

Thus Said...

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Thus Said . . .

"Legislating cyberspace is like trying to legislate rain."

Syndicated columnist **Leonard Pitts Jr.** on the *Children's Internet Protection Act*, June 11.

"Let me make sure that I got this right, that librarians, their position is that it's okay for pedophiles and sex addicts to come in and look at porn on the computers in the library, but the FBI agents have to stay outside, right?" *The Beltway* host **Fred Barnes**, Fox News Channel, July 6.

"Any librarian with superb reading and index skills could have connected the memos from Arizona and Minnesota." Writing teacher **Susan Froetschel**, *New Haven Register*, July 17, claiming librarians could have connected the pre-September 11 terrorism clues better than the FBI.

"Reading is the foundation upon which education is built. Those who don't read, or don't value reading, are doomed to failure." Op-Ed writer **David Porter**, bemoaning low library use in black communities in Orange County, Florida, *Orlando Sentinel*, July 13.

"Surround kids with interesting reading material and encourage them to read it, and the results are nothing short of literacy." Scottsdale, Arizona, middle school teacher **John Scudder**, *Arizona Republic*, June 29.

. . . of the USA Patriot Act:

"I hate to be in a position of telling people 'don't go online and speak' or 'watch what you say,' but you have to take from this that on an arbitrary basis, the FBI is going to be tagging people as terrorists based on what they say online." **Jim Dempsey**, deputy director, Center for Democracy and Technology, quoted in *ZDNET News*, June 6.

"Library associations, civil libertarians, even average book-loving Americans are understandably nervous about whether library and bookstore record searches will be abused. But if it comes to an actual case, you probably won't hear a peep. The law imposes a gag on librarians about specific searches. That's scary." Editorial by **Laurel Walker**, *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, July 8.

"And the American Library Association says we are running out of librarians. Librarians? We're running out of people who know how to read. Forget librarians." Comedian **Jay Leno**, *The Tonight Show*, June 19.

"Surely a library that consists predominantly of classics should not be viewed as one that deprives students of the opportunity to a sound basic education." Justice **Alfred D. Lerner**, *New York Court of Appeals*, overturning a trial court ruling that had declared unconstitutional New York's low funding for, among other educational needs, up-to-date library books.

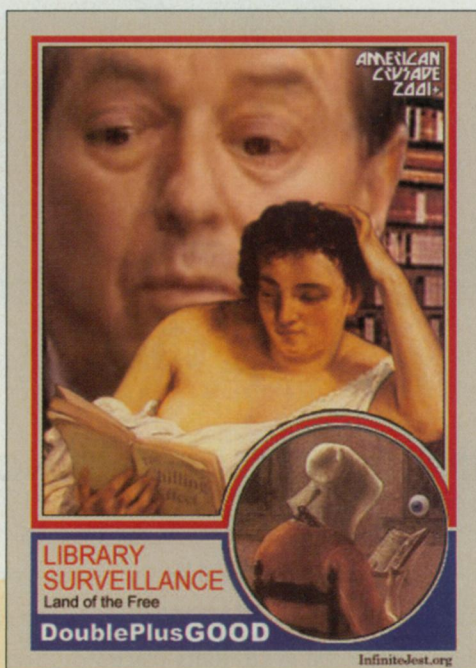
"Lately, going to the public library has been like going to the grocery store on an empty stomach: Everything looks yummy." *Metro* reporter **Erin J. Walter**, *Austin American-Statesman*, June 27.

"What I did was a matter of record, but what I want is the whole record out." Former President **Bill Clinton**, on the treatment of his impeachment at his presidential library, *Newsweek*, July 29.

"But now we are getting to the point where we can't use a library card without opening ourselves up to Big Brother." Columnist **Maureen Dowd**, *New York Times*, June 26.

"Unless public libraries and bookstores are really sources of top secret documents and clandestine information vital only to terrorists, what is the point in threatening readers? Are books that dangerous?" **Bob Hoover**, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* book editor, July 21.

"It used to be a matter of flashing a badge and appealing to patriotism, but these days federal agents are finding it a little harder to get librarians to spy." Radio host **Laura Flanders**, *The Nation*, August 5–12.



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