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# CAMPAIGN

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(THE DEFENCE OF LITERATURE AND THE ARTS SOCIETY)

AGAINST

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# CENSORSHIP

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23 Budgen Drive  
Chill Surrey  
RH1 2QB  
22nd August 1997

To: Birol Mehmet  
Home Office  
50 Queen Anne's Gate  
London SW1H 9AT

Dear Birol Mehmet,

### FILM CENSORSHIP

Thank you for your letter of the 12th stating that the Home Office has no plans for any statutory changes for film and video classification. Does this mean that it is intended that Stalinist State censorship of material for adults (through cuts and refusal of certificates) will be retained in Britain, notwithstanding its abolition almost everywhere else in Europe? If so, why?

Enclosed are copy newsreports of 20 & 21st August regarding proposed changes to the British Board of Film Classification. As an interested pressure group, we would like to be invited to submit proposals before any changes are implemented. We are particularly concerned about illogical anomalies. British classification is out of step with that elsewhere in the world; for instance only in Britain was the video recording "Ecstasy of St. Theresa" proscribed. In addition films can be banned locally; the film "Crash" was only prohibited in two parts of the World, namely the City of Westminster and the Republic of Singapore. Qui Bono? In addition there is a right of appeal against video classification (or lack of it) but not regarding films.

Yours for freedom of expression,

Cllr E Goodman  
Chair of CAC