Cha enged Resources An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights*

Libraries An A erican a ue' states e protect the rights of individua s to express their opinions about ibrary resources and services.' The A erican Library Association dec ares as a atter of fir princip e that it is the responsibility of every ibrary to have a clear y defined written policy for collection develope entithat includes a procedure for review of challenged resources. Collection develope entitation applies to ibrary aterials and resources in a for ats programs and services.

Artic e I of the A erican Library Association s *Library Bill of Rights* states Materia s shou d not be exc uded because of the origin bac ground or views of those contributing to their creation. Artic e II further dec ares Materia s shou d not be proscribed or re oved because of partisan or doctrina disapprova.

Freedo of expression a though it can be offensive to so e is protected by the Constitution of the nited States The Diversity in Co ection Deve op ent An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights*, states

Librarians have a professiona responsibility to be fair just and equitable and to give a library users equal protection in guarding against violation of the library patron's right to read view or listen to content protected by the First A lend lent no latter what the viewpoint of the author creator or selector Librarians have an obligation to protect library collections fro length of content based on personal bias or prejudice

This app ies with equa force to ibrary resources and services provided to students and inors

The Supre e Court has he d that the Constitution requires a procedure designed to critica y exa ine a cha enged expression before it can be suppressed. Therefore, ibraries should develop a procedure by which the governing body exa lines concerns and cha enges about ibrary resources. This procedure should be open transparent, and confor to a lappicable open eeting and public records laws. Cha enged resources should recall in the collection and access to the resources recall in unrestricted during the review process. Resources that leet the criteria for selection and inclusion within the collection as out ined in the institution's collections policy should not be recoved. Procedures to review challenges to ibrary resources should not be used to suppress constitutionally protected expression.

Any atte pt be it ega or extra ega to regu ate or suppress resources in ibraries ust be c ose y scrutinized to the end that protected expression is not abridged. Atte pts to re ove or suppress ateria s by ibrary staff or e bers of the ibrary s governing body that are not regu ated or sanctioned by aw are considered extra ega. Exa p es inc ude actions that circu vent ibrary po icy or actions ta en by e ected officia s or governing board e bers outside the estab ished ega process for a ing egis ative or board decisions. Actions ta en by ibrary governing bodies during officia sessions or eetings pursuant to the ibrary s co ection deve op ent po icy or itigation underta en in courts of aw with jurisdiction over the ibrary and the ibrary s governing body and actions ta en by egis ative bodies are considered a ega process.

Content fi tering is not equiva ent to co ection deve op ent Content fi tering is exc usive not inc usive and cannot effective y curate content or ediate access to resources avai ab e on the internet Fi tering shou d be addressed in an insti