

## **Section B 5**

### **B5 ALA statement**

The Daviess County Library and its Board of Trustees endorse the following statements issued by the American Library Association. It is recognized that this statement is compatible with the goals and objectives of the Daviess County Library and that it serves as an added guidance in the use and development of the collection and other resources.

### **B5.1 Freedom to Read**

#### **Freedom to Read**

a. 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 or unpopular with the majority.

B. Publishers, librarians and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation contained in the books 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 books should be published or circulated.

c. It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to determine the acceptability of a book on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.

d. 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.

e. It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept with any book the prejudgment of a label characterizing the book or author as subversive or dangerous.

f. It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachment upon that freedom by individuals or

groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large.

g. 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 bookmen can demonstrate that the answer to a bad book is a good one, the answer to a bad idea is a good one.

## **B5.2 Library Bill of Rights**

### **Library Bill of Rights**

a. 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.

b. 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.

c. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

d. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

e. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background or views.

1. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting room 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.

