To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Bill Leonard, CCC representative

Subject: RDA Appendix K Revision and Expansion

CCC thanks ALA but would counsel against undertaking an elaborate revision of Appendix K at this time, for the following reasons:

a) whether the proposed approach is compatible with the decisions in 6JSC/CILIP rep/3 and whether it will result in a structure for Appendix K which is comparable to appendicies I and J, for instance, examples are normally give in the body of RDA rather than in the lists of relationship designators.
b) whether there is literary warrant for this extensive mapping of relationships. For example the FRAD person is a bibliographic person, not necessarily a real individual, so many of these relationships would not apply. CCC is unclear on whether the proposed designators are justified by literary warrant, or only by theory, and which user tasks they will serve.
c) whether it works against the principle of internationalization. Some of the designators are placed within hierarchies that might only make sense within certain cultural or linguistic contexts. The proposed designators will also cause problems for translation where other languages do not have words specific to the same relationship types as in English. For instance, *belle-mère* in French is one's mother-in-law or one's step-mother. The French word, *parents*, could refer to any relative.

We counter-propose the deletion of the second paragraph of K.0. Once the RDA community understands more about how appendix K is used, it can then address the gaps, ambiguities or problems. It is understood that all three relationship designator appendicies will be expanded when there is a demonstrated need.

K.0 Scope

This appendix provides general guidelines on using relationship designators to specify relationships between persons, families, and corporate bodies, and lists relationship designators used for that purpose.

~~The relationship designators in this appendix are provisional. They will be reviewed and revised as necessary.~~