

Approved 6/2006

Pope County Library Collection Development Policy

The goal of the Pope County Library System is to select, organize, preserve, and make freely and easily available to all individuals in the community, printed and other materials which will aid them in the pursuit of information, education, research, recreation, culture, and leisure. The primary goal of collection development is to provide the best possible collection with the financial resources available. The decision to select any item for the collection is based on demand, anticipated need, and the effort to maintain a wide and balanced collection.

The library strives to maintain materials representing all sides of an issue in a neutral, unbiased manner. Selection of materials by the library does not mean approval of the contents or views expressed in those materials. The existence of a particular viewpoint in the collection is an expression of the library's policy of intellectual freedom, not an endorsement of that particular point of view. The library provides service to all within the framework of its rules and regulations and does not knowingly discriminate in its material selection regarding race, creed, sex, occupation or financial position.

The policy is directed toward building and maintaining, within the limits imposed by available funds and space, a collection of library materials representing a comprehensive range of interests, tastes, viewpoints, values and levels of ability. The intent is that the collection be balanced in order to serve the greatest number of library users and potential library users within Pope County.

No book or other material will be excluded because of the race, national origin, color, gender, personal history, or the political, religious, or social views of the author or creator. Judgment for selection is made on the material as a whole and not on a particular passage, page, scene, or other part alone.

The library patron is an important part of the selection process. An individual request from a patron for a title is usually honored if the request conforms to the guidelines outlined in this policy statement.

The Pope County Library System endorses the Library Bill of Rights, the Freedom to Read Statement, and the Freedom to View statements of the American Library Association, all of which are included at the end of this policy and are intended to be a part of this policy statement.

Adopted June 21, 2006