

RESOLUTION ON RACISM & SEXISM AWARENESS
Adopted by the ALA Membership in Meeting
Friday, July 23, 1976

WHEREAS, during the last 200 years the United States has failed to equalize the status of racial minorities and of women, and

WHEREAS, the American Library Association has professed belief in the principle of equality yet has failed to aggressively address the racism and sexism within its own professional province;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the American Library Association actively commit its prestige and resources to a coordinated action program that will combat racism and sexism in the library profession and in library service by taking the following steps:

THE ALA WILL SURVEY LIBRARY SCHOOLS TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT TO WHICH RACISM AND SEXISM AWARENESS TRAINING FORM A PART OF THE CURRICULA AND URGE THAT SUCH TRAINING BE ADDED TO THE CURRICULA IN EVERY LIBRARY SCHOOL WHERE IT IS NOT NOW INCLUDED.

THE LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION-PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION SECTION WILL DEVELOP A MODEL IN-SERVICE PROGRAM PROVIDING RACISM AND SEXISM AWARENESS TRAINING FOR LIBRARY PERSONNEL.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS, THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIVISION, THE YOUNG ADULT SERVICES DIVISION, THE REFERENCE AND ADULT SERVICES DIVISION, AND THE ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES WILL BE URGED TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM TO RAISE THE AWARENESS OF LIBRARY USERS TO THE PRESSING PROBLEM OF RACISM AND SEXISM.

THE RESOURCES AND TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION WILL DEVELOP A COORDINATED PLAN FOR THE REFORM OF CATALOGING PRACTICES THAT NOW PERPETUATE RACISM AND SEXISM.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the President and Executive Board assess the extent of implementation of these steps and report on progress by the 1977 Annual Conference.

THIS RESOLUTION was placed before the Membership as MR#4; it was subsequently amended and adopted in the above form. Original version was endorsed by: Asian American Caucus; Black Caucus; Board of Directors of REFORMA; Social Responsibilities Round Table Action Council; SRRT Chicano Task Force.

that it is ALA POLICY THAT COPYRIGHTS DO NOT APPLY TO MATERIALS PRODUCED WITH PUBLIC MONEY (EXHIBIT 17), #81, which contains recommendations to Congress and others on UNESCO FUNDING (Exhibit 19), and #82, relative to participation in the WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON THE HANDICAPPED (EXHIBIT 18).

Mrs. Ihrig stated, "it is not my intention, Madam Chairman, to attempt to shut off debate on anything requiring it. I have simply made a selection of those matters which I deemed to be either of high moral content or non-controversial. With regard to CD #77, Copyright of Government Funded Documents, Mrs. Ihrig advised Councilor Tanis that it was her understanding that the term "government" includes both state and federal funds.

RESOLUTION ON RACISM AND SEXISM AWARENESS - Exhibit 20. Jane Anne Hannigan, acting chairperson, Council Resolutions Committee, stated for the record that, "The Resolutions Committee did not have the opportunity between the close of the Membership Meeting this noon and the opening of Council this afternoon to do more than review this for determination that it did contain implications in terms of policy that already exist within the policy manual and potential new policy. This is the only determination that we have made. It lacks the stamp of the Committee because there was not sufficient time to review it in terms of guidelines. The Committee does indicate, however that the time limit that is recorded in the last resolve is a time limit in reference to the actions to be taken, which is a part of the guidelines, so in that it does not meet the guidelines for preparation of Resolutions. There are also financial implications involved, and COPES has not had the opportunity to receive this document from us and therefore has not had an opportunity to report." Adoption of the Resolution was moved by Norman Horrocks with several seconds. Meridith Bloss's motion, seconded by E. J. Josey, to amend by substituting "Race and Sex Discrimination" for the title Racism and Sexism Awareness FAILED. An amendment was suggested but not pursued by Harris McClaskey, since it had not entered the Membership discussion, to include throughout the resolution "physically and mentally handicapped." Alice Ihrig pointed out that the action proposed is "very instructional about implementation of existing policy, and we ought to know what the intent of this resolution is." Mr. Horrock's motion to ADOPT THE RESOLUTION ON RACISM AND SEXISM AWARENESS was put to a standing vote and CARRIED.

Acting President Jones requested a point of personal privilege for PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION FOR SERVICE TO RETIRING MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AND OFFICERS: Retiring Past President Edward G. Holley; Retiring Treasurer Frank B. Sessa; Councilors at Large: Russell Bidlack, Larry Earl Bone, Richard Dougherty (Executive Board), Roberto Esteves, Patricia Gavin, Louise Giles, James F. Govan, Agnes Griffen, Anna C. Hall, Judith A. Houke, Donald F. Jay, Anne Kelly, Hannah Kunkle, Jovian Lang, Harris C. McClaskey, Alice E. McKinley, Ruth C. McMartin, Daniel Melcher, Nancy N. Nilon, Selma K. Richardson, Anita R. Schiller, Elizabeth Martinez Smith, Peggy Brooks Smith; Councilors from Chapters: Meridith Bloss (Connecticut), Bob D. Carmack (South Dakota), Carol Ann Cunniff Ciallella (Rhode Island), William F. Hayes (Idaho), Deane W. Hill (Illinois), Ida Marie Jensen (Utah), Adalaide B. Lockhart (New Hampshire), Helen D. Lockhart (Tennessee), A. Robert Rogers (Ohio), Robert W. Hoehr (Colorado), Carl Stone (South Carolina, Irma R. Tomberlin (Oklahoma).