

MATERIALS REVIEW COMMITTEE

RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS SUMMARY – 2000

| DATE | ITEM DESCRIPTION | CUSTOMER CONCERN | FINDINGS AND ACTION TAKEN |
|--------|--|--|---|
| Jan/00 | 1. Bastard Out Of Carolina Adult Feature Video – Restricted (English) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graphic portrayal of child sexual abuse and rape. Wants video withdrawn. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Story was based on an award-winning semi-autobiographical novel. Film well reviewed and shown at film festivals. Director, Anjelica Huston, nominated for award. Restricted classification on all PAC entries. Retained in the collection |
| Jan/00 | 2. Hoat-Dong Cua Tu Tieng Viet Dai Xuan Ninh Adult Nonfiction (Vietnamese) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideas and examples promote the communist party and communist ideologies in Vietnam. Children should not read it. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title is a scholarly work on Vietnamese linguistics, specifically how morphemes work in the Vietnamese language, and not intended as a text for learning the language. Examples used are socio-political phrases in common use at the time the book was written. Item has value as an historical work. Retained in the collection but transferred to TRL. |
| Jan/00 | 3. Metabolic Therapy: The Ludde Protocol Adult Video (English) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No real information about therapy. Ludde is a “self-taught person without real credentials... I saw no real basis for his claims...might be dangerous...” | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video mainly promotes Ludde’s treatment offered at his clinic. Research on title found similar concerns from some medical experts. Materials Policy states that TPL does not knowingly purchase or circulate “infomercials”. Withdrawn from the collection |

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| Jan/00 | 4. Outrageously Alice By Phyllis Reynolds Naylor Children's Fiction (English) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title contains material that is age inappropriate for children and should be shelved in a "mature section" or access should be restricted so children cannot borrow. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title is ninth in a series by award-winning author. Recommended for children aged 9 to 13 years, an age group served by the children's department. Well-reviewed and popular and bridges the gap between childhood and adolescence. Materials Policy states that children's access to material is not restricted. Retained in the children's collection. |
| Mar 5/00 | 5. Soul of Spain Adult Video (English) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsympathetic view of the Roman Catholic Church Video incorrectly catalogued as a travel account | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title is National Geographic video which is fair reflection of historical events. Retained in the collection |
| April 3/00 | 6. Zhong Guo Jin Shu: Zui Hou De Ni lu By Xin-de Qiu Adult Fiction (Chinese) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negative depiction of China and Chinese | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Book is fictionalized account of the author's personal experience. Well-reviewed by Chinese authors. Retained in the collection. Suggestions for additional titles forwarded to Chinese selectors. |
| May 29/00 | 7. Black Like Kyra, White Like Me By Judith Vigna Juvenile Picture Book (English) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Reinforces negative stereotypes about blacks and positive stereotypes about whites" Requested that the item not be displayed as part of Black History Month Requested that the title be labeled to warn parents of its negative content | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-known and respected author writes picture books with social themes. Book does deal with reality of racism but it does so in a positive manner. Well-used and fills need for books on racism for young children. The Materials Selection Policy states that the Library does not label items as to content. Retained in the collection |

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| May 29/00 | 8. Harmony Ranch By Riders in the Sky Children's Cassette (English) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tape contains "offensive and racist references". Staff should listen to the tape before deciding on whether to return it to circulation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Award-winning group which plays traditional songs of the Old West. The content of the cassette is high quality and the words "redskins" and "injuns" are used to enhance the traditional flavour of the music and not to degrade the character and actions of Native Americans. Retained in the collection |
| June 22/00 | 9. Color psychology and color therapy: a factual study of the influence of color on human life By Faber Birren Adult Nonfiction (English) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Item is outdated and "more accurate findings have been made" in the last 40 years. Has "racist, ethnic discrimination and bias". Wants book withdrawn. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Author is leading authority on colour in North America. Information and terminology is dated but the title has value as a source of information on the historical views of color therapy and psychology. Circulating copies removed from the collection; one copy retained at TRL for research purposes. |
| July 4/00 | 10. The Lunatic Adult Feature Video (English) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Racist overtones of comments" made by the main character Sexual content | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One reference to Germans as Nazis is made in argument with overbearing heroine and racism is not a theme. Sexual situations are not graphically portrayed. Video praised in reviews for its reflection of the Jamaican experience. Retained in the collection and the catalogue entry expanded to show AA rating. |

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| July 14/00 | 11. Takes one to know one By Kate Allen Adult Fiction (English) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Filthy language... casual use of “f” word” and one extremely graphic sex scene | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author is well-known writer of mysteries with lesbian characters. • Cover description of the title indicates that it is a lesbian mystery with an erotic nature. • Well reviewed in gay/lesbian press and has circulated well. • Retained in the collection |
| Nov 15/00 | 12. I saw Esau: the schoolchild’s pocket book Edited by Iona and Peter Opie; illustrated by Maurice Sendak Children’s Nonfiction (English) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book contains “violent, racial” and discriminating rhymes and objectionable illustrations • Should be restricted to those over age 15. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title is a well reviewed, award-winning modern classic by experts in field of folklore. • Notes make it useful as a reference and research tool. • Historically, children’s rhymes and fairy tales are often violent and crude. • Copy borrowed by child was uncatalogued and incorrectly labeled as a picture book rather than with the correct Dewey classification (398). • Materials Policy states Children are entitled to open and ready access to materials. • Retained in the collection and all uncatalogued copies labeled and moved to the 398s. |