

Policy: Request for Reconsideration

Approved: 6/20/02

Amended: 7/20/17, 7/18/19

Reviewed: 8/16/12, 7/20/17, 7/18/19

The Library follows accepted principles of intellectual freedom and recognizes its responsibility to provide access to all aspects of human record consistent with the needs and interests of the community it serves. The Library's Collection Development policy is the basis of decision-making with regard to adding and discarding titles from the Library's collection.

If a patron objects to the presence in the Library collection of a specific title and wishes the Library to re-consider its appropriateness for the collection, the patron must complete a Request for Reconsideration form. Upon receiving this form, Library staff will find reviews of the item in question. A Review Committee, comprised of the Executive Director, Department Heads and a volunteer from the BPL Foundation and the BPL Friends of the Library will be formed. The committee will then read, view, or listen to the material; consult reviews that might have led to its acquisition; consider applicable portions of the Collection Development policy; meet to discuss the matter; and make a recommendation for removal, retention, or replacement. The Review Committee's recommendation will be conclusive unless the patron making the request for reconsideration wishes to appeal its recommendation to the Library Board. In this event, the Library Board will review the reconsideration request at a regular monthly meeting and will make a final decision.

Specific titles will not be removed simply because individuals or groups may find them objectionable. The only sound basis of removal is inappropriateness according to the Library's Collection Development policy.

BRISTOL PUBLIC LIBRARY
REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

Title _____ Author _____

Book _____ Periodical _____ Other _____

Request initiated by _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Do you represent: _____ Yourself _____ An Organization (name) _____

Other group (name) _____

PLEASE USE THE BACK OF PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE.

1. To what in the work you object? (Please be specific. Cite pages.)

2. Did you read the entire work? _____ If no, what parts did you read? _____

3. What do you feel might be the result of reading this work? _____

4. For what age group would you recommend this work? _____

5. What do you believe is the theme of this work? _____

6. Are you aware of judgments of this work by literary critics? _____

7. What would you like library to do about this work?

_____ Do not lend it to my child.

_____ Return it to the staff for re-evaluation.

_____ Other. Explain _____

8. In its place, what work would you recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of the subject treated? _____

Date _____ Signature _____