

Ogdensburg Public Library
COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

9. CENSORSHIP

- a. Censorship is an individual matter. While an individual may reject books or materials for himself, he/she may not restrict the freedom to read of others.
- b. If library material is challenged, it will be reviewed by the Director, the Board of Trustees, or both, to determine if the material meets selection criteria of this policy. If the material meets these criteria (see Para 6, above), it shall not be removed from the collection except by court order.
- c. Procedure for challenged library materials:
 - i. Treat complaints with dignity, courtesy and good humor.
 - ii. Provide complainant with form titled "Request for reconsideration of Library's Materials" (see Appendix G) to obtain a formal complaint in writing.
 - iii. The Director will make an initial decision based on this policy. If complainant is not satisfied with the Director's decision, the complaint will be brought to the Board of Trustees.
 - iv. Defend the principles of the Freedom to Read Statement, the Library Bill of Rights, and the responsibility of professional librarians rather than the particular item.
 - v. If necessary, seek the support of local media.
 - vi. If necessary, seek support and aid from the NYLA Intellectual Freedom Committee, the Right to Read Foundation, or other agencies.

10. YOUNG ADULT MATERIAL

- a. The young adult collection seeks to provide a wide range of materials to stimulate the interest of teenagers in reading and in the world around them.
- b. Material is selected to meet recreational, developmental, and informational needs and still be esthetically appealing.
- c. Material is selected on the same criteria as adult material with the addition of an appeal to ages 13 through 18.
- d. Books in this collection are interfiled with adult material but are identified with a 'Y' or 'YA' on the spine.
- e. Books selected for the young adult collection will provide a transition between the juvenile and adult collections in terms of reading interest and abilities.

11. CHILDREN'S MATERIAL

- a. The Children's Collection is composed of materials designed to serve the needs of children from infancy through the sixth grade, as well as adults concerned with this age group.
- b. Selection Criteria:
 - i. All criteria that apply to the selection of adult materials apply.
 - ii. Colorful, appropriate, and pleasing illustrations.
 - iii. Relevance and appropriateness for the intended audience.
 - iv. Items should exhibit non-stereotypic attitudes although new editions of classics and some titles which reflect beliefs of other times or cultures may be acceptable.
 - v. Selected materials for parents of infants and young children will be housed in the children's library.