

## Challenge of Library Materials Policy

The Catskill Public Library and Palenville Branch Library believe in freedom of information for all and do not practice censorship.

The selection of library materials is predicated upon the patron's right to read and freedom from censorship by others. Library materials may be controversial and any given item may offend some person. Selections for the library are made solely on the merits of the material in relation to the development of a collection that serves the needs and interests of a diverse population. *See Collection Development Policy.*

The Catskill Public Library Board of Trustees recognizes that a collection of diverse materials may result in some complaints or requests for reconsideration. The Catskill Public Library's Collection Development Policy guides the development and continuous evaluation of the collection to reflect the Catskill Public Library's mission to provide access to resources and opportunities that impact individual lives and build community.

### Library Policy

1. The library holds the choice of reading and viewing materials as a purely individual matter. Patrons are free to reject books and other materials of which they do not approve. Patrons may not exercise censorship to restrict the freedom of others.
2. Responsibility for materials selected and read, heard or viewed by children and adolescents rests with their parents or legal guardians. Library selection decisions are not influenced by the possibility that materials may be accessible to minors.
3. The Library does not indicate through the use of labels or other devices particular points of view or perspectives contained in library materials.
4. No items are sequestered to control access.
5. A formal process for handling challenges will be followed to assure that challenges are handled in an attentive and consistent manner.

### Request for Reconsideration

The Trustees of the Catskill Public Library have an established Collection Development Policy. Completion of the "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials form is the first step in asking the Library Director and/or Board to reconsider an item in our Collection. If you wish to request reconsideration of a resource, please return the completed form to the Library Director.

**Resolution: Adopted on May 18, 2022 by unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees of the Catskill Public Library.**