

CAMPAIGN

AGAINST

CENSORSHIP

(THE DEFENCE OF LITERATURE AND THE ARTS SOCIETY)

PLEASE REPLY TO:-

23 Budgen Drive
Redhill Surrey
15th March 1997

To: [To a university student undertaking
postgraduate research on censorship
in Britain]

Dear Madam,

Thank you for your letter of the 8th. I enclose, as requested, details of CAC and other information about film censorship in the United Kingdom.

I urge you to include in your MA dissertation some comparative material about developments elsewhere in Europe. For instance, in 1993 the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, stated that this country had amongst the strictest standards of censorship in the world and he was determined to maintain them. He said this at the time of the abolition of such censorship in the former communist States of Eastern Europe, to emphasise Britain's different course.

Some material about developments worldwide would also be illuminating. For instance in 1985 Brazil legalised pornographic films and video recordings except for export, on the grounds that the latter would give the country a bad image! Most published studies of British film censorship are so insular that the subject loses context, especially as most of the films involved are foreign and have been shown uncut elsewhere. The film "Crash" for instance has still been refused a certificate by the British Board of Film Classification (formerly the British Board of Film Censorship) despite the fact that it is being shown uncut in Continental cinemas (there being no censorship for adults there).

Yours for freedom of expression,

Cllr E Goodman
Chair of CAC

Enquiries to the Secretary, 25 Middleton Close, Fareham,
Hants, Tel 0329-284471