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Chicago area library will continue to allow access to internet porn



WGN

Embargoed to Chicago, Illinois. A controversial decision in south suburban Orland Park- allowing patrons at the local library to keep surfing whatever they want online -- even porn. In a 5-2 vote by the library's board, it was decided to continue the current policy of filtering web content only on computers used by children and young adults.

by Chris Patterson

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ORLAND PARK, Ill. -- A controversial decision in south suburban Orland Park- allowing patrons at the local library to keep surfing whatever they want online -- even porn.

In a 5-2 vote by the library's board, it was decided to continue the current policy of filtering web content only on computers used by children and young adults.

Grown-ups can look at whatever they want on the library's computers, as long as it's legal.

"Our board strongly believes in the First Amendment," spokeswoman Bridget Bittmann told WGN News after the Wednesday night vote.

"We believe our existing safeguards are more than adequate for children and that adults should be free to make their own choices."

There have been complaints in the past about the kind of sites some were visiting at the library, near areas where children were present.

Officials say they'll deal with those complaints as they arise, noting that of the over 100 libraries they compared their policies to, 80% had less stringent web restrictions than Orland Park.