

JERVIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

FREEDOM TO VIEW

In view of parents' responsibilities for their children's selections, Jervis adheres to circulating films, video, and other audiovisual materials to those age 18 and over. With regard to attendance at programs where films are shown, a minor's attendance at the program demonstrates parent/guardian approval of attendance. The library does not act in loco parentis, determining which films a minor may or may not view.

We endorse the principles outlined below, with the understanding that they apply to adults, and to minors with the guidance of parent or guardian.

The Freedom to View, along with the freedom to speak, to hear, and to read, is protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. In a free society, there is no place for censorship of any medium of expression.

Therefore, these principles are affirmed:

1. To provide the broadest access to film, video, and other audiovisual materials because they are a means for the communication of ideas. Liberty of circulation is essential to insure the constitutional guarantee of freedom of expression.
2. To protect the confidentiality of all individuals and institutions using film, video, and other audiovisual materials.
3. To provide film, video, and other audiovisual materials which represent a diversity of views and expression. Selection of a work does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of content.
4. To provide a diversity of viewpoints without the constraint of labeling or prejudging film, video, or other audiovisual materials on the basis of the moral, religious, or political beliefs of the producer or filmmaker or on the basis of controversial content.
5. To contest vigorously, by all lawful means, every encroachment upon the public's Freedom to View.

Endorsed: American Film & Video Association, 1989

Endorsed: American Library Association, 1/10/90

§ Endorsed: Jervis Public Library Board of Trustees, 12/8/88

Note: Italicized sections added to modify for local use by Jervis Public Library Board of Trustees.

§ Re-Endorsed: Jervis Public Library Board of Trustees, 5/14/91

§ Updated: (2000)

§ Re-Endorsed & Updated: Jervis Public Library Board of Trustees, 09/17/09