

DAVID WEBB, your ANTI-CENSORSHIP/REFORM OF OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACTS candidate, is the Honorary Director of the National Campaign for the Reform of the Obscene Publications Acts (NCROPA), which he founded in 1976 to fight censorship and combat the growing menace of those arrogant, self-appointed guardians of the nation's morals, epitomised by the "appalling phenomenon" of Mary Whitehouse C.B.E. (Honoured for "public services" by Margaret Thatcher!)

He was born in Luton, Bedfordshire in 1931 and educated at Luton Grammar School, where he became Head Boy. After completing two years' national service as an instructor in the Royal Army Educational Corps in 1952, he studied for an acting career at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, graduating in 1954.

His first professional engagement was at York Repertory Theatre in 1954 and since then he has worked in all media, including musicals and films, such as "Battle of Britain", "Tunes of Glory", "Villain", "Diamonds for Breakfast" and "Man in the Moon". His main sphere of work, however, has been in television and he has made more than 700 Television appearances, chiefly in character roles and in programmes as diverse as "Crime and Punishment", "Coronation Street", "A Tale of Two Cities", "The Liver Birds", "The New Avengers", "Suez 1956", "Z Cars", "The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists", "Not on Your Nellie", "The Gorge" and "Bergerac". His most recent appearance was as the blackmailing, up-market 'pornographer' Ronnie Carey in "Tales of the Unexpected", networked by Anglia Television on 30th April.

David Webb also sometimes works in an editorial capacity for a publishing company which specialises in medical and para-medical publications and was once associate editor of the "Health Education Index", a work of reference for professional health educators. He often contributes articles to magazines and periodicals and is a past member of the governing Council of the British Actors' Equity Association. His hobbies include painting, classical organ music and visiting the *uncensored* sex hot-spots of New York!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE REFORM OF THE OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACTS (NCROPA), INCLUDING DETAILS OF MEMBERSHIP, PLEASE WRITE TO DAVID WEBB, 15, SLOANE COURT WEST, CHELSEA, LONDON, SW3 4TD, OR TELEPHONE 01 - 730 9537. PLEASE SUPPORT US IN OUR FIGHT AGAINST THE MENACE OF CENSORSHIP.



NCROPA

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GENERAL ELECTION 9th JUNE 1983  
FINCHLEY PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY



Photo courtesy Hendon Times Newspaper Group

**VOTE FOR  
DAVID WEBB**  
YOUR ANTI-CENSORSHIP/REFORM OF  
OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACTS CANDIDATE

# ANTI-CENSORSHIP/REFORM OF OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACTS

Dear Elector,

June 1983

The U.K. is virtually the last remaining country in the so-called 'free' Western World to retain strict, repressive and out-moded censorship laws. Books, magazines, films, video-tapes and live performances of refreshing and delightful explicitness, which are freely and legally available for consenting adults in other Western World countries, are ruthlessly suppressed here by law, and those who endeavour to produce and distribute such innocuous material, to fulfil the enormously popular and natural demand for it, are branded heinous criminals and often inflicted savage prison sentences and swingeing fines.

All the major, really credible investigations into explicit material of this kind have reached the same conclusion which is that it is basically harmless, often helpful and, provided that children or actual physical harm are not involved, should, therefore, be legally available to those who desire it.

In 1979 the distinguished Home Office Committee on Obscenity and Film Censorship (the Williams Committee) also reached this same conclusion and its findings were unanimous. Not only did Margaret Thatcher and the last Conservative Government refuse to act on its recommendations for comprehensive liberalisation of our already draconian censorship laws, but they actually introduced even harsher measures to restrict our individual freedom to choose for ourselves what we see, read and hear. The freedom of the individual, the proclaimed cornerstone of Tory philosophy, far from being maintained, even at its former level, has in fact been curtailed still further. Yet in her foreword to the Conservative Manifesto, Mrs. Thatcher has had the effrontery to say that the most vital decision that faces the people at this election is "How to defend Britain's traditional liberties", when she has, for the past four years, presided over their overt erosion.

Censorship of any kind can only be justified in the interests of national security or where there is positive proof that incontrovertible harm would be caused without its imposition. No such proof has ever been produced with regard to sexually explicit material - or 'pornography', if you like. That some people find it distasteful or even offensive is no justification for it to be banned. That a few people might abuse it is no justification for it to be banned either, any more than the banning of football matches would be justified because of a minority of football hooligans.

Substances like alcohol and tobacco are both of known and proven harm, often lethal. Yet both are legally available and, furthermore, annually provide the Exchequer with hundreds of millions of pounds worth of precious revenue. No-one has ever been killed by reading a 'pornographic' book or seeing a 'pornographic' film, or even harmed by the experience. Nevertheless the authorities treat such material as though it were the deadliest of poisons and hound its purveyors with a fanatical zeal more appropriate to a mediaeval witch-hunt.

The State has absolutely no right to dictate individual moral standards or codes of behaviour. The Establishment's obsession, not with sex per se, but with its repression, is not only unjust and cruel, it is also intrinsically unhealthy and damaging. Please help to change this unnatural and irresponsible attitude by registering a protest vote *against* censorship and repression, and *in favour* of myself and freedom, on June 9th.

Yours sincerely,



# VOTE DAVID WEBB