

Code of Ethics for Librarians

Librarians, as primary overseers of all library activities, have the professional responsibilities of inspiring social development by sharing the memory and knowledge of mankind, and ensuring all people's equal and free access to information, as well as their right to know. Therefore, as librarians, we hereby declare that we should establish ethical standards that we should observe and pledge to uphold in order to strengthen the honor of our profession.

1. We librarians shall not discriminate against users on the basis of their beliefs, gender, age, disability, race, or social status.
2. We librarians shall withhold our prejudices in providing library services and challenge any censorship that impedes access to information.
3. We librarians shall actively protect the privacy right and personally identifiable information of users obtained in the course of library service.
4. We librarians shall endeavor to develop the expertise and skills necessary to perform our professional duties.
5. We librarians shall respect intellectual property rights and pursue a balance of interests between users and copyright holders in library services.
6. We librarians shall strive for the development of the library in preference to any private interests in carrying out our professional duties.

Proclaimed October 30, 1997.

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