

## Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.

II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; January 29, 2019.

Inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.

Although the Articles of the *Library Bill of Rights* are unambiguous statements of basic principles that should govern the service of all libraries, questions do arise concerning application of these principles to specific library practices. See the documents designated by the Intellectual Freedom Committee as Interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights (<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations>).

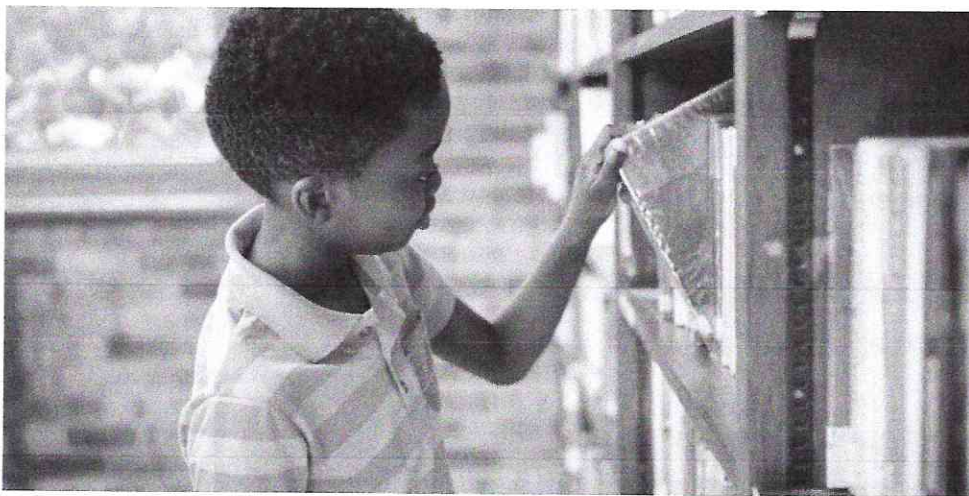
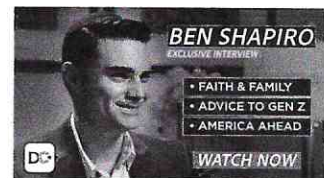


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## American Library Association Chooses Marxist Lesbian as President-Elect

Posted by Jeff Johnston | Apr 22, 2022 | Culture

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The American Library Association (ALA) recently announced that Emily Drabinski was voted in as their 2022-2023 president-elect. She will serve as president of the organization beginning in July 2023.

Drabinski tweeted, "I just cannot believe that a Marxist lesbian who believes that collective power is possible to build and can be wielded for a better world is the president-elect of @ALALibrary."

**I just cannot believe that a Marxist lesbian who believes that collective power is possible to build and can be wielded for a better world is the president-elect of @ALALibrary. I am so excited for what we will do together. Solidarity!**

**And my mom is SO PROUD I love you mom.**

**— Emily Drabinski (@edrabinski) April 13, 2022**

Drabinski works as the interim chief librarian and the critical pedagogy librarian at the City University of New York’s Graduate Center. “Critical pedagogy” is an educational philosophy that is a kissing cousin of “critical race theory.”

Both ideologies grew out of “critical theory,” which was developed at The Frankfurt School, in Germany, by Marxists who were trying to understand why Germans had rejected Communism. Many members of the Frankfurt School migrated to the U.S., taking up key positions at leading universities.

In her campaign, Drabinski was clear that she wants to move the ALA even further to the left, stating:

**So many of us find ourselves at the ends of our worlds. The consequences of decades of unchecked climate change, class war, white supremacy, and imperialism have led us here. If we want a world that includes public goods like the library, we must organize our collective power and wield it. The American Library Association offers us a set of tools that can harness our energies and build those capacities.**

Her campaign platform touted the slogan “Equity as action,” where she explained:

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**Social and economic justice and racial equity requires that we make a material difference in the lives of library workers and patrons who have for too long been denied power and opportunity on the basis of race, gender, sexuality, national origin, spoken language, and disability.**

Sexuality

Drabinski said she would “advance a public agenda that puts organization for justice at the center of library work.”

You might be confused if you thought that a librarian’s main agenda was to help people find good books.

You might be even more confused if you believed librarians should be somewhat neutral and refrain from pushing a leftist political agenda on readers.

In her work with the publisher Litwin Books and Library Juice Press, she is editor of a “Series on Gender and Sexuality in Information Studies.” Books in the series include titles such as *Queers Online: LGBT Digital Practices in Libraries, Archives, and Museums*, *Out Behind the Desk: Workplace Issues for LGBTQ Librarians*, and *Feminists Among Us: Resistance and Advocacy in Library Leadership*.

The ALA is not a friend to parents.

Instead of taking parents’ concerns seriously, the organization’s Office for Intellectual Freedom has advice for school librarians about how to fight back against parents who believe certain books might be inappropriate for children.

It dramatically labels concerned parental involvement “censorship” and “book banning.”

The association's "Library Bill of Rights" demonstrates what the group thinks about parents' challenging inappropriate materials and parental involvement in their children's book choices. Here are three articles from that document:

**III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.**

**V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views. (The ALA re-affirmed the inclusion of "age" in this article back in 1996.)**

**VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.**

Basically, the ALA believes children should be able to check out whatever books they want and that they deserve "privacy and confidentiality" – including from parents – in those decisions.

Over at *The Federalist*, Joy Pullman reported on Drabinski's election, pointing out that her article "Queering the Catalog" is the most cited work on her Google Scholar page. Other article titles include "Gendered S(h)elves: Body and Identity in the Library" and "Queering library space: Notes toward a new geography of the library."

*The Federalist* also quoted from a lecture she gave in 2021, "Teaching the Radical Catalog." Drabinski spoke about pointing students toward books that would lead them to their brand of "queerness."

**At Sarah Lawrence, absolutely everybody was queer. ... There were so many ways to be gay. ... And it was my job to teach those students how to find themselves in our library catalog.**

In that same talk, Drabinski explained that “queerness includes the subversion of those kinds of normal family types.” Pullman explained, “She’s referring to the family types that naturally produce children – i.e. a married man and woman.”

As we’ve reported at *The Daily Citizen*, the ALA already seems bent on pushing leftist and sexualized books on children, adolescents and teens. We can expect even more of that with Drabinski at the helm.

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



### Jeff Johnston

Jeff Johnston works as a culture & policy analyst, researching and writing about a variety of subjects including marriage, homosexuality, and healthy sexuality. Though raised in a Christian home and actively involved in his church growing up, Johnston struggled for years to reconcile his Christian faith with his same-sex attractions and sexual addiction. While working as a youth intern at a church in San Diego, he attended a conference, "Hope and Healing for the Homosexual," which began his journey of healing and change. Since then, he has shared the story of God's transforming power with churches, youth groups, schools and the news media. Before joining Focus, Johnston served as a director on the boards of Exodus International and Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays and Gays (PFOX), ministries dedicated to providing resources and support for men and women with unwanted same-sex attractions, and for their churches and families. In addition, he served as executive director of ministries in Baltimore and San Diego, helping men and women move toward God's design for healthy sexuality. Johnston has been interviewed by top media outlets including CBS Sunday Morning, The New York

Times, U.S. News and World Report, Associated Press, Deseret News, The Christian Post, Rolling Stone, Mashable and Vice, and he's been a guest for numerous radio interviews throughout the country. Johnston also regularly contributes articles to The Daily Citizen. He graduated from San Diego State University and lives in Colorado Springs with his wife and three sons.

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