



**Collection Development  
Material Review and Reconsideration  
Effective Date: September 8, 2025**

**Purpose**

This Collection Development Policy guides the selection, acquisition, evaluation, and maintenance of both digital and print materials for the Granby Public Library's (Library) collections. The collection reflects the diverse needs and interests of the community, supporting interest, information, and enlightenment of all residents.

While the library strives to build a balanced and comprehensive collection, it recognizes limitations in space, budget, and staffing. As such, the collection is developed with a focus on relevance, community demand, usage patterns, and alignment with the library's mission and strategic priorities. As such, the collection should represent a wide range of varied and diverging viewpoints.

This policy outlines a procedure for a librarian to review library and educational material within a public library using professionally accepted standards: material relevance, physical condition, availability of duplicates, availability of age appropriate or grade-level material and continued demand of materials. Resources not available in the local collection may be accessed through interlibrary loan or cooperative agreements.

Specific acquisitions may include items that may be unorthodox, unpopular or controversial in nature. In following this policy, neither the Library nor its Board endorses every thought, expression or belief represented in the Library's collections.

**Scope**

This policy applies to materials of all formats- physical and digital- including books, periodicals, audiovisual materials, databases, and other media for all age groups and strives to provide equitable access to information across a wide range of topics and diverging viewpoints, whether recreational or informational, for the Granby community. Only Granby, CT residents are eligible for the reconsideration of Library materials.

**Objectives**

- Serve the informational and recreational needs of the community through its various collections and online resources and through the Library Connection, Inc. Consortium (LCI), which it joined in June 2014.
- Select and maintain access to a quality collection of print and non-print materials that are responsive to the interests and needs of the Community.
- Recognize the importance of the public library as a place for voluntary inquiry, the dissemination of information and ideas, and promotion of free expression and free access to ideas by residents.

## **Procedures**

### Intellectual Freedom

The Library supports intellectual freedom and the right of individuals to read, learn, and gather together in a safe, friendly, and welcoming environment. The Library provides free access to diverse ideas, resources, and experiences and strives to enhance the quality of life in our community by providing and encouraging life-long learning through a variety of resources.

The Library subscribes to the *Library Bill of Rights*, *Freedom to Read Statement* and the *Free Access to Libraries for Minors Statement*, which have been adopted by the American Library Association and are appended to this policy. (See Appendix)

### Types of Materials

The Library provides access to information in a wide variety of print and non-print formats. Presently, the Library collects books, newspapers, magazines, DVDs, audio books, downloadable and streaming materials, compact discs, local government documents, maps, and educational toys. In addition, the Library purchases access to information through subscription databases, online learning tools, e-reference books, and other online services. The majority of these electronic services are available via computer in all Library locations and to Library card holders offsite through the Library's website. In the future, the types of materials acquired will change as new technologies become available.

### Constituencies Served

The Library serves the Community residents of all ages, patrons from other LCI libraries, as well as individuals who work in the Town of Granby. It also serves any Connecticut resident with a valid library card from another town through *BorrowIT CT*, a statewide cooperative service among Connecticut libraries. The Library will attempt to locate materials within its own holdings before searching within the LCI Consortium, followed by elsewhere in the state, if feasible.

### Schools

The Library will support the Granby Public Schools by having materials that support the curricula while providing the Community with resources of general interest within the Library's budget constraints. Textbooks will not be purchased. The Library will work with Granby Public School libraries to maintain an understanding of their curricular needs.

### Local Businesses and Community Groups

The Library will support the information needs of local businesses and organizations by including materials and resources that support their interests in a general manner, within budget constraints.

## **Responsibility For and Method of Selection:**

### Criteria and Method

This policy acknowledges that librarians are professionally trained to curate and develop a collection that provides access to the widest array of library and educational materials. Professional librarians will make selections using review media, standard lists of recommended titles, and information provided by publishers to make selections for the purchase of Library materials. These sources may include, but are not limited to, *Library Journal*, *School Library Journal*, *the New York Times Book Review*, and other professional review sources. Special attention will be paid to academic reading lists, topics of local interest, and curriculum support. Factors such as patron requests, readability, accuracy, quality of writing, cost, format, popularity, existing holdings, and budget constraints will be considered when identifying items for the collection.

All library materials are evaluated and made accessible in accordance with the protections against discrimination set forth in section 46a-64 of the CT general statutes. No person within the jurisdiction of this state, will be denied full and equal accommodations in any place of public accommodation, resort or amusement because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, intellectual disability, mental disability, physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness or deafness, or status as a veteran, of the applicant, subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to all persons. (Appendix 4)

### Adult Materials:

The selection of Library materials, both print and non-print, for the adult collection is the responsibility of the Library Director.

### Children's Materials:

The Children's Librarian is responsible for the selection of all Children's Department materials, both print and non-print. The Children's Department provides materials for children from infancy through fifth grade, as well as materials for parents.

### Young Adult / Teen Materials:

Professional Library staff members are responsible for the selection of all young adult/teen materials, both print and non-print. The Young Adult/Teen department provides materials to meet the personal, topical, and recreational needs of students in sixth through twelfth grade.

## **Digital Collections/Databases:**

The Library provides access to digital collections and online databases to support the educational, cultural, and informational needs of the community. Access to these resources is offered on a fair and equitable basis to all library users, in accordance with applicable licensing agreements and copyright laws. Users are expected to follow the Library's Internet and Computer Use policies, and access may be restricted or suspended for misuse, including unauthorized sharing, downloading, or alteration of materials. The Library regularly evaluates its digital resources to ensure they remain current, relevant, and aligned with community interests and needs. While the Library selects materials with care, the content of digital collections reflects a diversity of viewpoints and does not imply endorsement by the Library, consistent with principles of intellectual freedom.

## **Special Considerations**

### Access:

All materials will be kept on open shelves, easily accessible to the public, except for some software and electronic devices. Children are not limited to the Children's Room, although children's materials are kept together there to facilitate use. Responsibility for a child's reading and viewing choices rests with the parent or guardian.

### Classic Materials:

Without regard to current popularity, the Library will maintain the development of its collection of classic novels, stories, plays and poetry and other works of important authors from a wide variety of time periods. American, British, and other English-language authors will be emphasized, but other regions of the world will be represented within the constraints of budget, relevancy, and shelving space.

Among the principal sources used in the development of this portion of the collection will be lists of prize-winning authors, such as the Nobel Prize for Literature, the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, the Man Booker Prize and bibliographies of recommended reading on various subjects.

### Donations/Memorials:

Donations and memorials will be judged and accepted or rejected by the same criteria as other Library materials. In general, collections of Library materials will not be accepted with restrictions which necessitate special housing, prevent integration of the gift into the collection, compromise policy concerning equal access, or the relevancy and accuracy of said materials. The Library accepts gifts without commitment as to final disposition. The Library does not assess the value of donated materials and will not provide a statement for tax-exemption purposes in which a value has been stated (IRS rulings prohibit such); however, a letter of acknowledgment listing general types and quantities of materials will be provided upon request.

### Local Authors:

Works by local authors published by recognized publication presses will be purchased by the Library if they are consistent with the criteria and selection

principles outlined in this policy. Works privately printed will be accepted by the Library as gifts and included in the collection if they are consistent with the criteria and selection principles outlined in the Self-Published Local Authors Shelf Policy (2016).

#### Local History and Town Documents:

When budget and physical space allow, the Library will acquire one copy for reference use of printed items contributing to the knowledge of Town of Granby, CT operations and/or Granby history, to be retained in the Vertical Files or in the Library collection. Duplicates of said materials likely to be useful for circulation may be acquired. The Library will not collect genealogies, manuscripts, paintings, or ephemera that require special preservation treatment. Patrons wishing to research individual family histories are referred to the Salmon Brook Historical Society, the Connecticut State Library, the Connecticut Historical Society, or the Simsbury Genealogy Library.

#### Multiple Copies:

Multiple copies of popular titles may be purchased to facilitate access and to satisfy patron requests, as well as LCI standards for shared resources. The professional staff will make these determinations on a case-by-case basis.

#### Out-of-Print:

The Library will not purchase out-of-print books. Use of the system to locate titles in other libraries will be suggested to serve patron needs for out-of-print works.

#### Suggestions for Purchase:

Patron recommendations are given serious consideration and are judged using the professional selection criteria as cited above. The Library does not routinely buy retrospectively on demand unless there is no general coverage in a particular area. Interlibrary loan resources are recommended as a means of obtaining materials not available in the general collection.

#### Vertical File:

The vertical file, for reference use only, contains various Town of Granby, CT and regional materials that may be of historical interest.

### **Repair, Replacements, Removal and Reconsideration**

Whenever possible, damaged materials that are still useful will be repaired using the Library's mending equipment and supplies. Those books which cannot be mended will be rebound if funds are available and the content warrants preserving. Items withdrawn because of loss or damage are not necessarily replaced. Classic titles in condition too poor for circulation will be replaced whenever possible.

#### De-accessioning Library Materials (Removal of items)

The American Library Association recommends systematic withdrawals so that the Library can maintain a relevant and appealing collection. Materials which are no longer useful because of condition, availability, lack of circulation, or because they no longer meet

selection criteria will be removed from the collection according to accepted Library practice known as the "CREW" Method ("Continuous Review, Evaluation, and Weeding"). Discarded items will be marked "withdrawn".

### **Controversial Materials**

No library material shall be removed because of origin, background or viewpoints expressed in such material, or because of the origin, background or viewpoints of the creator. Items will not be removed on the sole basis that an individual finds that item offensive. Items shall only be excluded for legitimate professionally accepted standards of collection maintenance practices as adopted in the collection development policy.

### **Requests for Reconsideration of Materials**

Selections will not be made based on anticipated patron approval or disapproval, but solely on the merits of the work in relation to the building of the collections and to serving the interests of Library patrons. Requests for reconsideration of library materials shall be administered in a fair and consistent manner. Such procedures shall neither favor nor disfavor any individual or group based on protected characteristics, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or disability. All requests will be considered based solely on the content of the material in question and its alignment with the library's collection development policy, not on the viewpoints of petitioners or the perceived identity of any group represented in or affected by the material. Responsibility for the reading, viewing, and listening of children and teens rests with their parents or legal guardians. Selection of adult materials will not be inhibited by the possibility that books may inadvertently come into the possession of children. The selection of any material is not a Library endorsement of the viewpoint expressed.

No materials which have been duly challenged by a Granby library patron or Town of Granby, CT resident shall be removed from the Library's collection without the item being formally reconsidered following the process below.

### **Procedure for Reconsideration:**

Only residents of the Town of Granby can request reconsideration of any library material. Residents requesting reconsideration of any part of the collection should first review a copy of the Collection Development Policy. The individual should then speak with the Librarian in whose department the material is located (Children's Librarian or the Director) about his/her concerns. If the patron continues to request reconsideration/exclusion of an item from the collection, he/she must then submit a signed copy of the "Request for Reconsideration Form" giving reasons for exclusion to the Library Director. Multiple requests for the same item may be consolidated into one request.

The Library Director will evaluate the request for reconsideration, in consultation with appropriate professional Library staff. They will read the challenged material in its entirety, evaluate the challenged material against the collection development and maintenance policy and make a written decision on whether or not to remove the challenged material not later than sixty days from the date of receiving such request. The Library Director shall provide a copy of the library director's decision and report to the individual who submitted the form.

If the individual is not satisfied with the reply, they can bring the matter to the attention of the Granby Library Board (Board) in writing, not less than one week prior to a scheduled board meeting. The Library Director will provide a copy of the original complaint and their response to the Board. The Library Board will evaluate the challenged materials against the Library collection development policy, in consultation with the Library Director, the State Librarian/ State Librarian designee, a representative of the cooperating library service unit as defined in section 11-9e of the general statutes, the president of the CT Library Association/ designee, and/or the president of the Association of CT Library Boards/ designee who shall deliberate on such a request for reconsideration, provide a written statement of the reasons for the reconsideration or refusal to reconsider the library material, and provide any final decision that is contrary to the decision of the Library Director.

Once the Library Board has made a final decision, the material in question may not be reconsidered for a period of three years. Any librarian or staff member of a public library who, in good faith, implements the policies described in this section shall be immune from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed and shall have the same immunity with respect to any judicial proceeding that results from such implementation.

### **Policy Review and Updates**

This policy will be reviewed and amended by Library Administration and the Library Board. Revisions may be made based on feedback, technology changes, library funding or evolving community needs.

*Approved by the Granby Library Board- December 21, 1992*

*Revised- July 13, 2015*

*Revised- January 11, 2021*

## **Appendix 1**

### **Library Bill of Rights**

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

- 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.
- VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; January 29, 2019.

Inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.

"Library Bill of Rights", American Library Association, June 30, 2006.

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill> (Accessed January 4, 2021)

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## **Appendix 2**

### **The Freedom to Read Statement**

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label "controversial" views, to distribute lists of "objectionable" books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as individuals devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

Most attempts at suppression rest on a denial of the fundamental premise of democracy: that the ordinary individual, by exercising critical judgment, will select the good and reject the bad. We trust Americans to recognize propaganda and misinformation, and to make their own decisions about what they read and believe. 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.

These efforts at suppression are related to a larger pattern of pressures being brought against education, the press, art and images, films, broadcast media, and the Internet. The problem is not only one of actual censorship. The shadow of fear cast by these pressures leads, we suspect, to an even larger voluntary curtailment of expression by those who seek to avoid controversy or unwelcome scrutiny by government officials.

Such pressure toward conformity is perhaps natural to a time of accelerated change. And yet suppression is never more dangerous than in such a time of social tension. Freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions, and enables change to come by choice. Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with controversy and difference.

Now as always in our history, reading is among our greatest freedoms. The freedom to read and write is almost the only means for making generally available ideas or manners of expression that can initially command only a small audience. The written word is the natural medium for the new idea and the untried voice from which come the original contributions to social growth. It is essential to the extended discussion that serious thought requires, and to the accumulation of knowledge and ideas into organized collections.

We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture. We believe that these pressures toward conformity present the danger of limiting the range and variety of inquiry and expression on which our democracy and our culture depend. We believe that every American community must jealously guard the freedom to publish and to circulate, in order to preserve its own freedom to read. We

believe that publishers and librarians have a profound responsibility to give validity to that freedom to read by making it possible for the readers to choose freely from a variety of offerings.

The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

We therefore affirm these propositions:

1. *It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.*

Creative thought is by definition new, and what is new is different. The bearer of every new thought is a rebel until that idea is refined and tested. Totalitarian systems attempt to maintain themselves in power by the ruthless suppression of any concept that challenges the established orthodoxy. The power of a democratic system to adapt to change is vastly strengthened by the freedom of its citizens to choose widely from among conflicting opinions offered freely to them. To stifle every nonconformist idea at birth would mark the end of the democratic process. Furthermore, only through the constant activity of weighing and selecting can the democratic mind attain the strength demanded by times like these. We need to know not only what we believe but why we believe it.

2. *Publishers, librarians, and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what should be published or circulated.*

Publishers and librarians serve the educational process by helping to make available knowledge and ideas required for the growth of the mind and the increase of learning. They do not foster education by imposing as mentors the patterns of their own thought. The people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church. It is wrong that what one can read should be confined to what another thinks proper.

3. *It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.*

No art or literature can flourish if it is to be measured by the political views or private lives of its creators. No society of free people can flourish that draws up lists of writers to whom it will not listen, whatever they may have to say.

4. *There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.*

To some, much of modern expression is shocking. But is not much of life itself shocking? We cut off literature at the source if we prevent writers from dealing with the stuff of life. Parents and teachers have a responsibility to prepare the young to meet the diversity of experiences in life to which they will be exposed, as they have a responsibility to help them learn to think critically for themselves. These are affirmative responsibilities, not to be discharged simply by preventing them from reading works for which they are not yet prepared. In these matters values differ, and values cannot be legislated; nor can machinery be devised that will suit the demands of one group without limiting the freedom of others.

5. *It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept the prejudgment of a label characterizing any expression or its author as subversive or dangerous.*

The ideal of labeling presupposes the existence of individuals or groups with wisdom to determine by authority what is good or bad for others. It presupposes that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. But Americans do not need others to do their thinking for them.

6. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large; and by the government whenever it seeks to reduce or deny public access to public information.*

It is inevitable in the give and take of the democratic process that the political, the moral, or the aesthetic concepts of an individual or group will occasionally collide with those of another individual or group. In a free society individuals are free to determine for themselves what they wish to read, and each group is free to determine what it will recommend to its freely associated members. But no group has the right to take the law into its own hands, and to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other members of a democratic society. Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive. Further, democratic societies are more safe, free, and creative when the free flow of public information is not restricted by governmental prerogative or self-censorship.

7. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.*

The freedom to read is of little consequence when the reader cannot obtain matter fit for that reader's purpose. What is needed is not only the absence of restraint, but the positive provision of opportunity for the people to read the best that has been thought and said. Books are the major channel by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down, and the principal means of its testing and growth. The defense of the freedom to read requires of all publishers and librarians the utmost of their faculties, and deserves of all Americans the fullest of their support.

We state these propositions neither lightly nor as easy generalizations. We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of the written word. We do so because we believe that it is possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free. We realize that the application of these propositions may mean the dissemination of ideas and manners of expression that are repugnant to many persons. We do not state these propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant. We believe rather that what people read is deeply important; that ideas can be dangerous; but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours.

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This statement was originally issued in May of 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and the American Book Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Publishers Institute to become the Association of American Publishers.

Adopted June 25, 1953, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee; amended January 28, 1972; January 16, 1991; July 12, 2000; June 30, 2004.

*"The Freedom to Read Statement", American Library Association, July 26, 2006.*

*<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/freedomreadstatement> (Accessed January 4, 2021)*

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## Appendix 3

### **Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights**

The American Library Association supports equal and equitable access to all library resources and services by users of all ages. Library policies and procedures that effectively deny minors equal and equitable access to all library resources and services available to other users is in violation of the American Library Association's Library *Bill of Rights*. The American Library Association opposes all attempts to restrict access to library services, materials, and facilities based on the age of library users.

Article V of the *Library Bill of Rights* states, "A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views." The right to use a library includes free access to, and unrestricted use of, all the services, materials, and facilities the library has to offer. Every restriction on access to, and use of, library resources, based solely on the chronological age, apparent maturity, educational level, literacy skills, emancipatory or other legal status of users violates Article V. This includes minors who do not have a parent or guardian available to sign a library card application or permission slip. Unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness should be able to obtain a library card regardless of library policies related to chronological age.

School and public libraries are charged with the mission of providing services and resources to meet the diverse interests and informational needs of the communities they serve. Services, materials, and facilities that fulfill the needs and interests of library users at different stages in their personal development are a necessary part of providing library services and should be determined on an individual basis. Equitable access to all library resources and services should not be abridged based on chronological age, apparent maturity, educational level, literacy skills, legal status, or through restrictive scheduling and use policies.

Libraries should not limit the selection and development of library resources simply because minors will have access to them. A library's failure to acquire materials on the grounds that minors may be able to access those materials diminishes the credibility of the library in the community and restricts access for all library users.

Children and young adults unquestionably possess First Amendment rights, including the right to receive information through the library in print, sound, images, data, social media, online applications, games, technologies, programming, and other formats.<sup>1</sup>

Constitutionally protected speech cannot be suppressed solely to protect children or young adults from ideas or images a legislative body believes to be unsuitable for them.<sup>2</sup> Libraries and their library governing bodies should not resort to age restrictions in an effort to avoid actual or anticipated objections, because only a court of law can determine whether or not content is constitutionally protected.

Article VII of the *Library Bill of Rights* states, "All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use."

This includes students and minors, who have a right to be free from any unreasonable intrusion into or surveillance of their lawful library use.<sup>3</sup>

The mission, goals, and objectives of libraries cannot authorize libraries and their governing bodies to assume, abrogate, or overrule the rights and responsibilities of parents and guardians. As “Libraries: An American Value” states, “We affirm the responsibility and the right of all parents and guardians to guide their own children’s use of the library and its resources and services.”<sup>4</sup> Libraries and their governing bodies cannot assume the role of parents or the functions of parental authority in the private relationship between parent and child. Libraries and their governing bodies shall ensure that only parents and guardians have the right and the responsibility to determine their children’s—and only their children’s—access to library resources. Parents and guardians who do not want their children to have access to specific library services, materials, or facilities should so advise their own children. Libraries and library governing bodies should not use rating systems to inhibit a minor’s access to materials.<sup>5</sup>

Libraries and their governing bodies have a legal and professional obligation to ensure that all members of the communities they serve have free and equitable access to a diverse range of library resources and services that is inclusive, regardless of content, approach, or format. This principle of library service applies equally to all users, minors as well as adults. Lack of access to information can be harmful to minors. Libraries and their governing bodies must uphold this principle in order to provide adequate and effective service to minors.

<sup>1</sup> *Brown v. Entertainment Merchant’s Association, et al.* 564 U.S. 08-1448 (2011).

<sup>2</sup> *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205 (1975): “Speech that is neither obscene as to youths nor subject to some other legitimate proscription cannot be suppressed solely to protect the young from ideas or images that a legislative body thinks unsuitable for them. In most circumstances, the values protected by the First Amendment are no less applicable when government seeks to control the flow of information to minors.” See also *Tinker v. Des Moines School Dist.*, 393 U.S.503 (1969); *West Virginia Bd. of Ed. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943); *AAMA v. Kendrick*, 244 F.3d 572 (7th Cir. 2001).

<sup>3</sup> “Privacy: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights,” adopted June 19, 2002, by the ALA Council; amended July 1, 2014; and June 24, 2019.

<sup>4</sup> “Libraries: An American Value,” adopted on February 3, 1999, by ALA Council.

<sup>5</sup> “Rating Systems: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights,” adopted on June 30, 2015, by ALA Council; amended June 25, 2019.

Adopted June 30, 1972, by the ALA Council; amended July 1, 1981; July 3, 1991; June 30, 2004; July 2, 2008 *under previous name* “Free Access to Libraries for Minors”; July 1, 2014; and June 25, 2019.

*"Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights", American Library Association, July 26, 2006.*

*<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/minors> (Accessed January 4, 2021)*

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## Appendix 4

### Connecticut General Statutes

**Sec. 46a-64. (Formerly Sec. 53-35). Discriminatory public accommodations practices prohibited. Penalty.**

*(a) It shall be a discriminatory practice in violation of this section: (1) To deny any person within the jurisdiction of this state full and equal accommodations in any place of public accommodation, resort or amusement because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, intellectual disability, mental disability, physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness or deafness, or status as a veteran, of the applicant, subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to all persons; (2) to discriminate, segregate or separate on account of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, intellectual disability, mental disability, learning disability, physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness or deafness, or status as a veteran; (3) for a place of public accommodation, resort or amusement to restrict or limit the right of a mother to breast-feed her child; (4) for a place of public accommodation, resort or amusement to fail or refuse to post a notice, in a conspicuous place, that any blind, deaf or mobility impaired person, accompanied by his guide dog wearing a harness or an orange-colored leash and collar, may enter such premises or facilities; or (5) to deny any blind, deaf or mobility impaired person or any person training a dog as a guide dog for a blind person or a dog to assist a deaf or mobility impaired person, accompanied by his guide dog or assistance dog, full and equal access to any place of public accommodation, resort or amusement. Any blind, deaf or mobility impaired person or any person training a dog as a guide dog for a blind person or a dog to assist a deaf or mobility impaired person may keep his guide dog or assistance dog with him at all times in such place of public accommodation, resort or amusement at no extra charge, provided the dog wears a harness or an orange-colored leash and collar and is in the direct custody of such person. The blind, deaf or mobility impaired person or person training a dog as a guide dog for a blind person or a dog to assist a deaf or mobility impaired person shall be liable for any damage done to the premises or facilities by his dog. For purposes of this subdivision, "guide dog" or "assistance dog" includes a dog being trained as a guide dog or assistance dog and "person training a dog as a guide dog for a blind person or a dog to assist a deaf or mobility impaired person" means a person who is employed by and authorized to engage in designated training activities by a guide dog organization or assistance dog organization that complies with the criteria for membership in a professional association of guide dog or assistance dog schools and who carries photographic identification indicating such employment and authorization.*

*(b) (1) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of sex discrimination shall not apply to (A) the rental of sleeping accommodations provided by associations and organizations which rent all such sleeping accommodations on a temporary or permanent basis for the exclusive use of persons of the same sex or (B) separate bathrooms or locker rooms based on sex. (2) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of age shall not apply to minors or to special discount or other public or private programs to assist persons sixty years of age and older. (3) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of physical disability shall not require any person to modify his property in any way or provide a higher degree of care for a physically disabled person, including, but not limited to blind or deaf persons, than*



*for a person not physically disabled. (4) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of creed shall not apply to the practice of granting preference in admission of residents into a nursing home as defined in section 19a-490, if (A) the nursing home is owned, operated by or affiliated with a religious organization, exempt from taxation for federal income tax purposes and (B) the class of persons granted preference in admission is consistent with the religious mission of the nursing home. (5) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of lawful source of income shall not prohibit the denial of full and equal accommodations solely on the basis of insufficient income.*

*(c) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.*

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