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## People Profile: Rick Anderson

Editor

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David Burt's FOIA requests, there were reports of over 2,000 incidents of patrons — many of them children — accessing hard-core and child pornography in the nation's public libraries. The admission by the Hennepin County Library official acknowledging receipt of previously undisclosed complaints involving patrons viewing inappropriate sexual material confirms the conclusions on this subject drawn by a March 12, 2000 **Family Research Council** news release.<sup>67</sup> This news release stated that further analysis of computer log files in *Dangerous Access 2000 Edition* revealed that hundreds of thousands of incidents were *not* reported, indicating that the 2,062 known incidents represent only the tip of the iceberg.) 

*Please Note: Because of the length of Ms. Clancy's article (about 60 pages) it was necessary to break it here. The rest of this article, and the next two in this series of forums, will appear in the next Against the Grain. The entire proceedings will also be available online at [www.charlestonco.com](http://www.charlestonco.com). — MH*

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# people profiles encouraged

## Rick Anderson

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**Born & lived:** I was born in Palo Alto, CA, but was raised from infancy in the Boston area.

**Family:** I'm the oldest of seven(!) children; we lived in Belmont when I was a toddler, then moved to Burlington when I was five, then moved to Arlington when I was seven; I spent the rest of my childhood there.

**Education:** I graduated from **Arlington High School** in the class of '83, attended **Ricks College** for a year, took two years off to serve as a Mormon missionary in France and Belgium, then returned for another year at **Ricks** before transferring to **Brigham Young University** where I earned my BS and MLIS degrees.

**First job:** My first job was washing dishes at **Brigham's** in Harvard Square. I later moved up to scooping ice cream. The only thing worse than washing dishes was serving ice cream on the day of the **Harvard-Yale** game.

**Professional career and activities:** Since getting my MLIS I've worked for **Yankee Book Peddler**, the **University of North Carolina at Greensboro** and now the **University of Nevada, Reno**. I write a lot in professional and unprofessional journals and magazines, and stay in touch with my inner logorrheic by participating much too enthusiastically on several online discussion lists. I'm a member of **NASIG** and the **Music Library Association**, and serve on the editorial boards of **ACQNET**, **LCATS** and **Notes**.

**In my spare time I like to:** Read crime novels, hang out with my wife (**Laura Wolz**, 30ish) and kids (**Maggie**, 9, **Bryan**, 6, and **Tucker**, 3), play clawhammer banjo, write CD reviews, come up with analogies.

**Favorite books:** I probably would have been a writer anyway, but I tell myself that the reason I'm a writer now is that I read *Harriet the Spy* five or six times while in elementary school. These days I'll read anything by **James Lee Burke**, **Robert B. Parker**, **Elmore Leonard**, **Thomas Perry**, **George Pelecanos**, **Robert Christgau**, **Christopher Buckley**, **Annie Proulx**, **Hugh Nibley**, and **Ian Frazier**. I can't read anything by **Gore** (Did you notice how smart and cute I am?) **Vidal**, and for some reason I can't seem to get past the first hundred pages of *Cold Mountain*. (It's not you, **Charles**, it's me.)

**Pet peeves/what makes me mad:** Loyalty over reason; rhetoric over substance; librarians who want to fix patrons instead of improving services.

**Philosophy:** Question your own motives at all times.

**Most meaningful career achievement:** Feeding my kids.

**Quirks:** I'm bad at sitting still and paying attention (my leg bounces and my mind wanders), and I suffer from an intense and indiscriminate love of babies. I'm also a very bad judge of the difference between appropriate and inappropriate humor.

**How/Where do I see the industry in five years:** Five years from now I suspect that research journals will be published almost entirely online, and the concept of an "issue" will have started to sound very 20th-century. Half of research libraries will have stopped journal check-in. Books and humanities journals will still be primarily a print enterprise, but print-on-demand will have finally taken hold in the marketplace and eBook readers will have become the preferred platform for college textbooks. Search engine technology will have matured to the point that, unless we wake up very quickly and start radically rethinking the way we organize, present and distribute our services, a large number of our patrons will see the library as a morgue for old information, not a place to solve their current information needs. 