



# VESTAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Request for Reconsideration Policy

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It is the responsibility of the Vestal Public Library to ensure that different points of view are represented in the materials and resources provided in the library's collections. Therefore, in serving our diverse population the Vestal Public Library will select material and plan displays and programs with the objective of meeting the needs of most of the people most of the time. This will be done by covering multiple ideas and points of view in both fiction and non-fiction and by including a variety of topics. Inclusion of a particular resource or program does not constitute endorsement or advocacy of the ideas or statements therein. We ask that parents help their children with their selection.

The Library and its Board adhere to the principles of intellectual freedom outlined in the [Library Bill of Rights of the American Library Association](#) and further explicated in the [Freedom to Read Statement](#) and [Freedom to View Statement](#). Pursuant to these, the Library will not automatically withdraw duly selected materials from the library collections or cancel programs in response to a request from an individual or group. It is the task of the Library to make research available for review, rebuttal, substantiation, support or further inquiry.

The library holds the choice of reading and viewing materials as a purely individual matter. While Patrons are free to reject books and other materials of which they do not approve, no one may exercise censorship to restrict the freedom of others.

Responsibility for materials selected and read, heard or viewed by children and adolescents rests with their parents or legal guardians. Library selection decisions are not influenced by the possibility that materials may be accessible to minors.

The Library does not indicate through the use of labels or other devices particular points of view or perspectives contained in library materials.

No items are sequestered to control access.

A formal process for handling reconsideration requests will be followed to assure that they are handled in an attentive and consistent manner.

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### Process for Requesting Reconsideration of Library Material

- A patron who wishes to request the reconsideration of library material must file a formal written request for reconsideration using the library-provided form.
- The request will be reviewed by the Library Director. The Director will develop a recommendation that will be submitted to the Library Board of Trustees, who will be responsible for making the final decision.
- The patron will receive a final written response to the submitted request for reconsideration within 90 days of the library receiving the request.

If you wish to request reconsideration of a resource, please provide all of the information below to the Library Director.

1. Date
2. Name
3. Address (street address, city, state and zip code)
4. Phone
5. Email
6. Are you a Vestal Public Library cardholder?
7. Please provide the following information about the resource on which you are commenting:
  - a. Title
  - b. Author/Producer
  - c. Have you examined the entire resource? If not, what sections did you review?
  - d. What is it about this material that you would like for us to reconsider?
  - e. What action are you requesting the Library consider?

Please refer to our [Collection Development Policy](#) to review the criteria by which materials are selected for and removed from the collection.

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