

The Annie Halenbake Ross and Clinton County Libraries Board of Trustees supports intellectual freedom and upholds the right of all people to access information freely and confidentially as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the US Constitution and the American Library Association's Bill of Rights. The Staff and the Library Board of Trustees stand with the entire library community in defense of the freedom to speak, and the freedom to read, and in opposition to the censorship of any library materials. We will oppose any attempt to censor or restrict public access to information and ideas.

1. We serve all people and all people are served by the AHR library. Free people read freely.
2. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information and enrichment of all the people that the community serves.
3. Materials should not be excluded or included because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
4. Materials should not be prohibited or removed because of partisan or theological disapproval.
5. While we acknowledge that not all books are appropriate for all families, we maintain that it is the right and privilege of each family to determine what is best for their children without outside interference, including censorship.

We are committed to defending the constitutional rights of all individuals, of all ages, to use the resources and services of libraries. We champion and defend the freedom to speak, the freedom to publish, and the freedom to read, as promised by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

We stand opposed to censorship and any effort to coerce belief, suppress opinion, or punish those whose expression does not conform to what is deemed to be orthodox in history, politics, or belief. The unfettered exchange of ideas is essential to the preservation of a free and democratic society.