

Resolution in support of whistleblower Edward Snowden

Whereas, since 1939 the American Library Association (ALA) has affirmed the right to privacy in its Code of Ethics, which currently states, “We protect each library user's right to privacy and confidentiality with respect to information sought or received and resources consulted, borrowed, acquired or transmitted”;

Whereas in “Principles for the Networked World” in 2002 ALA included among the “principles of privacy” the fact that “privacy is a right of all people and must be protected in the networked world” and the recognition that “the rights of anonymity and privacy while people retrieve and communicate information must be protected as an essential element of intellectual freedom”;

Whereas in 2002 in “Privacy: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights” ALA recognized that “privacy is essential to the exercise of free speech, free thought, and free association”;

Whereas in 2003 in its “Resolution on the USA Patriot Act and Related Measures that Infringe on the Rights of Library Users” ALA criticized the “USA PATRIOT Act and other recently enacted laws, regulations, and guidelines” on the grounds that they “increase the likelihood that the activities of library users, including their use of computers to browse the Web or access e-mail, may be under government surveillance without their knowledge or consent” (CD#20.1, 2003);

Whereas in 2004 ALA passed a “Resolution on Securing Government Accountability through Whistleblower Protection” affirming its “support for accountable government and the role of whistleblowers in reporting abuse, fraud, and waste in governmental activities” (CD#20.7, 2004);

Whereas in 2005 in its “Resolution on Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Technology and Privacy Principles” ALA insisted that “user privacy and confidentiality has long been an integral part of the mission of libraries” (CD#19.1, 2005ir use Privac005ir use us[)JT&TI4043@04F 8(5i)5

2008 Amended Code of Ethics

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/proethics/codeofethics/Code%20of%20Ethics%20of%20the%20American%20Library%20Association.pdf>

2002 "Principles for the Networked World"