

This resolution was adopted by the ALA Council on Sunday, June 26, 2016

Resolution Calling Upon Libraries to Build More Inclusive Communities

Whereas 49 LGBTQ* people were murdered in Orlando on June 19th, 2016, in one of the most brutal and horrific mass shootings in American history;

Whereas 90% of those murdered were members of the Latinx community;

Whereas American society has been repeatedly shaken by mass shootings and the massacre of innocents within this country;

Whereas the current climate of violence can only be addressed through diligent and conscientious work in every aspect and level of public society;

Whereas the mission of libraries is to serve its community members, putting those community members at the focus of our resources and services;

Whereas libraries are perfectly poised to help in times of need, and libraries are at the heart of every community they serve across the United States;

Whereas librarians and library workers hold a special place of trust as respected and unbiased sources of information and guidance to our patrons and users;

Whereas librarians and library workers in every specialization in the profession are woven into the social fabric of their communities;

Whereas libraries are true refuges as exemplified by Ferguson, Baltimore, Flint, New Orleans, and many more Public Libraries, for all persons and opinions and that this open and accepting stance is a key part of American society; and

Whereas the American Library Association has a long history of supporting the LGBTQ* community and was the first professional organization in the country to openly address issues of sexual orientation; now, therefore

to cultivate more inclusive communities by actively engaging their communities to defuse and deescalate a culture of violence based on hatred, discrimination, and bigotry;

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2. stands with the LGBTQ*, Latinx, and diverse communities in confronting hate, discrimination, and bias while recognizing that they are impacted by violence at a much higher rate than the rest of society; and
3. affirms that violence of this kind has no place in a civil society.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Sunday, June 26, 2016, in Orlando, Florida



Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council

E-FORM to Resolution Calling Upon Libraries to Build More Inclusive Communities