



County of Humboldt

25-970 - ATTACHMENT 2_HUMBOLDT COUNTY LIBRARY

DRAFT COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY.docx

Policy Title	Humboldt County Library Collection Development Policy
Policy Number	[Policy Number]
Resolution Number	[Resolution Number]
Original Issue Date	Feb. 16, 1988
Revision Dates	Oct. 28,2025
Policy Contacts	[Policy Contacts]
Related Documents	Click or tap here to enter text.
Related Policies	[Related Policies]

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SECTION I – LIBRARY MISSION STATEMENT

The Humboldt County Library strengthens our community by educating, inspiring, and connecting people.

SECTION II – PURPOSE

The Collection Development Policy is one of Humboldt County Library’s fundamental policy documents. It has been reviewed and approved by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt County Counsel, and the California State Library.

The purpose of the Collection Development Policy is to serve as a guide for Humboldt County Library staff regarding the development, management, and selection of collection materials. It defines what comprises the collection, specifies the types of materials that are included, and explains the basis for collection management decisions. The policy also serves to inform the public about the library’s collection and the principles that govern the selection process.

The goals and objectives stated in this policy are designed to assist library professionals in the selection process, but do not replace the judgement of library professionals.

The process of curating, maintaining, and providing a diverse and equitable collection is an ongoing process. The Collection Development Policy ensures that the Humboldt County Library’s collection continues to reflect the needs of the Humboldt County community and provides a wide array of people, cultures, ideas, and experiences.

In support of its mission, the Humboldt County Library endorses and has adopted the following statements from the American Library Association, to be used as guidelines for the development of the library’s collection, which are included in the Appendix section:

1. Library Bill of Rights
2. Freedom to Read
3. Freedom to View

In addition, California State Library Law AB 1825, passed in 2024, requires the following statements to be included in public library collection development policies:

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1. The collection meets the broad and diverse interests of the community and respects both the library's autonomy and their specific community needs.
2. The public library serves as a center for voluntary inquiry and the dissemination of information and ideas.
3. Library materials should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people, and should present diverse points of view in the collection as a whole.
4. The right of the public to receive access to a range of social, political, aesthetic, moral, and other ideas and experiences is acknowledged.

SECTION III – COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND SCOPE

The primary responsibility of the Humboldt County Library is to provide our community a hub that brings people together and connects people to essential services and resources. This policy supports the Humboldt County Library's goals as outlined below:

1. Meet the informational needs of the community
2. Provide learning opportunities and recreational experiences
3. Supplement formal and informal study
4. Reflect a variety of opinions
5. Support businesses, workforce development, cultural, recreational, and civic activities in the community
6. Stimulate self-understanding and growth
7. Enhance job related knowledge and skills
8. Increase knowledge of and participation in the affairs of the community, the country, and the world
9. Preserve local history
10. Build Community connections. Patron use is one of the metrics used to develop the library's collection. The circulation of materials, patron purchase requests, and hold levels are closely monitored and help determine the purchase of new items and additional copies of high demand items.

The Humboldt County Library provides materials to support all of our patrons and does not place value on one patron's needs or preferences over another's. The Humboldt County Library upholds the right of the individual to access information, even though the content may be controversial, unorthodox or unacceptable to others.

Materials for children and teens are intended to broaden their vision, support recreational reading, encourage and facilitate reading skills, supplement their educational needs, stimulate and widen their interests, lead to recognition and appreciation of literature, and reflect the diversity of the community. The reading and viewing activity are ultimately the

responsibility of parents, legal guardians, or caregivers who guide and oversee their own child's development. The Humboldt County Library does not intrude on that relationship and does not serve *in loco parentis*.

The selection of library materials and resources is the responsibility of the trained collection development staff of the Humboldt County Library. Other staff members and the public may recommend materials for consideration; however, Library management retains the authority to select or reject any item contrary to the recommendations of the staff.

The Humboldt County Library will provide free and equitable access to library collections that represent diverse points of view, which may include materials that some members of the public consider to be controversial in nature. In selecting materials, library staff will use professional reference resources, judgement, knowledge, and experience to select these materials, and will proactively work to anticipate the needs and interests of the community.

SECTION IV – COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

The selection of any material or resources does not constitute an endorsement by the Humboldt County Library, the County of Humboldt, or its staff.

The Humboldt County Library recognizes that many materials and resources may be controversial.

Selection decisions are guided by the merits of the work, collection needs, and interests of a diverse collection which support the role the Humboldt County Library plays in our communities.

Selection decisions are not influenced by the possibility that material may be accessible to children. Responsibility for children's use of library materials and resources lies with their parents, legal guardians, or caretakers.

When Humboldt County Library staff members review and select materials for purchase, they consider the needs of the communities it serves, which include a wide variety of ages, educational backgrounds, interests, sensory preferences, and reading skills.

The Humboldt County Library may select materials that are to be used in the library only.

Library materials will not be marked or identified to show approval or disapproval of the contents, and nothing will be sequestered except to protect it from theft or damage.

A single standard does not apply to all acquisition decisions and each type of material will be considered in terms of its own merit and its intended audience. Some items may be selected to fulfill the recreational needs of the community while others may be selected because of their artistic merit, scholarship, or value to humanity.

Materials donated to the Humboldt County Library are not automatically added to the collection. These items are reviewed by library staff according to the selection criteria.

The Humboldt County Library may add works produced by authors, printers, or publishers with connections to Humboldt County that meet the purpose and objectives of this policy.

Materials are evaluated as a whole and not on the basis of a particular passage or passages. A work will not be excluded from the collection because it presents an aspect of life honestly or due to frankness of expression. Materials are not excluded or included merely because of the race, nationality, political, or religious or social views of the author or producer.

SECTION V – SELECTION CRITERIA

Collection development decisions are based on staff judgement, training, knowledge, and expertise. Materials are available in a variety of formats, quantities, and titles. Selection criteria include but is not limited to the following general criteria for selecting new and donated materials for the collection:

1. Relevance to the interests and needs of the community
2. Extent of publicity, critical review, and current or anticipated demand
3. Current or historical significance of the author or subject
4. Local significance of the author or subject
5. Relevance to the existing collection's strengths and weaknesses
6. Reputation and qualification of the author, publisher, or producer, with preference generally given to titles through examination of professional reviews (ex. *Library Journal*, *Booklist*, *Kirkus*, etc.)
7. Suitability of format to library circulation and use
8. Date of publication
9. Diversity of collections with a focus on being equitable in representation of subjects, authors, and protagonists
10. The price, availability, and physical quality of the material.
11. Space available in the library and within the library materials budget.

The Humboldt County Library does not purchase the following types of material: costly books of little demand, collectibles, or textbooks. Abridged, expurgated, or condensed materials are also generally not acquired.

The Humboldt County Library respects the intellectual property of human authors and creators and will make reasonable efforts not to purchase AI-generated materials, or AI-generated audio editions of human-created works. AI-generated content inadvertently added to the collection will be labeled as such in the catalog record but will not be weeded unless it meets one or more criteria for weeding (see Section 10: Criteria for Weeding and Withdrawal). AI-assisted content is permitted in the Humboldt County Library collection, subject to the same requirements and criteria as wholly human-authored works. AI-assisted content is work that is written by a human but for which the author used AI tools to edit, refine, or error-check the work.

SECTION VI – PATRON RECCOMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS

Patrons may request items the Humboldt County Library does not presently own. Each request is reviewed for inclusion in the collection and will follow the collection maintenance guideline and selection criteria listed in this policy. Requests can be made in person or online.

SECTION VII – MAINTENANCE OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

Library materials are processed in such a way as to ensure their maximum use under normal circumstances.

Damaged but still usable materials are mended according to an established set of procedures and best practices.

Materials that are worn, damaged, or in poor condition and cannot be mended may be withdrawn from the collection; replacements may be purchased based on the discretion of library staff based on the following factors:

1. Existence of adequate coverage of the subject, especially of more current material is available.
2. Demand for the specific title.
3. Availability of any specific title.

SECTION VIII – COLLECTION MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

The collection of the Humboldt County Library is a Dynamic entity that changes, grows and adapts to ensure its viability and usefulness to the community. Library staff review the collection regularly, adding items and occasionally withdrawing items with regards to patterns of use, the capacity of each location and the holdings of other libraries that are accessible to library patrons. Great care is taken to retain and replace items that have enduring value to the community.

SECTION IX – RESPONSIBILITY FOR COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

Implementation of the Collection Development Policy and management of the collection is assigned to the trained professional staff of the Humboldt County Library; the final authority for the library collection rests with Library management. The Humboldt County Library disposes of materials that have been withdrawn according to the criteria for weeding and withdrawal outlined in Section 10.

SECTION X – CRITERIA FOR WEEDING AND WITHDRAWAL

The following criteria are used in selecting materials for withdrawal:

- A. Damage or poor condition
- B. Number of copies in the collection
- C. Relevance to the needs and interest of the community
- D. Current demand and frequency of use
- E. Accuracy and timeliness
- F. Lack of local interest
- G. Relevance to Humboldt County Library’s research collections
- H. Availability elsewhere, including other libraries
- I. Availability of improved or newer editions
- J. Space availability
- K. Outdated or harmful representations of groups of people

Replacement of materials is not guaranteed. The following criteria are considered when determining the need for replacement:

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- A. Number of copies in Humboldt County Library branches
- B. Existence of adequate coverage of the subject, particularly if more current material is available
- C. Demand for the specific title or for material in that subject area
- D. Existence of a newer format as a replacement.

Withdrawn items are donated to the Friends of the Redwood Libraries (or, when applicable, the Friends group associated with a specific branch) or to Better World Books to be resold to fund donations to the Humboldt County Library. Materials unsuitable for transfer are discarded or recycled. Requests to hold weeded materials for individuals will not be accepted. Donated items not added to the collection may be disposed of or given to the appropriate Friends organization to be sold.

Popular periodicals are kept for a set period as determined by the library branch. Materials of local interest, such as Humboldt County newspapers, will be archived as deemed appropriate by library staff.

SECTION XI – COLLECTION AUDITS

The Humboldt County Library routinely performs a collection audit to identify gaps in subjects and equitable representation of voices. The results of the collection audit are used by library staff in making purchasing decisions that fill in gaps of the collection. The budget for these purchases is the standard annual collection budget unless a grant or other one-time funds are infused.

SECTION XII – GIFTS, DONATIONS, AND MEMORIALS

The Humboldt County Library accepts donations of books and other materials with the understanding that the same selection guidelines used for purchased materials (as outlined in Section 5) will be applied to donated materials. The Humboldt County Library retains the authority to accept or reject gifts. Library staff make all the decisions as to the use, housing, and final disposal of donations.

Acceptance of donated items is subject to the discretion of the professional staff of the Humboldt County Library. Unused gifts may be offered to the appropriate Friends organization for public sale or discarded.

Collections of donated materials may not necessarily be kept together as a group and the Humboldt County Library may not be able to accept gifts with this requirement. The Humboldt County Library does not evaluate or appraise gift materials for tax purposes.

SECTION XIII – SCOPE OF MAIN LIBRARY AND LIBRARY BRANCHES

The Main Library in Eureka contains the bulk of the Humboldt County Library’s core fiction and non-fiction collections in multiple formats including, but not limited to, print, audio, and video formats and includes materials of an enduring nature as well as current-interest materials. The Main Branch collections represent the diverse viewpoints and interests of the community it serves.

Branch libraries (including the Bookmobile) serve the needs of the communities in which they are located. Library staff regularly evaluate the collection to ensure its relevance. Branch collections concentrate on materials of high interest and materials that support the Humboldt County Library’s overall organizational goals.

The majority of materials in the Humboldt County Library collection are shared among the various branches throughout the county to ensure access and availability to all Humboldt County residents. Some items, including those belonging to special collections (as outlined in Section 14), either can only be checked out at their assigned library branch or cannot be checked out at all due to their fragile condition, size, or because replacements cannot be obtained to help prevent damage to the item.

SECTION XIV – SCOPE OF THE ONLINE COLLECTION

The online collection represents the diverse viewpoints and interests of the entire community the Humboldt County Library serves. This collection includes online databases; eBooks, digital audiobooks and digital magazines; learning resources and instructional platforms.

SECTION XV – SCOPE OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

A. Humboldt Room

The Humboldt Room, located in the Main Library, houses the collection of materials focusing on the history of Humboldt County and surrounding areas. The collection contains
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a variety of materials in various formats; all Humboldt Room materials are for in-library-use-only and cannot be checked out or transferred to another library location. The items in the Humboldt Room have been purchased through the library budget as well as have been donated by the public.

B. Library of Things

The Humboldt County Library has created a Library of Things (LoT) located at the Kim Yerton Memorial Library in Hoopa. This is a collection of items, devices, and equipment that fosters exploration, learning, self-discovery and enrichment through participatory actions rather than just reading, listening, or viewing. Items include gardening equipment, hand tools, kitchen items, etc. that provide an experiential opportunity for patrons. With equity in mind, the LoT provides opportunities for people who may not have access to or the financial means to purchase this kind of equipment. Items from the LoT can only be checked out of the Kym Yerton Memorial Library and items cannot be transferred to other library locations. Patrons are required to agree to the terms of the LoT borrowing guidelines and sign the LoT Borrowing Agreement before checking out items from the LoT collection.

C. Assorted Special Collection Items

On occasion the Humboldt County Library collection contains unconventional items including but not limited to telescopes, backpacks, and other items that are available to patrons. The availability of these items to be checked out and transferred between branches will vary depending on the item with regard to their fragile condition, size, or because replacements cannot be attained to help prevent damage to the item.

SECTION XVI – REQUESTS FOR RECONSIDERATION

The Humboldt County Library selects collection materials using established criteria and with full consideration of the varying age groups and backgrounds of our community and patrons. Requests for the removal of items from the collection may be made by Humboldt County residents using a formal procedure outlined below:

1. The Humboldt County Library recognizes that at any given time some materials may be deemed inappropriate or offensive by patrons. Selection of materials is based on the principles stated in this policy. Materials will not be identified to show

approval or disapproval. No materials will be sequestered except to protect it from damage or theft.

2. The Humboldt County Library adheres to and supports the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read Statement created by the American Library Association (See Appendix). Censorship is an individual matter and while anyone is free to reject for themselves books and other library materials that they do not approve of, they cannot exercise this right of censorship to other people to read or use library materials.
3. Responsibility for supervising children's use of the Humboldt County Library and library materials rests solely with the parents or legal guardians. Selection of library materials will not be inhibited by the possibility that materials may come into the possession of children.
4. Patrons requesting that an item be moved or withdrawn from the Humboldt County Library collection must complete a "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" form, a sample of which is included in the appendix of this policy. Patrons must reside in Humboldt County to have their request considered and only one request per patron will be considered at one time. The request for reconsideration will be acknowledged in writing by the Library Director within ten (10) business days. The material will be reviewed by a panel of library professionals to evaluate the item in question. The review will be completed in no more than thirty (30) business days of the initial request for reconsideration. The panel's recommendations will be considered, and the Library Director's final decision will be mailed or emailed to the patron. Once a title has been considered, it will not be reviewed again for a period of two (2) years.

SECTION XVII – APPENDIX

Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials

Date:

Your Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
Email:	
Library Card Number:	

Title:

Author/Artist:

Please briefly answer the following questions about the item that you would like to have reconsidered.

1) How did you learn of this item?

2) What are your objections to this item?

- 3) What harm do you feel might result from reading/listening/viewing this work?

- 4) Did you read/listen/view the work in its entirety? If not, what parts did you read/listen/view?

- 5) Have you read any professional reviews of the work? If so, please list the names of critics and sources of the reviews.

- 6) What do you think are the main ideas of the work or what was the author's/artist's purpose in creating this work?

- 7) What suggestion do you have for a work with a similar purpose to replace this item?

- 8) What would you like the library to do with this material?

Signature and Date

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this form. The Library Director will respond to your concerns within 10 business days of the receipt of this form.

American Library Association- The Freedom to Read Statement

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label "controversial" views, to distribute lists of "objectionable" books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as individuals devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

Most attempts at suppression rest on a denial of the fundamental premise of democracy: that the ordinary individual, by exercising critical judgment, will select the good and reject the bad. We trust Americans to recognize propaganda and misinformation, and to make their own decisions about what they read and believe. We do not believe they are prepared to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be "protected" against what others think may be bad for them. We believe they still favor free enterprise in ideas and expression.

These efforts at suppression are related to a larger pattern of pressures being brought against education, the press, art and images, films, broadcast media, and the Internet. The problem is not only one of actual censorship. The shadow of fear cast by these pressures leads, we suspect, to an even larger voluntary curtailment of expression by those who seek to avoid controversy or unwelcome scrutiny by government officials.

Such pressure toward conformity is perhaps natural to a time of accelerated change. And yet suppression is never more dangerous than in such a time of social tension. Freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions, and enables change to come by choice. Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with controversy and difference.

Now as always in our history, reading is among our greatest freedoms. The freedom to read and write is almost the only means for making generally available ideas or manners of expression that can initially command only a small audience. The written word is the natural medium for the new idea and the untried voice from which come the original contributions to social growth. It is essential to the extended discussion that serious thought requires, and to the accumulation of knowledge and ideas into organized collections.

We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture. We believe that these pressures toward conformity present the danger of limiting the range and variety of inquiry and expression on which our democracy and our culture depend. We believe that every American community must jealously guard the freedom to publish and to circulate, in order to preserve its own freedom to read. We believe that publishers and librarians have a profound responsibility to give validity to that freedom to read by making it possible for the readers to choose freely from a variety of offerings.

The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

We therefore affirm these propositions:

1. *It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.*

Creative thought is by definition new, and what is new is different. The bearer of every new thought is a rebel until that idea is refined and tested. Totalitarian systems attempt to maintain themselves in power by the ruthless suppression of

any concept that challenges the established orthodoxy. The power of a democratic system to adapt to change is vastly strengthened by the freedom of its citizens to choose widely from among conflicting opinions offered freely to them. To stifle every nonconformist idea at birth would mark the end of the democratic process. Furthermore, only through the constant activity of weighing and selecting can the democratic mind attain the strength demanded by times like these. We need to know not only what we believe but why we believe it.

2. *Publishers, librarians, and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what should be published or circulated.*

Publishers and librarians serve the educational process by helping to make available knowledge and ideas required for the growth of the mind and the increase of learning. They do not foster education by imposing as mentors the patterns of their own thought. The people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church. It is wrong that what one can read should be confined to what another thinks proper.

3. *It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.*

No art or literature can flourish if it is to be measured by the political views or private lives of its creators. No society of free people can flourish that draws up lists of writers to whom it will not listen, whatever they may have to say.

4. *There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.*

To some, much of modern expression is shocking. But is not much of life itself shocking? We cut off literature at the source if we prevent writers from dealing with the stuff of life. Parents and teachers have a responsibility to prepare the young to meet the diversity of experiences in life to which they will be exposed, as they have a responsibility to help them learn to think critically for themselves. These are affirmative responsibilities, not to be discharged simply by preventing them from reading works for which they are not yet prepared. In these matters values differ, and values cannot be legislated; nor can machinery be devised that will suit the demands of one group without limiting the freedom of others.

5. *It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept the prejudgment of a label characterizing any expression or its author as subversive or dangerous.*

The ideal of labeling presupposes the existence of individuals or groups with wisdom to determine by authority what is good or bad for others. It presupposes that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. But Americans do not need others to do their thinking for them.

6. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large; and by the government whenever it seeks to reduce or deny public access to public information.*

It is inevitable in the give and take of the democratic process that the political, the moral, or the aesthetic concepts of an individual or group will occasionally collide with those of another individual or group. In a free society individuals are free to determine for themselves what they wish to read, and each group is free to determine what it will recommend to its freely associated members. But no group has the right to take the law into its own hands, and to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other members of a democratic society. Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive. Further, democratic societies are more safe, free, and creative when the free flow of public information is not restricted by governmental prerogative or self-censorship.

7. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.*

The freedom to read is of little consequence when the reader cannot obtain matter fit for that reader's purpose. What is needed is not only the absence of restraint, but the positive provision of opportunity for the people to read the best that has been thought and said. Books are the major channel by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down, and the principal means of its testing and growth. The defense of the freedom to read requires of all publishers and librarians the utmost of their faculties, and deserves of all Americans the fullest of their support.

We state these propositions neither lightly nor as easy generalizations. We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of the written word. We do so because we believe that it is possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free. We realize that the application of these propositions may mean the dissemination of ideas and manners of expression that are repugnant to many persons. We do not state these propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant. We believe rather that what people read is deeply important; that ideas can be dangerous; but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours.

This statement was originally issued in May of 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and the American Book Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Publishers Institute to become the Association of American Publishers.

Adopted June 25, 1953, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee; amended January 28, 1972; January 16, 1991; July 12, 2000; June 30, 2004.

A Joint Statement by:

[American Library Association](#)
[Association of American Publishers](#)

Subsequently endorsed by:

[American Booksellers for Free Expression](#)
[The Association of American University Presses](#)
[The Children's Book Council](#)
[Freedom to Read Foundation](#)
[National Association of College Stores](#)
[National Coalition Against Censorship](#)
[National Council of Teachers of English](#)
The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression

American Library Association - Freedom to View Statement

The **FREEDOM TO VIEW**, along with the freedom to speak, to hear, and to read, is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. In a free society, there is no place for censorship of any medium of expression. Therefore these principles are affirmed:

1. To provide the broadest access to film, video, and other audiovisual materials because they are a means for the communication of ideas. Liberty of circulation is essential to insure the constitutional guarantee of freedom of expression.
2. To protect the confidentiality of all individuals and institutions using film, video, and other audiovisual materials.
3. To provide film, video, and other audiovisual materials which represent a diversity of views and expression. Selection of a work does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content.
4. To provide a diversity of viewpoints without the constraint of labeling or prejudging film, video, or other audiovisual materials on the basis of the moral, religious, or political beliefs of the producer or filmmaker or on the basis of controversial content.
5. To contest vigorously, by all lawful means, every encroachment upon the public's freedom to view.

This statement was originally drafted by the Freedom to View Committee of the American Film and Video Association (formerly the Educational Film Library Association) and was adopted by the AFVA Board of Directors in February 1979. This statement was updated and approved by the AFVA Board of Directors in 1989.

Endorsed January 10, 1990, by the ALA Council

American Library Association - 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 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.

II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups 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 abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms 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.

VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Board Approval

[Board Chair Name], Board Chairperson

Date

Pursuant to Board Order [Resolution Number] Dated Feb. 16, 1988