

5. Challenge of Library Resources 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 resources is predicated upon the patron's right to read and freedom from censorship by others. Library resources may be controversial, and any given item may offend some people. Selections for the library are made solely on the merits of the resource in relation to the development of a collection of materials, services, and programs that serve the needs and interests of a diverse population. *See also the Collection Development Policy and Program Policy.*

The Catskill Public Library Board of Trustees recognizes that a collection of diverse resources may result in some complaints or requests for reconsideration. The Catskill Public Library's Collection Development Policy and Program Policy guide 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 or resources as a purely individual matter. Patrons are free to reject books and other resources of which they do not approve. Patrons may not exercise censorship to restrict the freedom of others.
2. Responsibility for items either selected or 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 an item 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 items.
4. No items are sequestered to control access.
5. A formal process for handling challenges will be followed to ensure that challenges are handled attentively and consistently.

Request for Reconsideration

Completing the "Request for Reconsideration of Library Resource" form is the first step in asking the Library Director and/or Board to reconsider a Library resource. 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.

Resolution: Amended on August 16, 2023, by unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees of the Catskill Public Library.

6. REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF LIBRARY RESOURCE

Please complete the form below and return it to the attention of the Library Director at Catskill Public Library, 1 Franklin St., Catskill, NY 12414

Date:

Name:

Address:

City:

State/Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Do you represent yourself or an organization? _____

Name of Organization (if applicable): _____

1. Type of resource on which you are commenting:

Book (e-book)

Periodical

Digital Resource

Program

Movie

Audio Recording

Game

Other

Title: _____

Author/Producer: _____

2. What brought this resource to your attention? _____

3. Have you examined the entire resource? If not, what sections did you review? _____

4. What do you feel might be the result of engaging with this resource? _____

5. What evidence do you have that such a result might occur? _____

6. What action are you requesting the committee to consider? _____

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