
CAMPAIGN

AGAINST

CENSORSHIP

(THE DEFENCE OF LITERATURE AND THE ARTS SOCIETY)

PLEASE REPLY TO:-

ON 3RD MAY 1996 TED GOODMAN, CHAIR OF CAC, WAS PHONED BY THE NEWS EDITOR OF THE BRACKNELL NEWS ABOUT THE DECISION OF LABOUR MAJORITY LEADER, COUNCILLOR MCCORMACK, THAT THE FILM "KIDS' BE VIEWED BY THE BOROUGH OF BRACKNELL FOREST BEFORE IT COULD BE SHOWN THERE. GOODMAN CONDEMNED THE MOVE, POINTING OUT THAT THE FILM HAD ALREADY HAD ONE MINUTE CUT BY THE BRITISH BOARD OF FILM CLASSIFICATION, DESPITE THE FACT THAT IT WAS GIVEN AN "18" (ie ADULTS ONLY CERTIFICATE). GOODMAN STATED THAT CENSORSHIP BY THE BBFC WAS BAD ENOUGH AND SHOULD NOT BE ADDED TO BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES. HE STRESSED THAT, NOW THAT IT HAD BEEN ABOLISHED IN THE FORMER COMMUNIST STATES OF EASTERN EUROPE, FEW OTHER COUNTRIES HAD FILM CENSORSHIP FOR ADULTS. ITS RETENTION IN THIS COUNTRY WAS PART OF THE "NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH" SYNDROME. THE EDITOR SAID HE WOULD PUBLISH AN ARTICLE ABOUT THE FILM, QUOTING GOODMAN'S REMARKS, AND SEND A COPY OF THE RELEVANT ISSUE OF THE BRACKNELL NEWS TO THE SECRETARY OF CAC.