

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE REFORM OF THE OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACTS

NCROPA

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The N.C.R.O.P.A. is affiliated to the National Council for Civil Liberties

NO/DAW/DP

13th September, 1985.

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Clive James, Esq., c/o "Start The Week with Richard Baker", BBC Radio 4, Broadcasting House, London, WIA 1AA.

Dear Mr. James,

You said on the BBC Radio 4 programme "Start The Week with Richard Baker" on Monday morning words to the effect that you were glad that we were now without censorship in this country. I could scarcely believe my ears. I had always believed that you, of all people, would be only too aware of the mass of censorship restrictions to which we in this country are, more than virtually any other country from the so-called 'free!' Western World, subject.

How can we be said to be free from censorship when we are subject to, amongst others:-

Vagrancy Act 1824 Vagrancy Act 1838 Metropolitan Police Act 1839 Town Police Clauses Act 1847 Customs Consolidation Act 1876 Cinematograph Act 1909 Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Act 1926 Cinematograph Films (Animals) Act 1937 Cinematograph Act 1952 Post Office Act 1953 Children and Young Persons (Harmful Publications) Act 1955 . Obscene Publications Act 1959 Obscene Publications Act 1964 Theatres Act 1968 Unsolicited Goods and Services Act 1971 Protection of Children Act 1978 Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 Independent Broadcasting Authority Act 1973 Indecent Displays (Control) Act 1981 British Telecommunications Act 1981 Broadcasting Act 1981 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 Cinematograph (Amendment) Act 1982 Video Recordings Act 1984 Telecommunications Act 1984