

The Speaker... A Film About

The First Amendment

When groups evoke their own form of censorship, targets can include bookstores... theaters... libraries... newspapers... schools... broadcasters... publishers. On the surface, the issues often affect our moral or emotional sensibilities and appear to be logical targets for suppression, but the underlying issue is identification of censorship as it affects First Amendment freedoms.

This is *the* film that deals with the issue of the First Amendment in a contemporary setting. Do people have a right to voice unpopular statements? If so, who is to make that determination?

You should not be without *The Speaker*—to identify the issues, to reason the conclusions.

Censorship...

Issues range from the right to dissent to the basic nature, purpose and changing methods of education; from the rights of parents and students to the rights of educators and school boards.

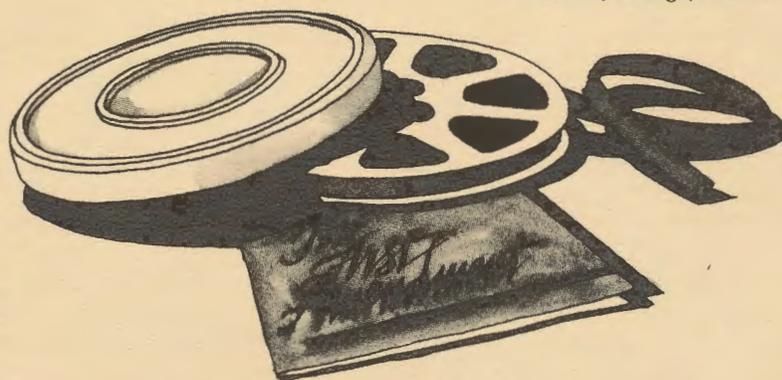
The focus of censorship is made hazy by the lack of a definition by the courts, the community, and the individual. Historically, censorship has been brought to bear on works considered heretical, seditious or obscene. A relatively new focal point of the censor is social ideas.

Our changing society is not a silent participant in the current interrelations of the First Amendment. Instant communication, unemployment, inflation... the haves and the have nots... people looking for something to hold, something to believe in, all have a voice.

This important film will help to articulate the many arguments of this complex issue—one of the most important of our time.

16mm—42 minutes—color
\$495.00 with Discussion Guide

Direct purchase order or request for preview print to:
**Office for Intellectual Freedom
AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
50 E. Huron, Chicago, IL 60611**



FREE TEACHER AND DISCUSSION LEADER'S GUIDE

Special concern has been directed at producing a product which will be usable as both a learning and teaching tool.

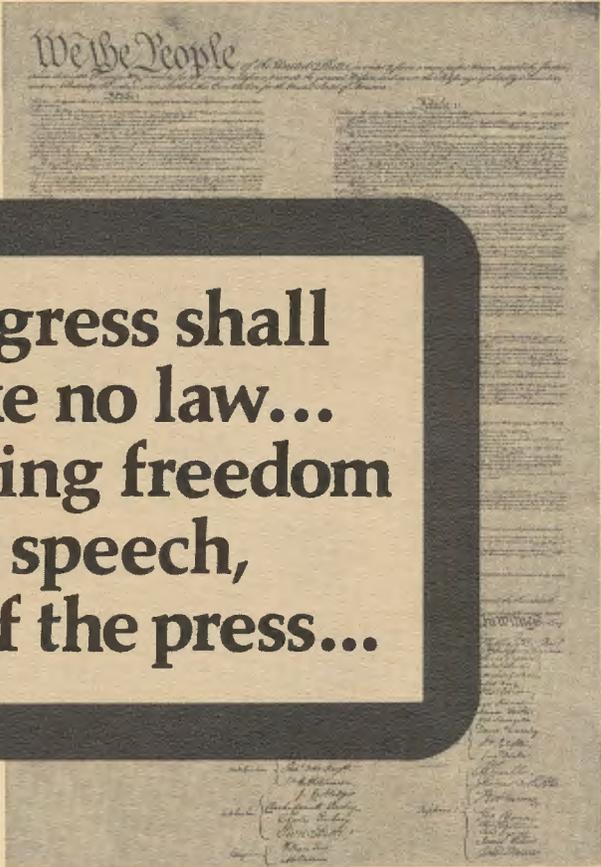
A comprehensive guide is included free with each film. It presents ideas, weaves together the related activities, and suggests ways to extend the concept of the film's main theme into a learning experience. Discussion may be organized to follow the film's events in chronological sequence or the events may be selected to conform to topical discussions. The comprehensive

nature of *The Speaker's* subject matter is equally amenable to discussion by complete classes, small groups and individuals.

An unusual amount of time and effort has gone into developing the discussion guide in order to provide ways in which groups can use the film to touch on the major issues of the First Amendment in a contemporary society and to relate these issues to the participants' everyday environment. Specific items included in the discussion guide are a summary of First Amendment issues, an

annotated bibliography of First Amendment publications and a comprehensive listing of more than 50 discussion questions.

Successful use of the discussion guide does not call for any special training. All the instructional materials are made available and it is anticipated that film viewers will be highly motivated to discuss the issues and that leaders will share in the important discussion and take pride in the outcome.



**Congress shall
make no law...
abridging freedom
of speech,
or of the press...**

This is a film today about the future of our freedom. By examining conflict in contemporary society, *The Speaker* is designed to:

- Serve as a major resource for public broadcasting and community programming
- Provide material for students in high school and college
- Offer continuing education for library professionals, teachers and community leaders

Access to All Information and Ideas...

Freedom of expression is a hollow right if the communication process is incomplete. To think, a person needs raw material—something to think about in order to fashion opinions and ideas.

Sometimes the circle breaks. Pressures from social, economic, cultural, religious, or governmental groups cause a series of events that displace the First Amendment freedoms.

But...

Now, a precedent-setting film has been produced by the American Library Association which explores the step-by-step process by which a group of intelligent and well-meaning people fail to see the ways in which their freedoms are eroded through actions which appear to be reasonable and harmless.

A creative learning process...

This exceptional film, starring Mildred Dunnock, nationally acclaimed actress and creator of important roles in theater, film, and television, looks at the subtle ways in which the practice of censorship creates discussion, controversy, and finally silence.

The Story...

There are no villains. No unlawful act is committed...but this film is chilling in its logic...frightening in its simplicity. Can liberty of expression be denied to one and saved for others? Can it be denied to many, and saved for one? Can the democratic process be used to destroy democracy?

You should not miss the opportunity to incorporate this film in your collection. It will bring you up to date on ideas, innovations, interpretations of the First Amendment and its function in our lives and society.

The film will test our dedication to liberty by looking at our willingness to allow the expression of ideas we hate; to allow publications with which we disagree; to allow untruth to circulate as well as truth.

The role of the institution...

Schools, colleges and libraries will be able to use this film to achieve increased understanding of their roles in the promotion and protection of ideas under the First Amendment.

