
Information Ethics and Librarianship: A Bibliography

by Martha M. Smith

The following is a selective bibliography of sources documenting the evolution of information ethics as a field of research and study.

Although some of the articles give a historical overview, most deal with current ethical issues which sooner or later involve libraries of all types and the librarians who manage them. Those who wish to explore further the fascinating and ever burgeoning field of information ethics should contact the compiler for a more extensive bibliography.

- Alley, Brian. "Step Right Up, Folks: Some Thoughts on the Subject of Snake Oil." *Technicalities* 7 (July 1987): 1.
On librarians promoting commercial products.
- American Library Association. Office for Intellectual Freedom. *Intellectual Freedom Manual*. Third Edition. Chicago: American Library Association, 1989.
A "must-buy" for every library.
- Auerbach, Isaac L. "Professional Responsibility for Information Privacy." *Information Systems Management* 2 (1985): 71-81.
- Barron, Daniel D. "Ethics and the School Library Media Specialist: Sensitive Issues." *School Library Media Activities Monthly* 7 (February 1991): 46-51.
- Bazirjian, Rosann. "The Ethics of Library Discard Practices." In *Legal and Ethical Issues in Acquisitions*, 135-46. Binghamton, New York: Haworth Press, 1990.
- Benedict, Karen M. "Archival Ethics." In *Managing Archives and Archival Institutions*, 174-84. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1989.
- Beniger, James R. *The Control Revolution: Technological and Economic Origins of the Information Society*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1986.
The Control Revolution and the Information Society.
An excellent bibliography.
- Berry, John N. "A New Social Concern at ASIS." *Library Journal* 112 (December 1987): 79-81.
Berry argues that technology is not neutral.
- Blake, Virgil L. P. "Ethics and Intellectual Freedom in the Education of Library and Information Science Professionals." *The Bookmark* (Albany, New York) 48 (Fall 1989): 28-31.
An excellent special issue illustrating librarians' concern with intellectual freedom issues.
- Boissonnas, Christian M. "The Cost Is More than That Elegant Dinner: Your Ethics Are at Steak." *Library Acquisitions* 11, 2 (1987): 145-52.
Professional relationships between acquisitions librarians and vendors.
- Brown, Geoffrey. *The Information Game: Ethical Issues in a Microchip World*. Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey: Humanities Press, 1990.
Privacy, ownership, and moral attitudes towards machines.
- Bullard, Scott R. "Ethics of Vendor-Library Relations." *Library Acquisitions* 8, 4 (1984): 251-54.
- Capurro, Rafael. "Moral Issues in Information Science." *Journal of Information Science* 11, 3 (1985): 113-23.
Information science ethics.
- Champion, Sandra G. "Ethical Leadership in a Technological Age." In *Library Education and Leadership*, 267-74. Metuchen, New Jersey: Scarecrow Press, 1990.
- Crowe, Lawson, and Susan Anthes. "The Academic Librarian and Information Technology: Ethical Issues." *College & Research Libraries* 49 (March 1988): 123-30.
An excellent article on access issues.
- Doctor, Ronald D. "Social Equity and Information Technologies: Moving Toward Information Democracy." In *Annual Review of Information Science and Technology* 27, edited by Martha E. Williams. Medford, New Jersey: Learned Information for the American Society for Information Science, 1992.
An excellent bibliographical survey.
- Dowd, Robert C. "I Want to Find Out How to Freebase Cocaine; or, Yet Another Unobtrusive Test of Reference Performance." *The Reference Librarian* 25-26 (1989): 483-93.
Following in the footsteps of Robert Hauptman (1976), Dowd asked reference librarians for information about freebasing cocaine and almost always got it. See also Swan.
- Drabenstott, Jon, ed. "Ethics in the Library Automation Process: A Forum, 'The Consultants' Corner'." *Library HiTech* 4, Issue 16 (1986): 107-19.
Includes "Toward an Ethical Framework for Library Automation Consulting: The Need for a Code of Ethics," by Howard Harris and Rob McGee (pp. 108-13); and comments by Jose-Marie Griffiths, Susan Baerg Epstein, and James E. Rush.
- Emord, Jonathan W. *Freedom, Technology, and the First Amendment*. San Francisco: Pacific Research Institute for Public Policy, 1991.
- Epstein, Susan Baerg. "Ethical Considerations in an Automated Environment." *Library Journal* 115 (September 15, 1990): 59-60.

Finks, Lee W. "Librarianship Needs a New Code of Professional Ethics." *American Libraries* 22 (January 1991): 84-88+.

Finks teaches in the School of Library and Information Sciences at North Carolina Central University.

Foerstel, Herbert N. *Surveillance in the Stacks; The FBI's Library Awareness Program*. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1991.

This program sparked enormous response from the library community.

Forester, Tom, and P. Morrison. *Computer Ethics: Cautionary Tales and Ethical Dilemmas in Computing*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, 1990.

From the computer science perspective.

Foskett, D.J. *The Creed of the Librarian: No Politics, No Religion, No Morals*. London: Library Association, 1962.

A classic.

Garrett, Marie. "Applied and Professional Ethics: Resources for Research," *RQ* 29 (Summer 1990): 497-503.

Gerhardt, Lillian Noreen. "Ethical Back Talk, I: Librarians must provide the highest level of service through appropriate collections, fair policies, and skillful responses to all requests for assistance." *School Library Journal* 36 (February 1990): 4; "Ethical Back Talk, II: Librarians must resist all efforts by groups or individuals to censor library materials (gift-bearing zealots often employ the same tactics as censors)." *School Library Journal* 36 (April 1990): 4; "Ethical Back Talk, III: Librarians must protect each user's right to privacy with respect to information sought or received, and materials consulted, borrowed, or acquired (fending off the FBI is easier than stonewalling a concerned parent or teacher)." *School Library Journal* 36 (June 1990): 4; "Ethical Back Talk, IV: Librarians must adhere to the principles of due process and equality of opportunity in peer relationships and personnel actions." *School Library Journal* 36 (August 1990): 4; "Ethical Back Talk, V: Librarians must distinguish clearly in their actions and statements between their personal philosophies and attitudes and those of an institution or professional body." *School Library Journal* 36 (October 1990): 4; "Ethical Back Talk, VI: Librarians must avoid situations in which personal interest might be served or financial benefits gained at the expense of library users, colleagues, or the employing institution." *School Library Journal* 36 (December 1990): 4.

Don't miss this series.

Goehner, Donna M. "Vendor-Library Relations: The Ethics of Working with Vendors." In *Understanding the Business of Library Acquisitions*, 137-51. Chicago: American Library Association, 1990.

Gould, Carol, ed. *The Web of Information: Ethical and Social Implications in Computing*. Cambridge, MA: Westview Press, 1989.

Networking ethics — a timely topic for librarians in North Carolina.

Greiner, Joy M. "Professional Views: Intellectual Freedom as a Professional Ethic." *Public Libraries* 28 (March/April 1989): 69-72.

Gremmels, Gillian S. "Reference in the Public Interest: An Examination of Ethics." *RQ* 30 (Spring 1991): 362-69.

Neutrality or the good of society.

Harding, Sandra. *Whose Science? Whose Knowledge? Thinking from Women's Lives*. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 1991.

Excellent example of the feminist contribution to dis-

cussions of information and its uses in society.

Hardy, Gayle J., and Judith Schiek. "Reference Service to Students: A Crucible for Ethical Inquiry." *RQ* 30, 1 (1990): 82-87.

Harter, Stephen P. "Ethical Practices in Journal Publishing: A Study of Library and Information Science Periodicals." *The Library Quarterly* 60 (April 1990): 91-119. "Erratum." 61 (January 1991): 127.

A survey of 35 editors.

Hauptman, Robert. *Ethical Challenges in Librarianship*. Phoenix, Arizona: Oryx Press, 1988.

Read this first.

_____, ed. "Ethics and the Dissemination of Information." *Library Trends* 40, 2 (Fall 1991): 199-375.

_____, ed. *Journal of Information Ethics* 1 (Fall 1992). ISSN 1061-9321. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland & Company, 1992.

A good new journal which should be of interest to all librarians and many others.

_____. "Professionalism or Culpability? An Experiment in Ethics." *Wilson Library Bulletin* 50, 8 (1976): 626-27.

Hauptman asked public and academic reference librarians for information about building a car bomb. Most of them gave him the information. See also Dowd and Swan.

Hede, Agnes Ann. "Should Librarians Do Whimsicals?: The Ethics of Trivia." *Library Journal* 111 (April 1, 1986): 42-43.

A continuing issue in most libraries.

Holleman, Margaret. "Professional Ethics and Community College Librarians." *Community & Junior College Libraries* 6, 2 (1989): 1-7.

Jackson, Susan McEnally. "Reference Education and the New Technology." *The Reference Librarian* 25-26 (1989): 541-55.

Johnson, Bruce S. "'A More Cooperative Clerk': The Confidentiality of Library Records." *Law Library Journal* 81 (Fall 1989): 769-802.

Jonas, Hans. *The Imperative of Responsibility: In Search of an Ethics for a Technological Age*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1984.

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Karpisek, Marian E. "The School Librarian and the Copyright Law." *Catholic Library World* 57 (November/December 1985): 133-34.

Kochen, Manfred. "Ethics and Information Science." *Journal of the American Society for Information Science* 83 (May 1987): 206-10.

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Prompted by the FBI Library Awareness Program and the need to address concerns of professional ethics. Includes contributions by Clifford G. Christians (information ethics), Herbert S. White (information and library science education), Robert Hauptman (integrity), Kathleen M. Heim (personnel), Charles A. Bunge (reference), and others.

"Libraries in the Tradition of Freedom of Expression." Special Issue of *The Bookmark* 47, II (Winter 1989).

Sixteen articles on various issues including censorship, the labeling of audio-visual materials, human rights, school libraries, and intellectual freedom.

Lindsey, Jonathan A., and Ann E. Prentice. *Professional Ethics and*

Librarians. Phoenix: Oryx Press, 1985.
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McCarrick, Pat Milmo. "AIDS: Update for Ethical & Legal Issues — Selective Bibliography of Citations from the National Reference Center for Bioethics Literature." *Reference Services Review* 19, 2 (1991): 59-75.

Madaus, J. Richard. "Academic Library Funding and Professional Ethics." *College & Research Libraries News* 10 (November 1987): 606+.

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Marsh, Corrie V. "Payment Ethics: Librarians as Consumers." In *Understanding the Business of Library Acquisitions*, 299-312. Chicago: American Library Association, 1990.

Mika, Joseph J., and Bruce A. Shuman. "Intellectual Freedom; Privacy and Confidentiality; Problem Patrons; Ethics." *American Libraries* 19 (April 1988): 314-17.

Mintz, Anne P., ed. *Information Ethics: Concerns for Librarianship and the Information Industry*. Proceedings of the Twenty-Seventh Annual Symposium of the Graduate Alumni and Faculty of the Rutgers School of Communication, Information, and Library Studies (April 1989). Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, 1990.

Essential reading on this topic.

Moor, James H. "The Ethics of Privacy Protection." *Library Trends* 39 (Summer-Fall 1990): 69-82.

Morris, Leslie R. "The Ethics of the Use of OCLC Records for Interlibrary Loan (by non-OCLC member libraries)." *Journal of Interlibrary Loan & Information Supply* 1, 3 (1991): 1-5.

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Includes "First We Reshape Our Computers, Then Our Computers Reshape Us: The Broader Intellectual Impact of Parallelism" by James Bailey.

Pennock, Robin. "Read My Lips: Copyright; Educators Sometimes Do Not Equate Violating Copyright Laws with Illegality, Cheating, and Unethical Behavior." *School Library Journal* 37 (June 1991): 50.

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Preer, Jean L. "Special Ethics for Special Librarians?" *Special Libraries* 82 (Winter 1991): 12-18.

Reichel, Mary. "Ethics and Library Instruction: Is There a Connection?" *RQ* 28 (Summer 1989): 477-80.

Rezmierski, Virginia E. "Managing Information Technology Issues of Ethics and Values: Awareness, Ownership, and Values Clarification." *Cause/Effect* (Fall 1992): 12-19.

Ethical issues in higher education. Published by EDUCOM.

Roszak, Theodore. *The Cult of Information: The Folklore of Computing and the True Art of Thinking*. New York: Pantheon, 1986.

Rothstein, Samuel. "Where Does It Hurt?: Identifying the Real Concerns in the Ethics of Reference Service." *The Reference Librarian* 25-26 (1989): 307-20.

Probably the best article on this subject.

Schmidt, C. James. "Rights for Users of Information: Conflicts

and Balances among Privacy, Professional Ethics, Law, National Security." In *Bowker Annual Library and Book Trade Almanac 1989-1990*, 34th edition, 83-90. New York: Bowker, 1989.

Secor, John R. "A Growing Crisis of Business Ethics: The Gathering Stormclouds." *The Serials Librarian* 13 (October-November 1987): 67-90.

Shaver, Donna B.; Nancy S. Hewison; and Leslie W. Wykoff. "Ethics for Online Intermediaries." *Special Libraries* 76 (Fall 1985): 238-45.

Shields, Gerald R. "Ethics and the Librarian: Taking Stock at Allerton." In *ALA Yearbook of Library and Information Services*, Volume 15 (1990), 1-10. Chicago: American Library Association, 1990.

A brief summary of the conference where the papers presented in Lancaster's book were given.

Smith, Martha M. "Infoethics for Leaders: Models of Moral Agency in the Information Environment." *Library Trends* 40 (Winter 1992): 553-70.

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Stahl, Wilson M. "Automation and Ethics: A View from the Trenches." *Library HiTech* 4, 4, Issue 16 (1986): 53-57.

Bil Stahl is systems librarian at UNC-Charlotte.

Stover, Mark. "Confidentiality and Privacy in Reference Service." *RQ* 27 (Winter 1987): 240-44.

Strauch, Katina, and Bruce Strauch, eds. *Legal and Ethical Issues in Acquisitions*. Binghamton, New York: Haworth Press, 1990.

Swan, John C. "Helpful Librarians and Hurtful Books." *Catholic Library World* 59 (May/June 1988): 271-74.

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Sweetland, James H. "Errors in Bibliographic Citations: A Continuing Problem." *The Library Quarterly* 59 (October 1989): 291-304.

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Wiener, Paul Benjamin. "Mad Bombers and Ethical Librarians: A Dialogue with Robert Hauptman and John Swan." *Catholic Library World* 58 (January/February 1987): 161-63.

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Winter, Michael F. *The Culture and Control of Expertise: Toward a Sociological Understanding of Librarianship*. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1988.

Woodward, Diana, ed. "Intellectual Freedom/Parts I and II." Special Issue of *Library Trends* 39 (Summer/Fall 1990): 1-185.

A rich collection of articles including Woodward's "A Framework for Deciding Issues in Ethics."

_____. "Teaching Ethics for Information Professionals." *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science* 30 (Fall 1989): 132-35.

A program developed and used at Drexel University.

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