

DEER PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
MATERIALS SELECTION POLICY

The Library Board of Trustees believes that it is desirable and in the public interest that the Deer Park Public Library provide books, compact discs, audio cassettes, video cassettes, DVDs and other audiovisual materials which represent the widest diversity of views and expression, including those which are unorthodox or unpopular with the majority.

The Library Director is responsible to the Board for the selection of materials and the development of the collection. It is not the Trustees' intention to restrict the librarian in the selection of materials because of their subject matter or their author, but rather to urge and recommend that he or she use his or her best judgement as a professional librarian in making selections, being guided in his or her choice by the evaluation of the work's merit, authenticity and honesty of presentation.

We wish to emphasize that the presence of a magazine, book or audiovisual material in the library does not constitute or imply agreement or endorsement of its content by the Library Board or staff.

We believe that it is contrary to the public interest for the Library Board, the librarian or any individual or any group, to determine the acceptability or unacceptability of a work on the basis of the personal history or political affiliation of the author, producer, artist or filmmaker.

In the final analysis, we agree with the American Library Association's Freedom to Read Statement, which says, in part:

"We trust Americans to recognize propaganda and to reject obscenity. We do not believe they need the help of censors to assist them in this task. 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."

We are also in agreement with the American Library Association's Freedom to View Statement, which says, in part:

"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."

Approved by the Board of Trustees
September 27, 2023

Request for Review of Library Material by the Board of Trustees
Add pages if necessary

Author/Artist/Producer _____

Title _____

Publisher (if known) _____

Name of Complainant _____

Telephone _____ Address _____

How was the item brought to your attention?

To what do you object. Please be specific, cite specific sections.

What do you feel might be the result of reading/hearing/viewing this item?

Do you feel this item has any redeeming qualities?

For what age group would you recommend this item? _____

Did you read/hear/see the work in its entirety? _____

What parts? _____

Are you aware of the media reviews of this work? _____

What do you believe is the theme of this work?

Other
