

From the Editor



Major social changes have shaken American society since *Louisiana Libraries* published its last Intellectual Freedom Manual. Having the most current laws and sources at hand is vital for librarians if we hope to optimize the availability of information to our citizenry. We hope that this manual will give you the tools necessary for creating and promoting sound library policies and practical procedures concerning intellectual freedom. If we are to effectively refute restrictions of access, it is incumbent on us not only to understand our value as protectors of these freedoms, but to learn the current standards and statutes that

apply to them. This manual contains the most current information available.

I am so grateful to Charlene Cain for guest editing the 2006 Intellectual Freedom Manual. Her diligence and devotion inspired her to work countless hours to make this manual happen. Thank you, Charlene, for your commitment to this cause.

Vivian Solar

Rita Margaret Wilhite, Assistant Director of the St Charles Parish Library, passed away on Monday, January 9, 2006 after a battle with cancer. Margaret began working for the St Charles Parish Library in June 1988 as the Children's Librarian and was named Assistant Director in 1990. She received her Masters Degree in Library and Information Science from Louisiana State University in May of 1988. She also received a Masters Degree in 1976 and a Doctorate Degree in Anthropology in 1977 from Washington University and spent several years as a college professor before pursuing a career in libraries. Margaret was a valuable and well-respected member of the Louisiana's library community. Her article on intellectual freedom in public libraries is included in this manual.

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