

## Library of Congress Accepts Public Comments on Proposed Changes to the LC Subject Headings *Aliens* and *Illegal Aliens*

May 20, 2016

In response to requests from constituents who consider the phrase *illegal aliens* to be pejorative and disappearing from common use, the Policy and Standards Division of the Library of Congress, which maintains *Library of Congress Subject Headings*, has proposed that the headings **Aliens** and **Illegal aliens** both be replaced.

If approved, the heading **Aliens** will be replaced by **Noncitizens**, which is currently a Used For (UF) reference to **Aliens**. **Illegal aliens** will be replaced by two headings: **Noncitizens** and **Unauthorized immigration**. Other headings that include the word *aliens* or the phrase *illegal aliens* (e.g., **Church work with aliens**; **Children of illegal aliens**) will also be revised.

Proposals to revise **Aliens**, **Illegal aliens**, and all of the related headings appear on Tentative List 1606a, which may be accessed at <https://classificationweb.net/tentative-subjects/1606a.html>.

The Library of Congress is accepting comments from the library community and the general public through July 20, 2016. Because of the high volume of comments that is expected, comments will be accepted only through an online survey, the link to which is available at the top of Tentative List 1606a.

Review of the comments by the Policy and Standards Division will begin after July 20, 2016. Final disposition of the proposals will be announced later this year.