



FREE SPEECH CHECK LIST



Have you posted a clear statement of your store's commitment to free speech and customer privacy?

Post "To Our Customer"—a statement prepared by the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression (ABFFE), the bookseller's voice in the fight against censorship. The handsomely illustrated signs are available in two versions that may be downloaded from the ABFFE Web site, <http://www.abffe.com/freespeechstatements.htm>, ordered by e-mail, info@abffe.com, or requested by telephone, (212) 587-4025, ext. 13.

Do you know what to say when a police officer asks you to reveal customer information?

Order ABFFE's "Protecting Customer Privacy in Bookstores," a pamphlet that tells you how to handle "unofficial" inquiries, subpoenas, and search warrants.

Are you ready to address complaints about events involving controversial authors?

ABFFE will send you a model statement that you can use to help explain to customers why it is important for bookstores to provide a forum for a wide range of views.

Is your staff prepared to answer questions about why you carry (or don't carry) a particular book?

ABFFE has created a DVD and training guide to help booksellers respond to the free speech questions that frequently come up in bookstores. Order "Scenes from a Bookstore: Free Speech Vignettes."

Do you participate in Banned Books Week?

Booksellers love Banned Books Week, the only national celebration of the freedom to read. ABFFE provides ideas and materials that enable you to participate easily and inexpensively. You can go online to look at ABFFE's Banned Books Week Handbook, <http://www.abffe.com/banned2007.htm>.

Are you an ABFFE member?

ABFFE stands ready to help you 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Join ABFFE and receive "In Case of First Amendment Emergency," a card that tells you how to reach us 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Post it by the telephone!

You can join ABFFE online, <http://www.abffe.com/about.htm>.