

2015-2016 ALA CD#44_62516_ACT
2015-2016 ALA MMD#3_62516_ACT
2016 ALA Annual Conference

This resolution was adopted by the ALA Council on Sunday, June 26, 2016

Resolution Calling Upon Libraries to Build More Inclusive Communities

Whereas 49 LGBTQ* people were murdered in Orlando on June 19th, 2016, in one of the most brutal and horrific mass shootings in American history;

Whereas 90% of those murdered were members of the Latinx community;

Whereas American society has been repeatedly shaken by mass shootings and the massacre of innocents within this country;

Whereas the current climate of violence can only be addressed through diligent and conscientious work in every aspect and level of public society;

Whereas the mission of libraries is to serve its community members, putting those community members at the focus of our resources and services;

Whereas libraries are perfectly poised to help in times of need, and libraries are at the heart of every community they serve across the United States;

Whereas librarians and library workers hold a special place of trust as respected and unbiased sources of information and guidance to our patrons and users;

Whereas librarians and library workers in every specialization in the profession are woven into the social fabric of their communities;

Whereas libraries are true refuges as exemplified by Ferguson, Baltimore, Flint, New Orleans, and many more Public Libraries, for all persons and opinions and that this open and accepting stance is a key part of American society; and

Whereas the American Library Association has a long history of supporting the LGBTQ* community and was the first professional organization in the country to openly address issues of sexual orientation; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. urges libraries, librarians, and library workers to cultivate more inclusive communities by actively engaging their communities to defuse and deescalate a culture of violence based on hatred, discrimination, and bigotry;

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2. stands with the LGBTQ*, Latinx, and diverse communities in confronting hate, discrimination, and bias while recognizing that they are impacted by violence at a much higher rate than the rest of society; and
3. affirms that violence of this kind has no place in a civil society.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Sunday, June 26, 2016, in Orlando, Florida



Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council

E-FORM to Resolution Calling Upon Libraries to Build More Inclusive Communities

Submitted on Saturday, June 25, 2016 - 10:25

Submitted by user:

Submitted values are:

Date: 06/25/2016

Resolution author(s): Christian Zabriskie, Aaron Dobbs, Turner Masland, and a host of others

E-mail address: aaron@thelibrarian.org

1. Title of Resolution: Resolution Calling Upon Libraries to Build More Inclusive Communities

2. ALA Units and/or Committees Consulted (if any): REFORMA, GLBTRT, subset of members

3. Endorsements by ALA Units and/or Committees (if any): REFORMA, GLBTRT

4. Fiscal implications: Specify the resources needed to carry out the resolution's directive(s).: 0

5. List all parties to whom resolution should be sent: ALA units, members, and libraries

6. Impact on ALA Policies and Positions: Explain how the resolution supports ALA's Strategic Plan, its mission, and/or its core values.: Restates policy

and encourages libraries to advance library interests

6a) ALA general policy or viewpoint: If the resolution sets forth a general policy or an ALA viewpoint, describe.: Libraries build communities!

6b) Change in existing policy: If this resolution necessitates a change in existing policy, state the policy number and the change.: None

6c) New policy: If this resolution establishes new policy, describe.: None

6d) Policy conflicts: If this resolution conflicts with existing policy, state provisions for resolving the conflict.: None

7. Initiating Committee or Unit (if any):

8. Pertinent Background Information, e.g. bibliography, citations, supportive quotes, URLs, etc.:

9. Mover's Name: Peter Hepburn

10. Secunder's Name: Loida Garcia-Febo