



MERIDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY CHALLENGED MATERIALS POLICY

Background

The Meriden Public Library offers a broadly based and diverse collection of resources to satisfy the community's intellectual curiosity, provide enjoyment, and enhance the quality of life for all ages.

The Library has a responsibility to serve the public and with that comes the responsibility to try to serve as many needs and interests as possible. All materials are chosen according to a Collection Development Policy that is guided by the Library Bill of Rights.

Procedure

If a patron objects to the presence of any material in the Library's collection, the patron has a right to submit a complaint which will be given due consideration.

If a patron elects to register a formal complaint about an item in the Library, the patron may request a copy of the form "Meriden Public Library Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials." This completed form should be submitted to the Library Director, who will follow the procedure set forth in the "Meriden Library Challenged Materials Policy".

Parents are solely responsible for what their children access at the Library or borrow from the collection regardless of whether a parent is present.

Meriden Public Library Challenged Materials Policy

The Library Board recognizes the right of individuals to question materials in the library collection. If any patron objects to the presence or absence of any library material, the complaint will be given consideration. The patron will be given a "Meriden Public Library Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" form to complete, detailing their objections to the material. This form can be obtained in the library. The completed form will be given to the Library Director who will then meet with the appropriate staff to evaluate the material in question and consider the merits of the complaint. Consideration will be given to whether the material falls within the guidelines of the library's Collection Development Policy. A decision will be made regarding whether to add or withdraw the material within a reasonable period. Written reasons for the decision will be provided to the patron. If the patron is dissatisfied with the decision or the written reply, the patron may appeal the decision to the Library Board at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. The Board will decide whether library policies have been followed and whether to withdraw the material in question. Material subject to a complaint shall not be removed from use and circulation pending final action.



Meriden Public Library Request for Reconsideration of Materials

The Library Board of The Meriden Public Library has established a materials selection policy and a procedure for gathering input about particular items. Completion of this form is the first step in that procedure. If you wish to request reconsideration of a resource, please return the completed form to the Library Director. Only forms that are completely filled out will be considered.

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Do you represent self? Or an organization? Name of Organization _____

1. Resource on which you are commenting:

Book (e-book) Movie Magazine Audio Recording

Digital Resource Game Newspaper Other

Title _____

Author/Producer _____

2. What brought this resource to your attention?

3. Have you examined the entire resource? If not, what sections did you review?

4. What concerns you about the resource?

5. Are there resource(s) you suggest to provide additional information and/or other viewpoints on this topic?

6. What action are you requesting the Library to consider?
