



**Federation
of Ontario Public
LIBRARIES**



INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM: A RIGHT, NOT A PRIVILEGE

Everyone deserves the freedom to read, think, question, and speak. Libraries protect your right to access all ideas—even those some may wish to silence.

Stand for open minds, diverse perspectives, and free expression.

What's at Stake When We Silence Ideas?

Intellectual freedom is the right to seek out, receive, and share information and ideas from all points of view—without restriction. It is a fundamental part of a free and democratic society.

Libraries are champions of this freedom. They offer access to diverse books, media, and resources—representing all identities, histories, and experiences—so everyone can make informed decisions and explore their own truths.

But this freedom is not guaranteed. When books are challenged or banned, it's more than censorship—it's a loss of perspective. It's the erasure of voices. It's the narrowing of thought.

Everyone has a right to read materials that reflect their reality. Equally, everyone has a right to encounter ideas that challenge them.

Your library is a sanctuary for ideas—open to all, free from judgment, and firmly committed to resisting censorship in all its forms.

Whether you're searching for stories that resonate, or perspectives that expand your worldview, the library is your space to explore without fear.

**Libraries are for everyone—and every idea.
Your freedom to read is worth protecting.**

SCAN TO READ MORE



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