

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

TAB: Governance

DOCUMENT NUMBER: ARM 10-20-31

SECTION: Library Documents

SUBJECT: FREEDOM TO VIEW

SUMMARY

This document was adopted by the Library Board along with the Freedom to Read document. These documents are frequently used as background material in explaining to patrons the rationale for intellectual freedom principles upheld by the Library Board. This document also appears in the Collection Development Policy. History of the document and other endorsements are included at its conclusion.

Effective Date:

Reaffirmed: September 13, 2012
August 22, 2016
October 11, 2018
October 22, 2020
October 13, 2022

THE FREEDOM TO VIEW

The FREEDOM TO VIEW, along with the freedom to speak, to hear, and to read, is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. In a free society, there is no place for censorship of any medium of expression. Therefore, these principles are affirmed:

1. To provide the broadest possible access to film, video, and other audiovisual materials because they are a means for the communication of ideas. Liberty of circulation is essential to insure the constitutional guarantee of freedom of expression.
2. To protect the confidentiality of all individuals and institutions using film, video, and other audiovisual materials.
3. To provide film, video, and other audiovisual materials which represent a diversity of views and expression. Selection of a work does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content.
4. To provide a diversity of viewpoints without the constraint of labeling or prejudging film, video, or other audiovisual materials on the basis of the moral, religious, or political beliefs of the producer or filmmaker or on the basis of controversial content.
5. To contest vigorously, by all lawful means, every encroachment upon the public's freedom to view.

This statement was originally drafted by the Freedom to

View Committee of the American Film and Video Association (formerly the Educational Film Library Association) and was adopted by the AFVA Board of Directors in February 1979. This statement was updated and approved by the AFVA Board of Directors in 1989. Endorsed by the American Library Association Council, January 10, 1990.

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