



# FREE SPEECH CHECK LIST



**Have you posted a clear statement of your store's commitment to free speech and customer privacy?**

Post "To Our Customer" — a statement prepared by the American Booksellers for Free Expression (ABFE), the bookseller's voice in the fight against censorship. The handsomely illustrated signs are available in two versions that may be downloaded from the ABFE web pages at [www.BookWeb.org/our-customers](http://www.BookWeb.org/our-customers) by e-mail, [abfe@bookweb.org](mailto:abfe@bookweb.org), or requested by telephone, (914) 406-7576.

**Do you know what to say when a police officer asks you to reveal customer information?**

Order ABFE's "Protecting Customer Privacy in Bookstores," a pamphlet that tells you how to handle "unofficial" inquiries, subpoenas, and search warrants.

**Are you ready to address complaints about events involving controversial authors?**

ABFE will send you a model statement that you can use to help explain to customers why it is important for bookstores to provide a forum for a wide range of views.

**Is your staff prepared to answer questions about why you carry (or don't carry) a particular book?**

ABFE has created a DVD and training guide to help booksellers respond to the free speech questions that frequently come up in bookstores. Order "Scenes from a Bookstore: Free Speech Vignettes."

**Do you participate in Banned Books Week?**

Booksellers love Banned Books Week, the only national celebration of the freedom to read. ABFE provides ideas and materials that enable you to participate easily and inexpensively. You can go online to look at ABFE's Banned Books Week information, [www.BookWeb.org/abfe/banned-books-week](http://www.BookWeb.org/abfe/banned-books-week)

**Are you an ABFE contributor?**

ABFE stands ready to help you 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Contribute to ABFE to support free speech. Premiums are available for contributions starting at \$50.

**Contribute to ABFE online at [www.BookWeb.org/abfe](http://www.BookWeb.org/abfe).**

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