

10 May 2024

## NSLA statement on the freedom to read

The national, state and territory libraries of Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand are committed to free and open access to ideas and knowledge, which is the foundation of a strong and inclusive democracy. Our collections reflect the diversity of the communities we serve, and we have a responsibility to ensure that everybody can see themselves represented in the stories these collections share.

NSLA calls attention to the fundamental role of libraries as public spaces for discovery and access to information, and celebrates intellectual freedom and the freedom to read. NSLA stands alongside the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), the Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa (LIANZA), and Equality Australia in their call to ensure that all library collections represent the diverse identities and stories that enrich us.

Contact: Dr Simon Polson, Executive Director executive.director@nsla.org.au