

# **Rights of Users and Equity of Access**

The internet is a vast computer network linking millions of computers around the world. Electronic information flows across boundaries and barriers despite attempts by individuals, governments, and private entities to channel or control it.

Freedom of expression is an inalienable human right and the foundation for self-government. Freedom of expression encompasses the freedom of speech and the corollary right to receive information. These rights extend to minors as well as adults. Libraries and librarians exist to facilitate the exercise of these rights by selecting, producing, providing access to, identifying, retrieving, organizing, providing instruction in the use of, and preserving recorded expression regardless of the formator technology.

Parents and legal guardians who are concerned about their children's use of electronic resources should provide guidance to their children. The library does not act in place of or in absence of the parent and is not responsible for enforcing any restrictions which a parent or guardian may place on a minor's use of this resource.

Users have both the right of confidentiality and the right of privacy. Users should be advised, however, that because security is technically difficult to achieve, electronic transactions and files could become public. The library assumes no liability for loss or damage to the users' data or for any damage or injury arising from invasion of users' privacy.

The Library cannot control or monitor information accessed through the internet and does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the content.

Users also have a right to information, training and assistance necessary to operate hardware and software provided by the library when possible.