

5.25 Access to Materials

The Richland Community Library endorses the Library Bill of Rights, which states, "a person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background or views." The "right to use a library" includes use of, and access to, all library materials and services. The Library also endorses the American Library Association's Free Access to Libraries for Minors; An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights Statement. As the document states, "it is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to restrict their children from access to library materials and services. People who would rather their children did not have access to certain materials should advise their children." It is not the responsibility of the Library or its staff to act *in loco parentis*. It is the responsibility of the Richland Community Library and its staff to provide equal access to library materials and services for all library users.

Nonetheless, if a parent or legal guardian wishes to limit his/her child(ren) to access of specific materials, written instructions can be given to the Library Director. The Library will attempt to enforce written parental instructions but will still not be responsible or liable if access is obtained by child(ren).