

Breaking the Rules Carefully

Implementation of Inclusive Terminology in the Catalog

» Background

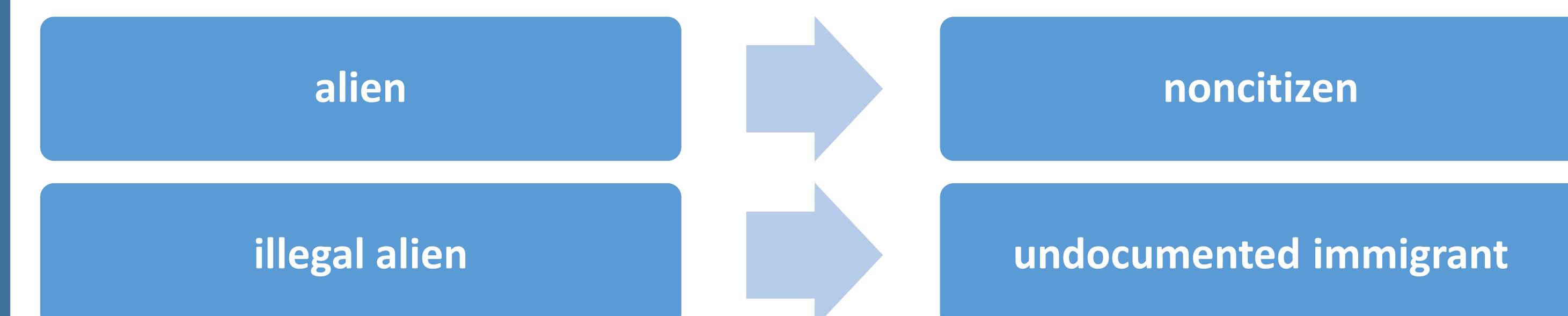
The Library of Congress *almost* canceled the subject heading, “Illegal aliens,” in 2016

- See: Peet, Lisa. “Library of Congress Drops Illegal Alien Subject Heading, Provokes Backlash Legislation.” *Library Journal*. June 13, 2016. https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=library-of-congress-drops-illegal-alien-subject-heading-provokes-backlash-legislation#_

» Proposal

“We, the undersigned, respectfully request that the USMAI Metadata Subgroup, and any other relevant bodies, take action to replace the display of the LC subject heading “Illegal aliens” in the shared USMAI catalog. We request that the word “alien” used in reference to people be replaced with “noncitizen” and the phrase “illegal alien” be replaced with “undocumented immigrant.””

—Sara Arnold-Garza, Elizabeth DeCoster, and cosigners, Towson University



» Goals

- Display the preferred form of the heading instead of the authorized form
- Discover by both the authorized form and the preferred form of the heading
- Retain the authorized heading in the underlying data to facilitate future updates if/when Library of Congress changes the headings
- Do not create extra work for catalogers

» Challenges

- The OPAC lacks cross references that could be used to direct users from the authorized form to the preferred form if we were to *replace* the headings
 - Solution: *Add* the preferred headings and *hide* the authorized headings
- The string “alien” might occur in a proper name (like the film title or a place name) where it should not be changed
 - Solution: Limit to topical headings (MARC 650 field)
- Even among topical headings, the meaning of “alien” is inconsistent and the string may occur within other words
 - Solution: Review all matching headings in the catalog and identify unique strings to be replaced

Change these:

- Alien criminals
- Alien detention centers
- Alien property
- Aliens
- Aliens (Jewish law)
- Aliens (Roman law)
- Aliens in art
- Aliens in literature
- Aliens in motion pictures
- Children of illegal aliens
- Illegal alien children
- Illegal aliens in literature
- Illegal aliens
- Women illegal aliens

But not these:

- Aguas **Calientes** Indians
- **Alien** abduction
- **Alien** abduction in literature
- **Alien** and Sedition laws, 1798
- **Alien** plants
- **Alienation** (Philosophy)
- Human-**alien** encounters
- **Italiens** de Paris (Group of artists)
- Restraints on **alienation**
- Ethnobotany--Mexico--Jesús María (Aguascalientes)
- Excavations (Archaeology)--Taiwan--**Hualien** County.
- **\$\$aLiens**

» Tools

Aleph Fix Routines

- Manipulate data in “Aleph Sequential” format using a sequence of predefined operations with parameters
- May be used to update data, or applied virtually via expand routines

MARC Tag/Ind.	Action	Parameters
In 650 fields containing the target phrases, change 1st indicator to 9		
650##	CHANGE-FIRST-IND-MATCH	#,9,1illegal alien
650##	CHANGE-FIRST-IND-MATCH	#,9,\$\$aAliens
650##	CHANGE-FIRST-IND-MATCH	#,9,\$\$aAlien criminals
650##	CHANGE-FIRST-IND-MATCH	#,9,\$\$aAlien detention centers
650##	CHANGE-FIRST-IND-MATCH	#,9,\$\$aAlien property
Delete non-FAST headings with 1st ind. 9 and 2nd ind. 7 (remove Sears)		
65097	DELETE-FIELD-COND	N,\$\$2fast
Copy any subject with 1st ind. 9 to field 999 w/1st ind. blank/2nd ind. 7		
6509#	COPY-FIELD	999 7,L
Find and replace strings in field 999		
999 7	REPLACE-STRING	Illegal alien, Undocumented immigrant
999 7	REPLACE-STRING	illegal alien, undocumented immigrant
999 7	REPLACE-STRING	\$\$aAlien,\$\$aNoncitizen
Delete any existing subfield 2 and 0 from 999 and add subfield 2 local		
999 7	DELETE-SUBFIELD	2
999 7	DELETE-SUBFIELD	0
999 7	ADD-SUBFIELD	2,local
Change tag of 999 field with 1st ind. blank and 2nd ind. 7 to 650		
999 7	CHANGE-FIELD	650
Add subfield 7 to original fields with target phrases to facilitate suppression		
6509#	ADD-SUBFIELD	7,HIDE
Remove 1st ind. 9 from fields containing target phrases		
6509#	CHANGE-FIRST-IND	9,

- “Fixed” Record:

```

650 0 $$aIllegal aliens$$zUnited States.
650 0 $$aStorytelling.
650 7 $$aIllegal aliens.$$2fast$$0(OCOLC)fst00967153
650 7 $$aStorytelling.$$2fast$$0(OCOLC)fst01134169
651 7 $$aUnited States.$$2fast$$0(OCOLC)fst01204155
  
```

```

650 0 $$aIllegal aliens$$zUnited States.$$7HIDE
650 0 $$aStorytelling.
650 7 $$aIllegal aliens.$$2fast$$0(OCOLC)fst00967153.$$7HIDE
650 7 $$aStorytelling.$$2fast$$0(OCOLC)fst01134169
651 7 $$aUnited States.$$2fast$$0(OCOLC)fst01204155
650 7 $$aUndocumented immigrants$$zUnited States.$$2local
650 7 $$aUndocumented immigrants.$$2local
  
```

» Tools (continued)

Aleph Expand Routines

- Mashup data from various sources to make it available for specific contexts
- Can call fix routines to manipulate the data for that context
- ACC and WORD expands make the added headings available for browse and keyword indexing
- WEB-FULL and WEB-BRIEF expands
 - Make the added headings available for OPAC display
 - Flag the authorized headings in a way that allows them to be suppressed from OPAC display

Aleph Configuration Tables

- Tables `www_tab_short.eng` and `edit_doc_999.eng` determine which fields to display in OPAC brief and full views
- Allow filtering “dependent on the presence or absence of a particular subfield and content”
- Code to display 6XX fields only if subfield 7 containing “HIDE” is absent:

```

detail www_tab_short.eng
9      10      11      12
!-!!!!!!-!-!!!!!!
7 -HIDE      ## 6####
  
```

```

detail edit_doc_999.eng
2      3      4
!!!!!!-!-!!!!!!
6#### 7 -HIDE
  
```

» Results

- ✓ Display the preferred form of the heading instead of the authorized form

- OPAC Brief View

```

3  Undocumented storytellers : narrating the immigrant rights movement
author  Bishop, Sarah C., 1984- author.
edition First edition.
published 2019
format  Book
subject Storytelling.
        Storytelling.
        More--see full record
  
```

- OPAC Full Standard View

```

subjects  Storytelling.
          Storytelling.
          United States.
          Undocumented immigrants -- United States.
          Undocumented immigrants.
  
```

- ✓ Discover by both the authorized form and the preferred form of the heading

Alphabetical list of results: Subjects (all)

No. of Recs	Entry
1	Illegal aliens -- Ukraine
392	Illegal aliens -- United States
2	Illegal aliens -- United States -- Anecdotes

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- ✓ Retain the authorized heading in the underlying data to facilitate future updates if/when Library of Congress changes the headings
 - The fix is applied virtually; no change in underlying data
- ✓ Do not create extra work for catalogers
 - The fix is fully automated; no manual intervention is needed