

If this nation is to be wise as well as strong, if we are to achieve our destiny, then we need more new ideas for more wise men reading more good books in more public libraries. These libraries should be open to all-except the censor. We must know all the facts and hear all the alternatives and listen to all the criticisms. Let us welcome controversial books and controversial authors. For the Bill of Rights is the guardian of our security as well as our liberty.”

John F. Kennedy

The books that the world calls immoral are the books that show the world its own shame.

Oscar Wilde

Restriction on free thought and free speech is the most dangerous of all subversions. It is the one un-American act that could most easily defeat us.

William O. Douglas

Fear of ideas makes us impotent and ineffective.

William O. Douglas

We all know that books burn, yet we have the greater knowledge that books cannot be killed by fire. People die, but books never die.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Free speech is to a great people what winds are to oceans and malarial regions, which waft away the elements of disease, and bring new elements of health; and where free speech is stopped miasma is bred, and death comes fast.

Henry Ward Beecher

They that start by burning books will end by burning men.

Heinrich Heine

**Banned Books Week sponsored by the American Library Association, 23 – 30
September, 2006: www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.htm**