

## Appendix B: Reconsideration Committee - Guiding Principles

### From the **Request for Reconsideration of Library Resources**:

#### **The Reconsideration Committee will:**

The committee will:

- Bear in mind the principles of the freedom to learn and to read and base their decision on these broad principles rather than on defense of individual materials. Freedom of inquiry is vital to education in a democracy.
- Study thoroughly all materials referred to in the Request for Reconsideration and read available reviews. The general acceptance of the materials should be based on the library selection policy and further checked by consulting standard evaluation aids and other schools holdings when feasible and practical.

Passages or parts should not be pulled out of context. The values and faults should be weighed against each other and the opinions based on the materials as a whole.

A report, presenting both majority and minority opinions, will be presented by the principal to the complainant at the conclusion of the discussion of the questioned material.

Guiding principles for reconsideration of materials, as approved by School policy 8.302, Challenged Material:

1. No group or individual has the right to determine reading, viewing, or listening matter for students other than his or her own children.
2. The American School Foundation of Monterrey supports the Library Bill of Rights, adopted by the American Library Association (see Appendices). When learning resources are challenged, the principles of the freedom to read/listen/view must be defended as well.
3. Access to challenged material shall not be restricted during the reconsideration process.
4. The major criterion for the final decision is the appropriateness of the material for its intended educational use.
5. A decision to sustain a challenge shall not necessarily be interpreted as a judgment of irresponsibility by the professionals involved in the original selection and/or use of the material.