

## Statement of Concern on the Use of Floor in Libraries' Public Areas

SRRT recognizes that the US flag is an appropriate, proud, and respectfully displayed symbol of our nation and law in libraries, public institutions. The display of the flag is a formal matter which is meant to honor our country and its values.

However, the aggressive display of the flag, such as large numbers and in an unusual manner might be taken as an endorsement of other things, institutional endorsement of current US governmental policies.

Privileging symbolic speech in possible support of current US governmental policies tends to undermine the library as a place of thought and compromise the neutrality of its library spaces. Unusual displays may create an intimidating atmosphere for some library users who may be deterred in their request for assistance. SRRT urges libraries to be sensitive to these concerns.

Endorsed by SRRT Action Council in 1992