

## Exercise #4

### Plan for Improving Local Reader's Advisory Help

Consider some options for using the Internet to improve local reader's advisory services.

1. Rank the levels of awareness your patrons likely have concerning your library's reader's advisory services.

Number below from 1 (best known) through 10 (least known)

- Catalog's subject headings
- Printed lists from ALA or other organizations
- Posted bestseller lists
- Locally produced paper bibliographies
- Announcements of author venues
- Local book groups' selections
- Reference/information desk staff assistance
- Reader's advisory reference books
- Online commercial databases
- Locally constructed databases and online lists
- Patron notification of new titles

2. Which library staff groups have the most direct contact with patrons seeking reader's advice at your library?

- Automation staff
- Children's librarians
- Circulation desk staff
- Collection development staff
- Program librarians (in which interest area? \_\_\_\_\_)
- Reference/information desk staff
- Shelves

3. In the **Public Tools** folder of your Bookmarks go to the following websites. Write down two or three sites linked to either of these which might be useful to your own patrons:

- a. **MGPL Webrary's** "Web Sites for Booklovers"
- b. **DesPlaines Public Library Readers' Services'** "Internet Sites for Fiction Lovers"

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4. Within the construct of your library's services (noted in 1 and 2 above), how can you best inform patrons about the helpfulness of the reader's advice they could find at the sites you noted in 3 above?

- Link the sites to the library's catalog
- Link the sites to the a special page of your library's site (Which? \_\_\_\_\_)
- Bookmark the sites on in-library public computers
- Bookmark the sites on staff computers
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

