

FLATHEAD COUNTY LIBRARY IMAGINE IF LIBRARIES **POLICY 1001-STATEMENT OF CORE PRINCIPLES-FAIR TREATMENT** [SA1]

The Library Board of Trustees affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic principles~~policies~~ should guide their policies~~successes~~.

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.

- Flathead County Library should ~~shall~~ provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues and will strive for institutional neutrality. ~~Materials should~~ ~~shall~~ not be ~~pro~~scribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- ~~Flathead County Library holds censorship to be a purely individual matter and declares that while anyone is free to personally reject materials of which he or she does not approve, he or she may not exercise censorship to restrict the freedom of others. Flathead County Library shall challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment. (See Collection Development and Management Policy)~~
- ~~Flathead County Library shall cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.~~
- A person's right to use a library should ~~should~~ not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- ~~Flathead County Library will~~ ~~Libraries which~~ make ~~exhibit spaces and~~ meeting rooms available to the public and shall ~~they serve should~~ make such facilities available on an equal ~~equitable~~ basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use. Use to be consistent with FCL Meeting Room and Patron Conduct policies.
- The library is committed to offering suitable materials in its collections for minors. (See Collection Development and Management policy)
- All practices and procedures related to this policy shall comply with local, state, and federal laws.

~~Adopted June 18, 1948, by the ALA Council; amended February 2, 1961; amended June 28, 1967; amended January 23, 1980; inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 24, 1996.~~

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David Ingram~~Heidi Roedel~~, Chair
Library Board of Trustees

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