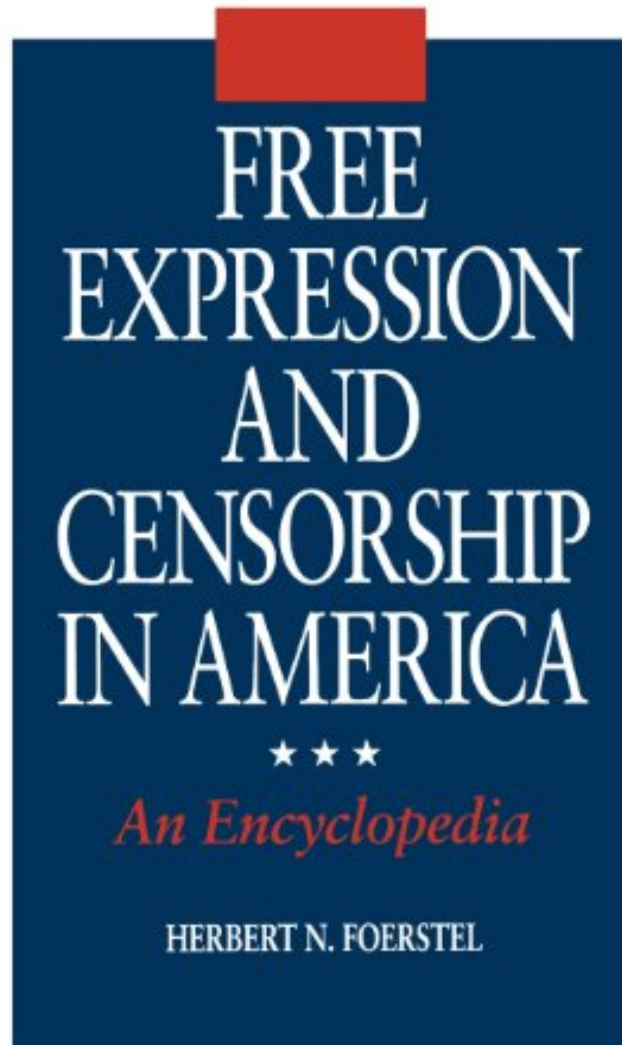


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Free Expression and Censorship in America: An Encyclopedia (New Directions in Information Management)

Herbert N. Foerstel

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#5558177 in Books Herbert N Foerstel 1997-04-22Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.21 x .63 x 6.14l, 1.30 #File Name: 0313292310272 pagesFree Expression and Censorship in America An Encyclopedia | File size: 60.Mb

Herbert N. Foerstel : Free Expression and Censorship in America: An Encyclopedia (New Directions in Information Management) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all

praised Free Expression and Censorship in America: An Encyclopedia (New Directions in Information Management):

Despite the end of the Cold War, America's national security apparatus for controlling information has remained in place. However, sex and secularism are emerging as the major targets of censorship. Federal decency standards have been imposed on art, the broadcast media, and the Internet. Virtually every major political issue of the 1990s (abortion, campaign finance, violence on TV, homosexuality, indecency on the Internet) has First Amendment implications, and all are included in this comprehensive encyclopedia. This work covers the full history of America's struggle for free expression, as well as the contemporary dynamics represented by pop figures like Frank Zappa, Howard Stern, and Danny Goldberg and politicians like Jesse Helms and Don Edwards. It goes beyond other academic works of its kind by recognizing the primacy of the mass media and the Internet in defining the modern contours of the First Amendment.

From Booklist As Foerstel points out in his introduction, the history of free expression in this country is a notable one, beginning with the First Amendment. But that history also encompasses a long struggle pitting free speech and open access to information against censorship and secrecy. The alphabetically arranged entries include biographical material on individuals noted for their activities concerning intellectual freedom; information on organizations from the ACLU to the Liberty Federation; and essays on issues such as indecency, and the term "politically correct." Entries range in length from a paragraph to three or four pages. Longer entries contain substantial information, especially for significant topics such as the Freedom of Information Act or the House Un-American Activities Committee; broad issues such as hate speech and whistleblowing; and major figures such as Hugo Black. Most entries end with suggestions for further reading. These are primarily current monographs, but there are also some journal articles, videocassettes, and dissertations. There is also a selected bibliography appended, as well as a table of significant court cases and an index. Unlike those contained in *The Intellectual Freedom Reference Handbook* (ABC-Clio, 1992), the court cases are not summarized. It would have been a useful feature to include here. The ABC-Clio work has a similar focus but is organized like other volumes in the *Contemporary World Issues* series, with an introductory essay, chronology, biographical sketches, information on organizations (some of which was a source for Foerstel), and an extensive annotated bibliography. *Mass Media and the Constitution: An Encyclopedia of Supreme Court Decisions* (Garland, 1989) is a good place to find more discussion of important cases in communications. *Facts On File's Encyclopedia of Censorship* [RBB Mr 15 90] covers the history and status of censorship worldwide and, therefore, does not have as in-depth (or up-to-date) coverage of issues in the U.S. *Free Expression and Censorship in America* is noteworthy for its treatment of contemporary issues and personalities--including the Internet and Howard Stern--as well as the full history of our country's interpretation of this basic tenet. Recommended for high-school, public, and academic libraries. "Free Expression and Censorship in America is noteworthy for its treatment of contemporary issues and personalities--including the Internet and Howard Stern--as well as the full history of our country's interpretation of this basic tenet. Recommended for high-school, public, and academic libraries."-*Booklist/Reference Books Bulletin* "The text's thorough essays and diverse entries function as a valuable reference tool for anyone researching or just curious about the state of free expression in America today."-*Libraries and Culture Book* ?The text's thorough essays and diverse entries function as a valuable reference tool for anyone researching or just curious about the state of free expression in America today.?-*Libraries and Culture Book* ?Free Expression and Censorship in America is noteworthy for its treatment of contemporary issues and personalities--including the Internet and Howard Stern--as well as the full history of our country's interpretation of this basic tenet. Recommended for high-school, public, and academic libraries.?-*Booklist/Reference Books Bulletin* From the Back Cover Abortion, campaign financing, TV violence, homosexuality, and indecency on the Internet all have First Amendment implications, and all have been major political issues in the 1990s. During this decade, sex and secularism emerged as major targets of censorship, and an increasing number of Americans tested the limits of the Federal "decency" standards that were imposed on the arts, the broadcast media, and the Internet. America's interest in free expression has been paralleled by the growth of a powerful system of secrecy and censorship. This comprehensive encyclopedia documents the full history of the struggle in Congress, in the courts, and in our communities to define the modern contours of the First Amendment.