



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

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LEAD DEPARTMENT: Library
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Intellectual Freedom

PURPOSE

The library has an obligation to represent diverse ideas in its collections, without promoting a partisan viewpoint.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all library patrons and all library materials.

POLICY

The Town of Los Gatos affirms the American Library Association position that all libraries are forums for information and ideas and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

PROCEDURES

American Library Association Bill of Rights

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.