

**6B—PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND VALUES 2: INFORMATION ACCESS &
INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM #1**

Classification Bias: Channeling Sandy Berman

F. Tim Knight (York University)

As libraries explore new avenues of information access, the need for a critical evaluation of our bibliographic tools is more important than ever. With the potential of the emerging semantic web and the promise of linked data, how will systems originally designed to organize closed physical collections translate to an increasingly fragmented digital information space? How will deep-seated cultural biases affect access to a cross-cultural information environment? This paper will review the work of Sandy Berman's *Prejudices and Antipathies: A Tract on the LC Subject Heads Concerning People* aiming to explore a critical framework to evaluate the cultural interoperability of library classification and subject heading systems in a broader information landscape.