

Resolution Condemning U.S. Media Corporations' Abridgement of Free Speech

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA) regards Intellectual Freedom as a core value of Librarianship (ALA Policy B.1.1);

Whereas ALA opposes any use of governmental prerogatives that lead to the intimidation of individuals or groups and discourages them from exercising the right of free expression as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (ALA Policy B.2.4); and

Whereas in recent years there have been multiple high profile incidents of US corporations abridging the free speech rights of US citizens seemingly to maintain profitable relationships with repressive governments, especially the government of China. We believe the following corporations have taken actions inconsistent with ALA's policies on free expression.

- Activision/Blizzard
- The National Basketball Association
- ESPN
- Apple
- TikTok
- YouTube
- Zoom

Whereas these acts permit governments with restrictive approaches to speech to extend the reach of their policies beyond their own borders, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

- 1: Directs the executive director to publish a statement condemning the actions of these companies mentioned above and for other media companies to respect the intellectual freedom of its users and/or clients
2. Urges its members to educate their patrons about data collection, surveillance and algorithm bias.

Movers: Gina Kromhout, GameRT Councilor
Seconders: Tara Brady, SRRT Councilor

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