



To: SRRT Members

From: Linda Pierce, SRRT Coordinator

The Philadelphia Conference proved to be exciting, interesting, tiring, and a reminder of how much the American Library Association needs SRRT and its members.

The major controversy of the conference was the recommendation of the Executive Director to the Executive Board to eliminate the Office for Library Outreach Services (OLOS) as part of the cutbacks necessary to balance the budget. Approval of this recommendation would have meant elimination of the Office, termination of Jean Coleman's position, and distribution of her responsibilities to other offices.

At the membership meeting on Monday, July 12th, overwhelming support was voiced for OLOS and a resolution to continue the Office and its funcna cont vo(, (uptiovs)ni enygf)ggggFswf(gggF-' pofv)(pprtsvs(. (z. ptvyntvb e} /F .

## ALTERNATIVE NOTES

CHANGE IN TITLE (HEAVEN FORBID)

A handout given to participants in a workshop held for editors in Philadelphia, included a section on Changes. "If it

# INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TASK FORCE

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## Statement of Purpose:

The SRRT Task Force on International Human Rights serves to extend the concerns of American librarians for social justice to all peoples throughout the world. The recognition of issues on the national level to which SRRT and other groups in ALA are committed, including such concerns as children's rights; freedom of information and intellectual freedom; rights of institutionalized persons and of minorities; women's rights; civil and other rights, is inseparable from the promotion and protection of these rights in other countries.

## Functions:

1. To coordinate the identification of human and informational resources with which to address the problems and issues of international human rights;
2. To promote within the library profession an increased awareness of international human rights;
3. To serve as a forum and to provide support for any persons who wish to address aspects of international human rights issues within the library profession and within libraries and library programs;
4. To identify and to serve as a coordinating unit for communicating with similar groups in other professional societies, such as the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Bar Association and others.

## Immediate Goals:

1. To inform the ALA membership of the establishment of this Task Force;
2. To develop a network of persons in ALA who are concerned about promoting and sharing information about international human rights;
3. To plan and implement meetings and communications for effectively meeting the purposes of the Task Force.

## Other Goals:

1. To encourage librarians, as citizens as well as information providers, to be personally knowledgeable about and to participate in the work of international human rights organizations, such as Amnesty International;



Firestone, Shulamith. THE DIALECTIC OF SEX. Bantam, 1971.  
Franks, Maurice. HOW TO AVOID ALIMONY. New American Library  
1975.  
Friday, Nancy. MEN IN LOVE. Delacorte Press, 1980.  
Friedan, Betty. THE SECOND STAGE. Summit Books, 1981.  
Gal per, Miriam. JOINT CUSTODY AND CO-PARENTING HANDBOOK:

# STATE SRRT NOTES

WASHINGTON

ALTERNATIVE NOTES (cont. from p. 3)

#### INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

Other works, such as *People Matter: Views on International Human Rights Policy*, by Theo van Boven (Meulenhoff, 1982) are too recent and "foreign" to expect on such a list, but this raises the most relevant point - of what use are these lists? How many of the titles on the Choice list are



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CORETTA SCOTT KING AWARD

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## MILITARISM AND THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE

At the Philadelphia meeting of Action Council, a suggestion was put forward that would relate next year's Task Force programs to militarism and the nuclear arms race.

Since the military mindset of those in power in our society threatens both social justice and human survival, would it not be appropriate for SRRT Task Forces to give some consideration to how the arms race is impacting on their particular concerns? There is a growing realization that issues of social justice are in one way or another related to militarism. Civil rights advocates, feminists, union organizers, fighters for gay rights, civil libertarians - all of us are affected by militarism, whether it be by the consequences of the budget shift from social services to the arms buildup, by the patriarchal socialization of our children that is at the heart of militarism, or by the domestic and foreign racist policies that maintain militarism. If unchecked, militarism will spread into ever increasing areas of our society and threaten the very existence of groups - like SRRT - committed to social change. The ultimate bond is our survival as human beings.

Last summer's ALA resolution to support the nuclear freeze was a forward step. Another professional organization - the National Education Association - at its convention last summer set the issue of militarism as its priority for the coming year. Let's follow that example. What more appropriate group within ALA to call for a dialogue on the issue than SRRT? If we take the lead now and by our actions show other divisions of ALA just how critical we regard this issue, we will be in a good position to offer proposals for a positive course of action.

That is the thinking behind the suggestion that SRRT Task Forces place the issue of disarmament and militarism for deliberation at mid-winter and consider ways that their p.v., (p.v., (GPrene rs hazi haca

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