without all of the SRRT membership voting on the proposal. I would like to encourage everyone to attend the Action Council meetings at Midwinter, where the dues increase will be discussed. It is important for Action Council to get a sense of what membership feels about this issue before we make any decision.

The third dues/membership issue is ALA dues. It is likely that sometime in 1984, the issue of a personal dues increase will be raised once more. I think it is important that SRRT take a stand and decide if we will support a dues increase. If so, how much of an increase, and related questions. Action Council can examine the budget, talk to COPES, Council and the Executive Board, but any official position should be based on what the membership has agreed upon. Please write to me or any Action Council member and let us know how you feel about a personal dues increase, a SRRT dues increase, and send suggestions for fund raising.

Also I would like to encourage everyone who will be attending Midwinter to come to the SRRT Presidential Candidates Forum to be held Saturday, January 7 from 8 - 10 P.M. We have not yet received confirmation from the candidates, but we have invited Virginia Matthews and Beverly Lynch to speak to us at that time.

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SRRT MEMBERS!

ATTEND AND SUPPORT THE LAMA RACISM AND SEXISM AWARENESS DISCUSSION GROUP AT MIDWINTER - ON JANUARY 8 FROM 8 - 9 A.M.
child's right to unabusive library service. Indeed, the apparent "conflict" between First and Fourteenth Amendment rights, between free speech and equal protection, may be phony. As the CSD statement put it, "a positive approach to sound collection building...should not be equated with censorship."

For more details on the decade-long dispute, see:


Sanford Berman
Hennepin County Library
Minnetonka, Minnesota

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**GAY TASK FORCE**

The Gay Task Force has just produced a list called "Parents of Gays: Some Helpful Materials." It pinpoints 27 books and book chapters and 2 films that deal specifically with gay men's and lesbians' relationships with their families (no fiction). For a free copy send a SASE to Barbara Gittings, P.O. Box 2383, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

The Gay Task Force also solicits ideas for a mini-program for its Midwinter meeting in Washington. What could we do that would be educational, no cost, and fun? Call or write Barbara Gittings at above address. Phone (215) 471-3322.

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**INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TASK FORCE**

Current networking responses to the Central American crisis recognize and attempt to deal with its fundamental meaning - its personal, human roots - rather than engage in East-West rhetorical confrontation. One such response is the "Sanctuary" movement being carried out amongst an inter-denominational collection of churches, church organizations and advocacy groups. Loosely coordinated by the Religious Task Force on Central America (407 S. Dearborn St., Rm. 370, Chicago, IL 60605), the sanctuary movement operates as a modern-day underground railroad to help secure the basic physical needs of Central American refugees who reach the United States and to facilitate family reunifications. The movement has generated a small flood of awareness and information that counters current American policy, leading the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service (among others) to issue a statement in support of El Salvadorans and Guatemalans seeking asylum in this country. Such information should be available in libraries throughout the country, whether there is a local "sanctuary" or not. (See list of resources at end of article.)

Closely related to the above efforts of providing direct relief, many lawyers

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Perhaps the major issue on which NCM has hung in the balance in its three years of existence has been that of whether its primary focus should be fathers rights/divorce reform or men's liberation (from the tyranny of gender-based limitations). In what perhaps could be fairly described as a residual twitch of macho, the proponents of the two views, preferring to stand and fight rather than switch, never minding that building a platform of men's issues, like love, is not a zero sum game, jeopardized the NCM in the struggle to prevail.

But after some former Board members withdrew and some others who threatened to do it, after the election of a truly impressive Executive Council and Board of Directors including President, Al Lebow, (also President of Fathers For Equal Rights of Michigan) and Warren Farrell (you remember Warren, for over a decade the nation's most notable male feminist and according to some sources, now moving a bit toward the ideological center) and 18 others, including nine new to the Board; and after agreeing on 18 resolutions (four procedural/administrative, nine family law/divorce reform, and five general issues) it appears that the real instinct to survive together, rather than perish alone, prevailed and the NCM is all the stronger for it.

The initials identifying the affiliations of the 20-member Board reveal 13 which include FER fathers/equal/rights. Likewise, three others include custody or parental equality. Two others are from Free Men groups and two (including Farrell) show no affiliation.

The men's issues platform is not yet crystallized. As Herb Goldberg told us, "Men's issues are human issues... how does one march in the streets about the fact that he doesn't have a friend, can't express emotions, has body destruction and has destroyed his sex life... A man is part of the men's movement if he is coming to an awareness of what his masculine conditioning has done to his life... if he is sometimes drinking alone instead of beer, if he is giving his male buddies a priority in his life, if he refuses to relate to women on the basis of protectiveness and guilt, if he refuses to be a work machine..."

Agreed! But in the wake of that movement will come social and legal change. The NCM conference included a list of issues which will reflect such change. These topics make an interesting comparison to the list which is included in the MIT membership interest survey form. They are, less their descriptions for lack of space, as follows: economics; unequal health care; exploitation thru stereotypes; prison reform; non-violent draft; youth perceptions; equal rights; shelters, chivalry, abortion; unwed father; wills, inheritance; business partnerships; prejudiced concepts; male derelicts; constitutional application; surrogate parenting; malicious adoption; paid paternity leave; preferential joint custody; adversary system; visitation enforcement; jurisdiction hopping; custodial kidnapping; direct-to-child support and base minimums; accountability - child support; litigation child support; alimony as rehabilitative; expatriate fathers; father contributions/deprivation; no fault divorce; men post divorce; higher education; elementary education; and comparable worth.

The resolutions adopted by the Conference, selected and in short, follow. Be it resolved that the NCM:

1. 1984 Conference will be held on the east coast.
2. sponsor a nationwide picket at 12 noon on Father's Day, 1984.
3. focus for 1984 will be primarily father's rights/divorce re-
form with a substantial but secondary focus on all other men's issues.

4. declares the adversary system is an inappropriate mechanism for divorce.

5. endorses the concept of assessing minor children frequent and contact with both parents after divorce.

6. endorses the presumption of joint physical and legal custody following divorce.

7. requests that the Federal Parental Kidnapping Act of 1980 be strengthened with respect to custodial/noncustodial parent.

8. shall form a Custody Reform/Child Support Task Force.

9. is concerned with the rights of all regardless of race, creed, color, national origin; sex or sexual preference.

10. urges that private sexual acts between consenting adults be decriminalized.

11. urges state and federal laws preventing malicious adoption.

12. urges that unwed fathers be legally awarded full consideration of his naturally and biologically occurring parental rights and responsibilities.

13. supports and encourages fostering of birth and parent education for young men.

RESOURCES, RESOURCES, RESOURCES

The National Congress for Men 1983 Directory, 80 pages of U.S. and foreign listings for child location organizations, divorce mediation sources, divorce reform organizations, divorce support groups, men's gender-based issues organizations and parental rights organizations, is now available. There are nearly 900 listings published on organizations which participate in divorce mediation services. The information in this list is completely updated and has in its roots a number of earlier published and unpublished sources. The starting point was the 1982 Blue List published by Bob Hirschfeld, the editor of Single Dad's Lifestyle. He was a pioneer in collecting the names and addresses of Fathers' rights/divorce reform groups from all over the country. The origin of the divorce mediation services in CJSII and Sharing Parenthood after Divorce. Two more important sources were the 1982 Directory of Mediation Services by the Divorce Mediation Research Project and the 1983 Dispute Resolution Program Directory put out by the Special Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution of the Public Services Activities Division of the American Bar Association of Washington D.C. The Canadian sources of divorce mediation were largely gleaned from Howard Irving's Divorce Mediation - A Rational Alternative to the Adversary System. James Cook of the Joint Custody Association of Los Angeles, CA and Bob Karls of the Single Father Advocate of Seattle, WA both furnished their mailing lists which resulted in the location of many new organizations and the rediscovering of old "lost ones."

The goals for the Directory are: 1. to help parents threatened or in divorce to obtain information which will make the divorce less traumatic to themselves and their children and 2. to improve communication among individuals and organizations concerned with divorce reform.

The primary arrangement is by state (or foreign country, 70 listings for 14 countries) and within that by two broad categories, such as: organizations and services of divorce mediation. Each entry contains the name of the organization, the contact person, the mailing address, telephone numbers, a statement of interest and services offered. There is a further interest focus such as: CA (child abuse), R (research on single fatherhood) and L (library). Fifteen, services-provided codes include such as: "monitors state and national legislation;" "speakers bureau;" and "pro se training program." Local or national geographical scope is indicated.

The Directory is the most current and comprehensive work of its kind. It is a "must have" for all library reference collections which serve males or people who are concerned with them. Librarians should not only acquire this directory for their collections but also actively promote as much as possible in updating the data base with new and revised information.


Single Dads Lifestyle is back in publication with the July, 1983 issue (volume 5, no.1) after a one year hiatus. Editor/publisher, Bob Hirschfeld promises that the financial and personal crises is over (law school and the bar exam) and that all current subscriptions, no matter how close to expiration, will yield a full twelve months of SDL beginning with July, 1983.

This issue contains a substantive editorial on the National Congress for Men's response to the "Constitutional Challenge to Maternal Preference Statutes;" a report on the First American Bar Association Conference on Interstate Child Custody/Parental Kidnaping; a first (information) aid kit for divorcing/divorced dads; and the 1983 Single Dad's Lifestyle Blue List, 550 listings of parental (fathers') rights/divorce reform organizations, the same ones which appear in the National Congress for Men 1983 Directory. This publication has a very clear legal focus and may not encompass all of the topics its title implies. It has been a gold mine of substantive information on the legal environment of single male parents and should, therefore, be in every collection, academic and non-academic which serves men with children. Even though the course of divorce can be predictable, every dissolved marriage with children produces a single dad, and that's a lot of folks who will benefit from access to SDL.

Single Dads Lifestyle. Monthly. P.O. Box 4842, Scottsdale, Arizona 85261. $12.00 per year.

MACK GIFT: A MEN'S MOVEMENT IN UTAH

Who would believe that the men's movement might flourish in one of the least likely places in the country? Who would give over twenty workshops of seven sessions each to concerned men and accept only donations in recompense? The answer is Mack Gift. For him, men's sanity and happiness are at stake; and far from being the privileged caste, men must learn how to get in touch with themselves to survive.

I met Mack during the planning sessions for the 1983 Joint Women's and Men's Conference at the University of Utah. While the Women's Conference had a ten-year history, the joint conference date from the First Men's Conference was put together somewhat haphazardly on short notice in 1982, that we are all people before sex roles intrude. Mack took an active part in the innumerable long discussions on the philosophy of the conference and especially emphasized the need to reach out to all men, not only to the intellectuals, to the educated, and to the middle class. For him, the patriarchal male has a more potent rage. He knows the surface probe is not enough because the male is not in touch with his feelings. By tapping into this hidden power, the men's movement could take fire in a conservative area such as Utah because the black prospect of change is always the most real action. He has coined his movement "Falmenism" and describes it in his own words as a belief that "men now need to engage in intensive reevaluation of self in terms of non-violence flowing instead of pushing, cooperation, in place of competition in order to achieve personal emotion and respect for all living things.

While Mack does not say a whole lot about himself during his workshops, he recounts parts of his life in The Gift Experience: Poetry/Theory/Life (Salt Lake City: Whole Person Publishing, 1979). Born of sharecropper parents in 1941, he moved at an early age from Missouri to Utah. Describing his early years as "a period of fighting, repression, programming and violence." he went on to college and earned an MS in Political Science at the University of Utah with a traditional thesis, The Blue Book: The Goals and Reforms of the Egyptian Government, 1952-1956. Two years in the Urban Job Corp changed his orientation so that when he went back to school he wrote his dissertation in Sociology on Self-Concept and Social Change Among Black Youth.

The first book finishes with a postscript of unemployment. While I know how Mack is living in 1983, I'm not sure how he maintains his lifestyle. His earnings mainly from Howard Irving's Divorce Mediation - A Rational Alternative to the Adversary System; Contemporary American Poultry, Volume One, Chicken (Sandy, Utah: Folk Ford Press, 1980) shows a continuing interest in poetry, but no holdings symbols in OCLC proves its lack of seller status. While giving his workshop for men at night, he talked of other programs during the day, and I presume that some were on a firmer financial footing than donations only. He uses gestures which he learned as a child of the poor, which he helped us into getting to know each other, we progressed towards scarier exercises where many revealed deeply hidden fears and expectations under "normal" exteriors. One man could not forget the humiliation at being denounced, another the torment of being rejected in an environment which sought to erase all traces of homosexuality. The safe intellectuals in the group dropped out quickly, but those that stayed could feel the sense of community growing among us. We could accept the humanity of another even with a few sessions of listening and agreeing with his position. We tended our support as a sign that we needed to get along during our short stay together on this planet.

I don't agree with all that Mack Gift has to say. My idea of manliness and the men's movement differs radically from his beliefs in several areas, but these disagreements do not diminish my respect for the man. He has faith, faith in men to get beyond the stereotypes that hurt them as much as women. Faith in the possibility of positive change to make the world better. He believes that his ideas will conquer in the end and that the advance guard of the men's movement will come out of Utah. I wish him well and hope that this faith will be rewarded.

--Bob Holley--University of Utah
and activist groups work to provide legal representation and support to the refugees. The Central American Refugee Defense Fund (297 Lee St., Oakland, CA 95610) has been formed as a coalition/network of resources from such organizations as American Civil Liberties Union, American Friends Service Committee, Church World Service, National Lawyers Guild, and others. A Network News-letter is being issued to communicate their activities. Lawyers and legal scholars will also want to acquire a new book, Guide to International Human Rights Practice, ed. by Hurst Hannum. Philadelphia: Univ. of Pennsylvania Press, 1983.

Meanwhile also, Central America Resource Center, Inc. (P.O. Box 2327, Austin, TX 78710) is a new private non-profit institution created to meet the national need for more systematic access to information about Central America. It will operate a specialized library of research material, indexed for computer access by title, subject and author. Special programs and services will include documentation for refugee legal support; a writers' clearinghouse and speakers' roster; a directory of Central American organizations; and an electronic bulletin board.

Another kind of networking response to Central America focuses on sending Christian observers to Nicaragua to be sympathetic "witnesses" to the results of daily attacks against villages by U.S.-supplied mercenaries for our government's attempt to destabilize the Nicaraguan regime. The first such group of Americans to stay on the border reported on the experience in the September issue of Sojourners Magazine. While establishment of a national center for this program is still underway, a decentralized group of supporters has begun arrangements for an on-going round of visits to the region to create a permanent "presence" for peace. (For more information, write: Richard Taylor, 307 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19119; or David Sweet, 1322 Laurel St., Santa Cruz CA 95060; or Buddy Summers, 4220 S.P.I.D., No. 212, Corpus Christi, TX 88411.)

Some of the documentation dealing with the sanctuary movement are as follows:


"Basta! Sanctuary organizer's nuts and bolts supplement, no. 1." Chicago: Religious Task Force...1983. 52 p.


Southwest Alternatives Institute/Coyote. "The human tide." (Special issue

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examining flow of Central American refugees.) Coyote (P.O. Box 3355, Tucson, AZ 85722) August, 1983.

WGBH Educational Foundation.

Lee Regan, Chair

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> PEACE INFORMATION EXCHANGE TASK FORCE

Peace Information Exchange Task Force members met over dinner during ALA's Los Angeles Conference last June with librarians from the Santa Monica Public Library who have organized a Library Workers for Peace group among their staff. They distribute a quarterly newsletter titled, Study Peace, and describe themselves as a group "dedicated to increasing public awareness of the dangers of nuclear war by means of book reviews, displays, bibliographies, public programs and peace research projects." The newsletter is available free to libraries, $2 to individuals, from LWPF, P. O. Box 1496, Santa Monica, CA 90406.

NARMIC, the National Action/Research on the Military Industrial Complex, a project of the American Friends Service Committee at 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102, has a new 9-page guide, "Makers of the Cruise and Pershing II Missiles Built in Your Back Yard," listing Corporations with their addresses and the parts of these missiles' production for which they are responsible. You may be surprised at the huge number of manufacturers and research firms all around the country involved in this current arms activity. Available from NARMIC for $1 each, or 50 copies for $15, 100 copies for $25, 500 copies for $115. Checks payable to NARMIC/AFSC.

In spite of the heating up of international relations in the recent period, peace is still the major concern of many of us. An effort in Congress to establish a U. S. Peace Academy - a research institute that would study methods to resolve international conflicts by peaceful means - received the approval of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources in July. The bill, S.564, is the brain-child of West Virginia's Senator Jennings Randolph but has won 54 co-sponsors among the other Senators due to the growing concern for peace. But that gives no assurance of the bill's passage.

The bill authorizes $7.5 million to acquire headquarters for the Academy in Washington, $6 million in the first year and $10 million the second year for the Academy's programs, and additional funds could come from private donations.

Conservative legislators have lined up against the bill, claiming that there is enough such research already going on, and that the Academy could foster leftist views. When conservatives could not block support for the bill in committee, even after some of their amendments had been accepted, they stayed away from committee meetings in order to prevent a quorum and the taking of a vote, which was finally achieved in late July.

Support is needed for this first cautious step towards international peace. Write to your U. S. Senator urging favorable action on S.564, watch its progress in the Senate, and keep an eye out for the companion bill in the house.

Miriam Crawford
Temple University
Philadelphia, PA

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> LIBRARY UNION TASK FORCE

The Library Union Task Force plans two meetings at Midwinter in Washington, at 2 P.M. on Saturday, January 7th and at 8 P.M. on Monday, January 9th. The chief item of business will be continuing program planning for the Dallas Conference.

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TASK FORCE NEWS (Continued from p. 7)

The programs as presently planned are:

1. Program on effects of automation on our professional lives, with emphasis on the hazards and control of VDTs and the effect on professional autonomy.

2. Program on Library Unions' methods in use of political action.

Also on the agenda are the progress of the Directory of Library Unions and other items of concern to the membership.

As reported in September American Libraries, the staff association of the Rosenberg Library in Galveston, Texas affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers in June. When the board refused to negotiate, the Texas AFL-CIO filed an unfair labor practice charge with the NLRB and the case is now pending.

Peter Kidder, Co-coordinator

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