

## **RESOLUTION ON CHALLENGED MATERIALS**

### **An Interpretation of the LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS**

**WHEREAS, The LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS states that no library materials should be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval, and**

**WHEREAS, Constitutionally protected expression is often separated from unprotected expression only by a dim and uncertain line, and**

**WHEREAS, Any attempt, be it legal or extra-legal, to regulate or suppress material must be closely scrutinized to the end that protected expression is not abridged in the process, and**

**WHEREAS, The Constitution requires a procedure designed to focus searchingly on the question before speech can be suppressed, and**

**WHEREAS, The dissemination of a particular work which is alleged to be unprotected should be completely undisturbed until an independent determination has been made by a judicial officer, including an adversary hearing,**

**THEREFORE, THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, BE IT RESOLVED, That the American Library Association declares as a matter of firm principle that no challenged library material should be removed from any library under any legal or extra-legal pressure, save after an independent determination by a judicial officer in a court of competent jurisdiction and only after an adversary hearing, in accordance with well-established principles of law.**