Why Censor an Artist's Creativity?

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Omaha North High Magnet School 2015
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Why Censor Art?
Art is more than paintings and figures, it’s a form of communication and a way to express one’s self. The censorship of artistic creativity is the oppression of a group of people. In visual art, performance art, literature, comedy and in media are only a few examples where artists have had their voice censored.

Censorship & The Artist:
- We cannot conceal artwork based solely on its content, by doing so we are choosing to ignore the larger problem.
- After Michelangelo’s death, the “Last Judgment” (right) had some areas painted over.
- Art is not all about beauty. It also focuses on the issues in society despite its sensitivity or controversy.

Art is a way to communicate.
Censorship of art is a violation of free speech.
Controlling an artist's work, belittles the meaning of freedom.
Censorship of any kind, is hiding the truth from the public.
The issue is what we as accept in reality to be morally acceptable.

Street Artist Blu (left) anti-war mural was removed from the wall before the public could see it.
His mural was destroyed by the Museum of Contemporary Art. Barely lasted 24hrs.

Conclusion
We must remember that great art “is never created in the safe middle ground, but always at the edge” (Rushdie). Art is dangerous. “It challenges, questions, overturns assumptions, unsettles moral codes, disrespects sacred cows or other such entities. It can be shocking, or ugly, or controversial. And if we believe in liberty, if we want the air we breathe to remain plentiful and breathable” (Rushdie) we cannot just defend art or the artist, but celebrate them as well.

Works Cited

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