



THE DEFENCE OF LITERATURE AND THE ARTS SOCIETY)

PLEASE REPLY TO:-

23 Budgen Drive Redhill Surrey RHI 2QB 26th June 1998

To: Ross Cranston MP House of Commons London SWIA OAA

Sir,

## CIVIL LIBERTIES

We are pleased that you will address the National Council for Civil Liberties (†\$) which CAC is affiliated), next month. Meanwhile we ask you to use your legislative influence in favour of the abolition of State censorship in the United Kingdom, which is now one of the only countries in the whole European continent which has cinema, television and video censorship for adults. At present, Chris Smith, Secretary of State for Culture, is considering banning the French satellite television channel "Eurotica,".which broadcasts gay material once a week.

By contast, the socialist French Minister of Culture, Jacques Lang, declared when abolishing film censorship that the State has no right to prevent citizens from watching what they choose. Why should British adults be denied the freedom enjoyed by their fellow Europeans ? Why does the British Government condemn State censorship in other countries, but practise it here ?

In addition, the West Midlands Police have seized a book from the library of the University of Central England and court proceedings have ensued. Such a thing would not happen elsewhere in Europe.

Enclosed are details of CAC.
Yours for freedom of expression,

Clir E Goodman
Chair of CAC
Enquiries to the Secretary, 25 Middleton Close, Fareham,
Hants, Tel: 0329-284471