



CENSORSHIP

BY THE NUMBERS

Censorship leaves us in the dark. Keep the light on by standing up to censorship when you see it happening, and exploring a challenged or banned book. Learn more at ala.org/bbooks.

531

Total materials affected in censorship attempts in 2018
(including magazines, films, databases)

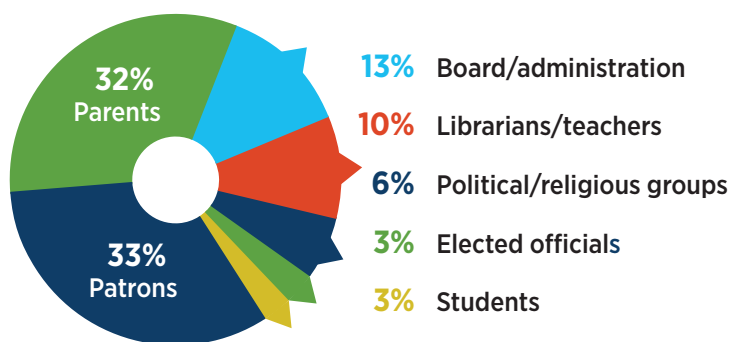
CHALLENGE

Attempt to remove or restrict materials or services based on content

BAN

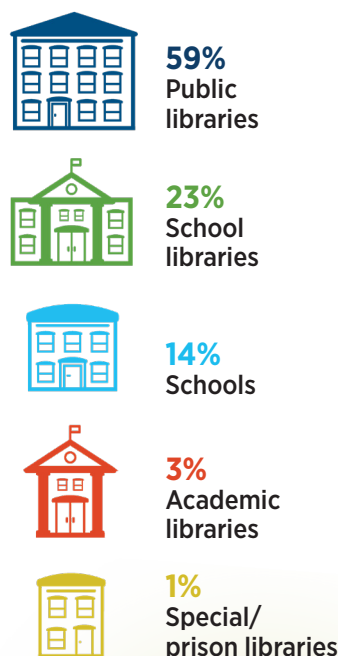
Removal of materials or cancellation of services based on content

WHO INITIATES CHALLENGES



Statistics based on 335 responses

WHERE CHALLENGES TAKE PLACE

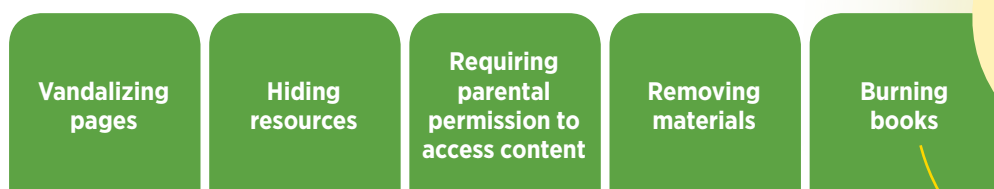


Statistics based on 347 responses

REASONS FOR BOOK CHALLENGES



FIVE TYPES OF BOOK CENSORSHIP IN 2018



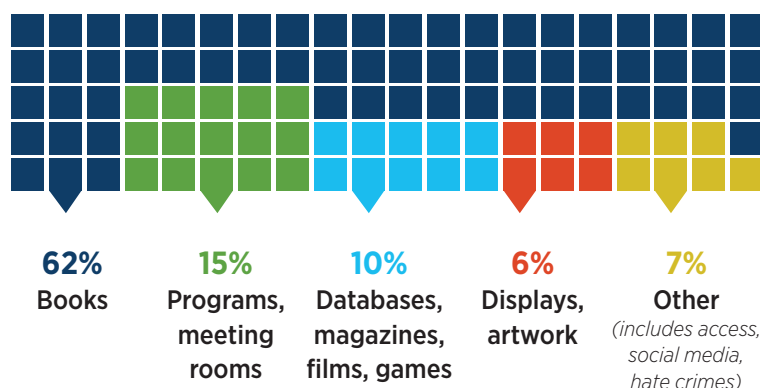
200+

Books donated to Orange City (Iowa) Public Library after four LGBTQIA+ library books were burned by a religious activist

BEYOND BOOKS

Libraries are not only about books. They are continually transforming to meet community needs and provide new platforms, programs, and services. The American Library Association has noticed an increase in attempts to censor drag queen story hours and LGBTQIA+ programming, as well as challenges to remove access to databases.

The American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom tracked **347 challenges** in 2018. Here's the breakdown:



CENSORSHIP
STATISTICS
COMPILED BY:



OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association