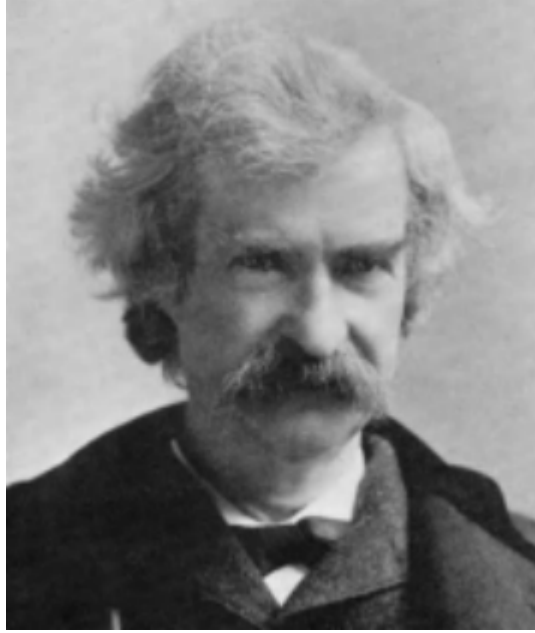


HUMOR



Mark Twain

(1835-1910)

RESPONDS TO CENSORSHIP

“I wrote *Tom Sawyer* and *Huckleberry Finn* for adults exclusively, and it always distresses me when I find that boys and girls have been allowed access to them. The mind that becomes soiled in youth can never again be washed clean. I know this by my own experience, and to this day I cherish an unappeasable bitterness against the unfaithful guardians of my young life, who not only permitted but compelled me to read an unexpurgated *Bible* through before I was 15 years old.”

Letter to librarian, Brooklyn Public Library
after *Tom Sawyer* and *Huckleberry Finn* were banned from the children’s room.
Louisa May Alcott got *Huckleberry Finn* banned from the Concord, Massachusetts library.