

Library Bill of Rights Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the

II. Libraries should provide materials and information

III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of

IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.

Presenting all points of view on current and historical issues.

Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or

VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

Intellectual Freedom

The Library provides an impartial environment in which individuals and their interests are brought together with the universe of ideas and information spanning the spectrum of knowledge and opinions. The American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to Read and Freedom to View statements are included in this policy and guide acquiring and managing collections.

Collection development and management decisions are based on the merit of the work as it relates to the Library's mission and its ability to meet the expressed or anticipated needs and interests of the community; decisions are not made on the basis of any anticipated approval or disapproval of the material. The inclusion of an item in the library collection in no way represents an endorsement of its contents. Library materials are not

marked or identified to show approval or disapproval of the contents, nor are materials sequestered except for the purpose of protecting them from damage or theft.

The Library recognizes that many materials may be controversial and that any given item may offend some. Only individuals can determine what is most appropriate for their needs and can define what material or information is consistent with their personal or family values. Individuals can apply those values to the use of library materials only for themselves. Parents and legal guardians have the responsibility for their children's use of library materials.