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APA 7th ed.

(1966). Report to the Minister of Justice of the Special Committee on Hate Propaganda in Canada. Ottawa, Published by the Authority of the Honourable Lucien Cardin Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of Canada.

Chicago 17th ed.

Report to the Minister of Justice of the Special Committee on Hate Propaganda in Canada. Ottawa, Published by the Authority of the Honourable Lucien Cardin Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of Canada.

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PREFACE

This Report is a study in the power of words to maim, and what it is that a civilized society can do about it. Not every abuse of human communication can or should be controlled by law or custom. But every society from time to time draws lines at the point where the intolerable and the impermissible coincide. In a free society such as our own, where the privilege of speech can induce ideas that may change the very order itself, there is a bias weighted heavily in favour of the maximum of rhetoric whatever the cost and consequences. But that bias stops this side of injury to the community itself and to individual members or identifiable groups innocently caught in verbal cross-fire that goes beyond legitimate debate.

An effort is made here to re-examine, therefore, the parameters of permissible argument in a world more easily persuaded than before because the means of transmission are so persuasive. But ours is also a world aware of the perils of falsehood disguised as fact and of conspirators eroding the community's integrity through pretending that conspiracies from elsewhere now justify verbal assaults -- the non-facts and the non-truths of prejudice and slander.

Hate is as old as man and doubtless as durable. This Report explores what it is that a community can do to lessen some of man's intolerance and to proscribe its gross exploitation.

