

Part III – Censorship

Censorship challenges/Reconsideration of Materials

1. The Dr. Sandor and Berthe Benedek Memorial Library, like all other libraries, cannot be expected to hold only materials that entirely please all patrons. The Library attempts, in its collection, to meet the following criteria:

- a. to acquire materials that reflect the Library' Mission Statement;
- b. to acquire materials appropriate to the Library's Collection Development Policy;
- c. to acquire materials that are indicative of the Library's patron group.

2. The library subscribes to the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights and Freedom to Read Statement and the Educational Film Library Associations' Freedom to View State (see appendices) as a basis for their policy on challenged materials. The principal of freedom to read and view will be defended in all cases. If a patron challenges the appropriateness of a specific item in the library, he or she will be asked to file the complaint in writing (using the form that follows titled "Request for Reevaluation of Library Materials"). The form will be presented to the Board of Trustees at their next regularly scheduled Board meeting. The patron will be treated with dignity and courtesy at the time of the complaint but must understand no action will be taken until the matter has been reviewed by the Board of Trustees. The Library Board holds final consideration on the matter of challenged materials.

5/13/97
Reviewed 1/08/01

To _____
(Library)

REQUEST FOR REEVALUATION OF A BOOK OR
OTHER LIBRARY MATERIALS

Title: _____

Author: _____ Book _____ Video _____

Other: _____

Publisher or Producer: _____ For Grade Level _____

Material Used in Classroom _____ Library _____ (check applicable)

Request initiated by (name) _____ Date _____

Telephone _____ Street _____

Post Office _____

Complainant represent (check applicable)

Oneself _____ Organization or Group _____

If group, Name: _____

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1. What do you believe is the theme or the purpose of the material?

2. Is your objection to this material based upon your personal exposure to it, upon reports you have heard, or both?

3. Have you read/heard/seen the material in its entirety?

4. To what do you specifically object?

Continued

5. Does the material have any merit or value for a specific population or age group?

6. For what age group do you believe this material would be appropriate?

7. Are you aware of the judgment regarding this book or material by literary or educational reviewers?

8. What action would you recommend be taken regarding the use of this material in the library?

Signature _____

Date signed _____