

Charlton Public Library Material Selection Policy

The Board of Trustees of the Charlton Public Library ("Board") recognizes the diverse nature of this community and the varied needs of its citizens regardless of age, race, religion, culture, gender, political or social viewpoint, or socioeconomic status, and declares as a matter of selection policy that:

1. Library material selection shall be at the discretion of the Director and such members of the professional staff who are qualified by reason of education or training. Any Library material so selected shall be held to be selected by the Board.
2. Selection of Library material shall be made on the basis of value of interest, informational merit, and enlightenment to the people of the community. No Library material shall be excluded because of the race, gender, nationality, or the political or social views of the author.
3. This Board believes that censorship is a purely individual matter and declares that while anyone is free to reject for themselves materials of which they do not approve, they cannot exercise such censorship to restrict the freedom to read of others.
4. The Board defends the principles of the American Library Association [Freedom to Read](#) and [Freedom to View](#) Statements, and declares that whenever censorship is involved, no Library material shall be removed from the Library save under the orders of a court of competent jurisdiction.
5. The Board adopts the principles of the American Library Association [Library Bill of Rights](#), [Freedom to Read](#) and [Freedom to View Statements](#), all of which are made a part hereof.

*Approved by the Board of Library Trustees on March 31, 2004
Amended by the Board of Library Trustees on April 20, 2023*