

MENTOR PUBLIC LIBRARY
STATEMENT OF CONCERN REGARDING LIBRARY MATERIALS POLICY (1502.00)

The Mentor Public Library provides opportunities to all individuals to freely examine subjects and make their own decisions. While patrons are free to select or reject library materials for individual use, they may not enforce censorship in the lives of others.

Responsibility for the reading materials of children and adolescents rests with their parents or legal guardians. The library will not act in loco parentis with regard to the selection of library materials for its juvenile patrons. Selection will not be inhibited by the fact that materials may inadvertently come into the possession of children. Since the library cannot anticipate a family's persuasion on controversial issues, the Library encourages parents to have an active and responsible interest in their child's choice of items.

If a patron who is a resident of the Mentor Public Library service area has concerns about the inclusion of an item in the Library Collection, the library patron must complete the Statement of Concern Regarding Library Materials Form and submit it to the Library. After the patron has returned the completed form to the Library, a response in writing will be sent to the Patron. A title with multiple Statements of Concern will be grouped together and reviewed as one.

The Statement of Concern Regarding Library Materials Form may be referred to a committee consisting of the Selector of that part of the collection, the Collection Development Manager, and other Librarians, Managers, or Library Associates to determine whether retention of the item would be in violation of the Collection Development Policy. The committee will reconsider the item using the general criteria and specific criteria of the Collection Development Policy and reviews from recognized sources, and then make a written recommendation. They will inform the patron of their decision in writing in a timely manner.

If the patron is still not satisfied, they may submit an appeal to the Library Director. Such appeal shall not exceed two pages and should include copies of the original Statement of Concern Regarding Library Materials Form and the committee's written decision. The Director will respond in writing to the library user regarding the decision.

Final responsibility for Statements of Concern rests with the Board of Trustees and their decision is final. No items will be sequestered to control access. Once a title has been reviewed it will not be reviewed again for a period of three (3) years.

Updated by the Board of Trustees May 15, 2024, Res. #24-053

Updated by the Board of Trustees November 17, 2021 res. # 21-1001

MENTOR PUBLIC LIBRARY
STATEMENT OF CONCERN REGARDING LIBRARY MATERIAL

Please note: your request will become a matter of public record, including your name and address.

Your Name: _____

Address: (must be in the Mentor Public Library service district):

Phone/email: _____

Representing: Self _____ Other Individual _____ (Name _____)
Organization _____ (List Name : _____)

Item Title: _____

Author or Artist: _____

Publisher: _____ Publication Date: _____

Book _____ Magazine _____ Video _____ Music _____ Other: _____ (Please specify)

1. Did you read, view, or listen to the entire work?

_____ Yes

_____ No (If 'No,' please do so. The Library will not consider a statement of concern if the material is not examined in full.)

2. How did this resource come to your attention?-

3. What concerns do you have regarding the work? Please be specific. (Attach additional pages if needed)

4. What action would you want to see the Library take?

5. Are there other resources you would suggest to provide additional for supplemental information and/or other viewpoints on this topic?

Have you read the following (mark YES or NO):

- Mentor Public Library's Collection Development Policy (1501.00)
- Mentor Public Library's Statement of Concern Policy (1502.00)
- Freedom to Read Statement (1503.00)
- Freedom to View Statement (1504.00)

Signature(s) _____ Date: _____