

American Library Association
FIELD REPORT 2018:
BANNED & CHALLENGED BOOKS

INTRODUCTION

Censorship leaves us in the dark. It blinds us to uncomfortable topics, and leaves us stumbling while navigating new worlds. It pulls a cloak over our eyes, under the guise of protecting us from what some deem harmful or threatening.

Censorship takes many forms, including removing materials, destroying pages, hiding resources, requiring permission forms to access content, and burning books. Although the darkness of censorship affects everyone, it tends to target youth; the Top 11 Most Challenged Books of 2018 are all intended for an audience of children or young adults.

But there are places where the light of learning cannot be extinguished. Libraries, schools, and bookstores keep the light on and the intellectual freedom flame burning—a warm glow that invites passersby who seek knowledge, pages, and perspectives.

In recent years, the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF)—which has been tracking reports of attempts to remove library materials and services in libraries and schools since the 1990s—has noticed a sharp spike in attempts to censor drag queen story hours and LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual/Ally) programming. LGBTQIA+ continues to be one of the most cited reasons for challenging content and resources, from drag queen story hours to *A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo*, a children's book about a boy bunny who lives with Vice President Mike Pence's family and marries another boy bunny.

A few other reasons for challenging books emerged in 2018. The *Skippyjon Jones* series, which follows a Siamese cat who sees himself as a Chihuahua, was challenged for depicting stereotypes of Mexican culture. In an Idaho public library, a patron unhappy with books seen as attacking President Donald Trump hid them among the shelves. *The Hate U Give* is again on the list of the most challenged books, with some claiming the book is "anti-cop." The bestselling YA fiction title is about the aftermath of a shooting of a young, unarmed black man by a white police officer.

Many censors are motivated by their desire to protect their community. Their tactics range from silently removing the materials they find offensive to leading boisterous public campaigns to ban books, services, or

programs. Their wish to shield themselves and their family from ideas they find offensive or inappropriate is understandable, but shielding everyone from diverse or alternative views only spreads distrust, fear, and ignorance. While we always support a reader's right to choose for themselves and their families what to read, that right does not extend to determining what other community members can read.

"CHALLENGES" are not just complaints about books, but rather formal attempts to remove or restrict access to library resources. Challenges can be a written complaint or form submitted to a library, or a call to action on social media.

Libraries are continually transforming to meet patron needs and provide new platforms, programs, and services to help make their communities stronger. With that comes additional censorship attempts. Learn more about challenges to materials and services beyond books on page 7.

In this Field Report, we hope to shine a light on censorship in all its forms, because censorship dissipates when exposed to the daylight. Each challenge and incident listed is sourced from public, verified reports from the year 2018, including news articles, meeting minutes, and entries from the *Journal of Intellectual Freedom and Privacy* (JIFP).

These pages include success stories of those who shined a light on censorship, rather than ignored it. Some voiced opposition at local board meetings, while others donated replacement copies of censored titles. There are many ways to ignite action and dispel censorship. An easy way to start: visit your library, find a comfortable spot between the stacks, and open up a challenged work, immersing yourself in perspectives that differ from your own.

A **"BAN"** is a removal of materials. Sometimes the ban is a decision made by a committee, and other times an administrator or staff member removes books without following a library's policy.

Keep the light on, and the intellectual freedom flame burning.



OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association

We thank speaker and author James LaRue, the former director of the Office for Intellectual Freedom, who compiled the entries for this year's Field Report.

Learn more about banned and challenged books at ala.org/bbooks.

BOOKS BANNED OR CHALLENGED IN 2018

Afanador, Ruven

Sombra (2004)

Removed after review by a public library director in Oregon, *Sombra* is a collection of artistic photographs composed largely of male nudes. The patron complaint stated, "I'm in favor of artistic nudes, but perhaps in an art appreciation class and not accessible to the impressionable minds of children." The director consulted reviews and circulation statistics (the book had never been checked out), and learned through online catalogs that only academic and research libraries owned it. The director decided that the book was a good candidate for weeding, according to the library's usual criteria.

Source: 2018 Annual Report, State Library of Oregon

Alexie, Sherman

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian (2007)

Retained, but restricted to extracurricular book club-use only, this popular YA novel was challenged by parents who objected to its being required reading for ninth-graders at the Midland (Michigan) Public Schools. The concern was content regarding alcohol, bullying, violence, sexual references, profanity, and slurs. The book did go through a review process, and was allegedly read by all school board members.

Source: JIFP Spring 2018

Right before the start of Banned Books Week, an English teacher at Waverly

(Kansas) High School was suspended for considering teaching this YA novel.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Backman, Fredrik

Beartown (2017)

This Amazon bestseller and *School Library Journal*-recommended title focuses on a high stakes junior hockey contest in rural Sweden. When a sports hero is accused of rape, what will the town do? The book was assigned to a tenth-grade honors English class by a new teacher at the McMichael High School (Rockingham County, North Carolina). A parent, concerned about the vulgar language and explicit scenes, contacted four churches to protest what one pastor then told his congregation was "some of the most repulsive reading that you'll ever be exposed to." Withdrawn.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Baldacchino, Christine

Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress (2014)

This was one of four books challenged by public petition in Orange City, Iowa's public library. The concern articulated by a coalition of conservative and evangelical community members was that the library was distributing LGBTQIA+ materials to pre-K kids using tax dollars. They requested that the books be shelved separately, segregated from other library materials. One local religious activist checked out the four books, then burned them live on Facebook. Since then, over 200 books were donated to the

library, and GoFundMe and Facebook fundraisers raised thousands of dollars to replace lost and damaged materials. All the titles have been retained. The activist was charged with misdemeanor criminal mischief.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Bechdel, Alison

Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic (2006)

At a public meeting, two parents expressed their shock about sexually explicit illustrations in this coming-of-age graphic novel. They asked that the book be removed from the Watchung Hills (New Jersey) twelfth-grade curriculum. After a public hearing in which strong support was voiced for the book, the school board voted to retain the title, but only as one of several alternatives.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Benioff, David

City of Thieves (2008)

This *New York Times* bestseller was one of eight options randomly assigned to students in a pre-International Baccalaureate English class. A parent objected to vulgar and sexually violent language in this coming-of-age story, set in WWII Leningrad. Lee County (Florida) School District officials banned the book, and vowed to "tighten up the processes for selecting books for this kind of class."

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Blume, Judy

Forever (1975)

A teacher at the East Knox Elementary School (Howard, Ohio) gave a fifth-grader Judy Blume's book about a high school senior, which addresses (among other things) issues of teen sexuality. After a verbal parental complaint, the teacher was put on more than two weeks' paid leave while the school investigated. The teacher returned, agreeing that the book—which was part of her private collection—was inappropriate for a fifth-grader.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Browne, Anthony

Willy the Champ (2008)

This children's book is about a chimp who struggles with sports, then accidentally defeats a bully and becomes a hero. A patron complained to an Oregon public library that "Violence [was] used to solve problems with bullies for early readers. Violence celebrated." Retained.

Source: 2018 Annual Report, State Library of Oregon

Chbosky, Stephen

The Perks of Being a Wallflower (1999)

At the Beaverton (Oregon) School District, a parent challenged the book, deeming it a "trash novel," with characters that were bad role models for teenagers, drug use, smoking, underage sex, drinking, and attempts to be "sexual and arousing in its graphic descriptions." Following its policies, a review committee found the title to be consistent with the

district's general education goals, and recommended its retention, which was upheld by the deputy superintendent.

Source: Beaverton School District Board documents, March 12, 2018.

Cole, Brock

The Facts Speak for Themselves (1997)

The principal of Fort King Middle School in Ocala (Marion County, Florida) pulled this YA novel from the school library after parents complained about its allegedly "pornographic" language. The parents also protested to the state board of education. There is no record of a formal challenge being initiated. According to the district, the book has been retained.

Source: "Principal pulls book from Ocala middle School," News 13 Florida, January 24, 2018.

Gephart, Donna

Lily and Dunkin (2016)

Citing "sexual content," issues of bullying, rebelling against police, and refusing to take medications, *Lily and Dunkin*, *George* by Alex Gino, and *I Am Jazz* by Jazz Jennings and Jessica Herthel were challenged at the Andover (Kansas) Public Library. The request asked to remove the books from the children's area. After a review process, the library decided to retain them all as cataloged. When the decision was appealed by the parents, the library board voted to retain the books.

Source: "Public library in Kansas asked to move transgender children books," Topeka Capital Journal, January 16, 2019.

Gino, Alex

George (2015)

Citing "sexual content," issues of bullying, rebelling against police, and refusing to take medications, *George*, *Lily and Dunkin* by Donna Gephart, and *I Am Jazz* by Jazz Jennings and Jessica Herthel were challenged at the Andover (Kansas) Public Library. The request was to remove the books from the children's area. After a review

process, the library decided to retain them all as cataloged. When the decision was appealed by the parents, the library board voted to retain the books.

Source: "Public library in Kansas asked to move transgender children books," Topeka Capital Journal, January 16, 2019.

The Tigard-Tualatin School District (King City, Oregon) considered requiring a parental permission slip before allowing elementary school-aged students to read Gino's fictional story of a 10-year-old transgender girl whom the world sees as a boy named George. However, some parents objected to

the proposal. News reports indicate that the school planned to hold a meeting with staff and parents to review the book, then decide what, if any, actions to take.

Source: "School district considering permission slip for book about transgender girl," KATU, February 22, 2018.

The Oregon Battle of the Books (OBOB) is a voluntary competition that encourages students to read from a vetted list of books and

answer questions in a quiz-style event. Included on the 2018 list was *George*, a book about a transgender child. Four elementary schools in the Cascade school district chose to withdraw from the competition. The Hermiston school district barred its elementary students from participating in the statewide reading competition, allowing only the district-level competition that did not include *George*. Bend and Tigard-Tualatin school districts also discussed participating in OBOB with the full reading list. Over 2,000 signatures were collected on a petition to

reject any ban on *George* and other books that provide visibility and support for LGBTQIA+ individuals. The OBOB executive committee and the Oregon Association of School Librarians retained the book on the 2018-2019 reading list.

Source: JIFP Spring 2018

Green, John

Looking for Alaska (2006)

A parent of an honors student in Clinton, North Carolina English II class complained about the alleged pornography and vulgar language of Green's YA novel at a public board meeting of the school district. While not asking for removal of the book, he did seek parental notification of reading selections, and the ability to opt-out. School officials followed their reconsideration process and the book was retained.

Source: "Assignment's sexual content draws parent's concern," Sampson Independent, February 6, 2018.

A parent of an eighth-grade student at Galileo STEM Academy (Boise, Idaho) complained to school administrators about Green's YA novel. Sidestepping district policy and precedent, administrators withdrew the title from all middle schools. According to a school spokesperson, "there's description of pornography, there's smoking, and the book ends with a kind of question about a possible suicide. Even the author says it's really intended for high school students." Withdrawn.

Source: "Meridian School District Pulls Looking for Alaska From Middle School Libraries," Boise Weekly, February 28, 2018.

CENSORSHIP LEAVES US IN THE DARK

Hale, Kathleen

Nothing Bad Is Going to Happen (2016)

This YA comic mystery was challenged by a patron in a Michigan public library whose 13-year-old daughter was disturbed by the language and sex described in the book. Retained.

Source: Clinton-Macomb Public Library Board documents, February 21, 2018.

Hinodeya, Sankichi

Splatoon 2 (2017)

A parent objected to this Japanese-language graphic novel in an Oregon school, believing that it promoted bullying. The patron offered to preview books in Japanese to determine their appropriateness for the school. Four Japanese language teachers did not share the parent's concerns, which the librarian communicated to the parent. A formal challenge process was initiated. The status of the graphic novel is not known.

Source: 2018 Annual Report, State Library of Oregon

Jenkins, Steve, Derek Walter, Caprice Crane

The True Adventures of Esther the Wonder Pig (2018)

Esther was an alleged mini-pig who eventually topped 650 pounds. Her "two dads" decided to move from their small apartment to a farm, now an animal rescue sanctuary. The picture book was originally rejected by a combined elementary school and public library in Oregon as "inappropriate." After school administrators reviewed the library's collection development policy and a Request for Reconsideration form, the

title was retained.

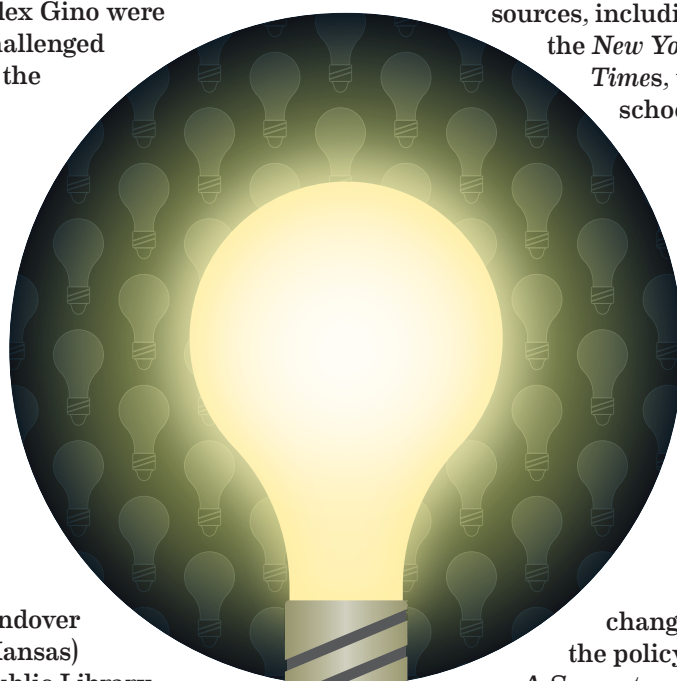
Source: 2018 Annual Report, State Library of Oregon

Jennings, Jazz and Jessica Herthel

I Am Jazz (2014)

Citing "sexual content," issues of bullying, rebelling against police, and refusing to take medications, *I Am Jazz*, *Lily and Dunkin* by Donna Gephart, and *George* by Alex Gino were challenged at the

journalists of the award-winning school newspaper questioned the decision in an editorial, but pointed to undertones of homoeroticism in the book. The articles were censored from the *Eagle Nation Online*, their journalism advisor was fired, and the paper was no longer permitted to publish editorials. After the incident was taken up by several news sources, including the *New York Times*, the school



Andover (Kansas)

Public Library

The request was to remove the books from the children's area. After a review process, the library decided to retain them all as cataloged. When the decision was appealed by the parents, the library board voted to retain the books.

Source: "Public library in Kansas asked to move transgender children books," *Topeka Capital Journal*, January 16, 2019.

Knowles, John

A Separate Peace (1959)

Administrators of the Prosper (Texas) High School removed the book from the tenth-grade curriculum for unclear reasons. Staff

changed the policy.

A Separate

Peace was not restored to the curriculum.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Lang, Suzanne

Families, Families, Families! (2015)

This was one of four books challenged by public petition in Orange City, Iowa's public library. The concern articulated by a coalition of conservative and evangelical community members was that the library was distributing LGBTQIA+ materials to pre-K kids using tax dollars. They requested that the books be shelved separately, segregated from

other library materials.

One local religious activist checked out the four books, then burned them live on Facebook. Since then, over 200 books were donated to the library, and GoFundMe and Facebook fundraisers raised thousands of dollars to replace lost and damaged materials. All the titles have been retained. The activist was charged with criminal misdemeanor mischief.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Lee, Harper

To Kill a Mockingbird (1960)

A parent requested that the novel be removed from the ninth-grade curriculum at Monona Grove (Wisconsin) High School. The parent, who had two children in the district, complained about the book's use of the N-word, the portrayal of Atticus Finch as a white savior, the absence of other works representing people of color, and the deep racial divide in a student body that is 83% white. Following a review process, the district decided to retain the title, stating, "The committee recommended MGHS English teachers carefully consider [the book's] place in the curriculum, the context in which it's taught, other equivalent options or other ways to use the book that might include using [it] as a choice rather than as a required text."

Source: "Parents Seek to Remove 'To Kill a Mockingbird' from Monona Grove Curriculum, Citing Racial Slurs," *Madison365*, January 18, 2018.

Citing the use of racial slurs in the books, Duluth, Minnesota school district administrators decided to remove Lee's novel and

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn from the curriculum “to protect the dignity of our students” and not require them to read books that marginalize them. The titles remain in the school library, and can still be optional reading for students.

Source: JIFP Spring 2018

Levithan, David

Two Boys Kissing (2013)
This was one of four books challenged by public petition in Orange City, Iowa’s public library. The concern articulated by a coalition of conservative and evangelical community members was that the library was distributing LGBTQIA+ materials to pre-K kids using tax dollars. They requested that the books be shelved separately, segregated from other library materials. One local religious activist checked out the four books, then burned them live on Facebook. Since then, over 200 books were donated to the library, and GoFundMe and Facebook fundraisers raised thousands of dollars to replace lost and damaged materials. All the titles have been retained. The activist was charged with criminal misdemeanor mischief.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Machado, Carmen Maria
Her Body and Other Parties (2017)

Author Machado reported on Twitter that the Missouri Department of Corrections denied an incarcerated woman access to this collection of short stories because it “contains inappropriate sexual behaviors, sexually explicit materials & pictures.” While the book frankly explores

issues of female sexuality, power, and violence, it has no pictures. The decision is being appealed by publisher Gray Wolf Press.

Source: JIFP Spring 2019

McNabb, Chris

Gun: A Visual History (2007)
A parent complained to an Oregon school teacher about this adult, but largely pictorial, book about the history of guns. After review, library staff decided to remove the

book from the only elementary school in the district that had it. It was retained for upper-level school libraries.

Source: 2018 Annual Report, State Library of Oregon

Miller, Frank

Holy Terror (2011)
This graphic novel by comic book artist Frank Miller concerns an Islamic terrorist. Muslims in Plano, Texas referred the book to the Dallas/Fort Worth chapter of the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR-DFW), the nation’s largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization. The CAIR-DFW director reached

out to a representative of the public library. Following this conversation, the library decided to remove the title, stating that “hate propaganda ... is inappropriate in a publicly-funded facility.”

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Myers, Walter Dean

Monster (1999)
This *New York Times* bestselling novel about an incarcerated teen awaiting trial was

challenged for “language, violence, and sexual overtures” and deemed inappropriate for eighth- and ninth-graders at Gates Middle School (Scituate, Massachusetts). After meeting with parents, school administrators decided to remove it from the curriculum. Despite strong protest at a public meeting, the ban remained in effect.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

O’Brien, Tim

The Things They Carried (2009)
A student at Bingham High School (Jordan, Utah) protested the book’s use in

classrooms on the basis of language and sexuality. The student’s mother asked, “Is it appropriate for those kinds of details for that kind of language, for that level of sexuality in it to be taught to minors in a public school setting? My daughter could not legally walk into a movie with a glimpse of what is in this book.” As of this writing, this collection of vignettes from the Vietnam War remains on a list of approved books for a senior class, pending a review.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Peck, Richard

The Best Man (2016)
Avid Bookshop owner Janet Geddis shut down the annual book fair it holds at Athens (Georgia) Academy after a school administrator told booksellers to hide a book that features gay characters. Administrators told Avid staff to remove *The Best Man* by Newbery Medalist Richard Peck from display after “several parents raised concerns over a book that contained situations they were not yet prepared to discuss with their young children.” Later, the school requested that all of Avid’s books be reviewed by the administration for objectionable content, and that books designated by the administration as objectionable be removed as well. Afterwards, the head of the school sent out an apology for the way the event was handled, but did not apologize for the decision to remove books. Avid announced that for a period 10% of the book sales from its children’s, middle grade, and young adult sections would be donated to the Athens

SHINE A LIGHT on Banned Books

LGBTQ Youth Group.

Source: JIFP Spring 2018

Pessin-Whedbee, Brook
Who Are You? The Kid's Guide to Gender Identity (2016)

This children's picture book on gender identity was challenged by a parent at the Marathon County (Wisconsin) Public Library, who sought to have the book reclassified and moved from the children's room. After reading and discussing the book in accordance with its policies, the library determined that the title was correctly cataloged.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Petro-Roy, Jen

P.S. I Miss You (2017)

After a patron gave a negative review of this book on the Big Rapids (Michigan) Community Library online catalog and stated it should be removed or red-flagged "before an unsuspecting patron reads this book," she submitted a reconsideration request to the library board. Following library policy, the book was retained and the patron was notified.

Source: Big Rapids Community Library Board documents, May 8, 2018.

Pitman, Gayle

This Day in June (2014)

This book about a gay pride parade was one of four books challenged by public petition in Orange City, Iowa's public library. The concern articulated by a coalition of conservative and evangelical community members was that the library was distributing LGBTQIA+ materials to pre-K kids using tax dollars. The coalition requested that the books be

shelved separately, segregated from other library materials. One local religious activist checked out the four books, then burned them live on Facebook. Since then, over 200 books were donated to the library, and GoFundMe and Facebook fundraisers raised thousands of dollars to replace lost and damaged materials. All the titles have been retained. The activist was charged with criminal

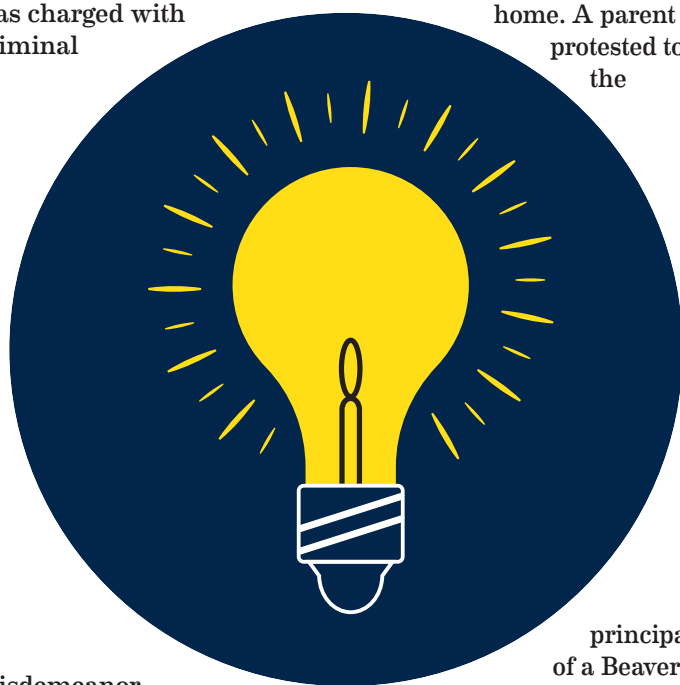
a stop to that." Both books deal with the issue of police brutality. Following a request for reconsideration process, the school decided to retain both titles on the list.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Smith, Andrew

Stick (2011)

This YA novel centers on two teen brothers, one gay, one straight, living in an abusive home. A parent protested to the



misdemeanor mischief.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Reynolds, Jason and Brendan Kiely

All American Boys (2015)

The Fraternal Order of Police chapter in the South Carolina town of Mount Pleasant sought to have *All American Boys* removed from the Wando High School's list of optional reading assignments for incoming high school freshmen, along with *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas. The FOP chapter said the books are "almost an indoctrination of distrust of police and we've got to put

principal of a Beaverton (Oregon) middle school about the book's "vulgar, offensive and just overall disgusting" content, which included discussions of masturbation and gay sex. A district reconsideration panel consisting of teachers, community members, a librarian, and an administrator recommended the book's retention in school libraries and classrooms. However, the district's assistant principal, claiming that the panel didn't know the book was in middle schools, directed its removal from all but eleventh and twelfth grades.

Source: JIFP Spring 2018

Tamaki, Jillian and Mariko

This One Summer (2014)

The graphic novel was challenged in an Oregon public library by a patron who objected to language ("slut") and mention of condoms in the dialogue. Retained.

Source: 2018 Annual Report, State Library of Oregon

Telgemeier, Raina

Drama (2012)

As reported in a letter to the editor of the local newspaper, the graphic novel was withdrawn from the Cedarburg (Wisconsin) School District after "a couple of parents and four committee members" reviewed the book, and recommended its removal.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Thomas, Angie

The Hate U Give (2017)

This award-winning, bestselling YA fiction title about the shooting of a young, unarmed black man by a white police officer was challenged at a Springfield, Missouri middle school. The original complaint was about a lack of specificity in permission slips, as well as language and sexual situations. The school district pulled the book to review it, a new permission slip was sent out, further complaints were made, and the book was pulled again. Its final status is unknown.

Source: "Springfield school district to review novel after parents complain," KY3, February 1, 2018.

The Fraternal Order of Police chapter in the South Carolina town of Mount Pleasant sought to have *The Hate U Give* removed from the Wando High

School's list of optional reading assignments for incoming high school freshmen, along with *All American Boys* by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely. The FOP chapter said the books are "almost an indoctrination of distrust of police and we've got to put a stop to that." Both books deal with the issue of police brutality. Following a request for reconsideration process, the school decided to retain both titles on the list.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Twain, Mark
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (1884)

Citing the use of racial slurs in the books, Duluth, Minnesota school district administrators decided to remove Twain's book and *To Kill a Mockingbird* from the curriculum "to protect the dignity of our students" and not require them to read books that marginalize them. The titles remain in the school library, and are still optional reading for students.

Source: JIFP Spring 2018

Twiss, Jill
A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo (2018)

This parody of a children's book about Vice President Mike Pence's rabbit (*Marlon Bundo's A Day in the Life of the Vice President*) was challenged by a patron at the public library of Terrell, Texas. She had been reading the book to her 8-year-old granddaughter, but stopped when they got to the part about two male bunnies getting married to each other. The patron objected on religious grounds, believing the book encouraged her granddaughter to accept

a lifestyle the Bible called sinful. After a public presentation to the library's advisory board, the board decided to retain the title, citing the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read statement.

Source: Riter C. Hulsey Public Library Board documents, June 13, 2018.

Following a public challenge to all LGBTQIA+ materials, this parody of the picture book about Vice President Mike

Pence's family rabbit was challenged at the Orange City (Iowa) Public Library by members of the community, who objected to the book's scene about two male bunnies falling in love. They objected to the book on the grounds that it indoctrinated children and pushed an agenda the community did not agree with. But others in the community disagreed. The board heard public discussion at one meeting and then chose to retain the title at a subsequent meeting, angering some community members by their decision not to allow public testimony

at that particular meeting.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Wiesel, Elie
Night (1956)

Like many school districts, Conejo Valley (California) Unified School District allows parents to opt-out their children from assigned books their parents object to. Unlike other districts, Conejo Valley has also "red-flagged" content labeled as "mature." As a result, so many parents opted-out of

the donation be accepted, after the director's decision was reported in national news media.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

"Books attacking our president"

An anonymous submission to the Coeur D'Alene (Idaho) Public Library's suggestion box stated, "I noticed a large volume of books attacking our president. And I am going to continue hiding these books in the most obscure places I can find to keep this propaganda out of the hands of young minds. Your liberal angst gives me great pleasure." On its public bulletin board, the library invited the patron to provide new titles that they would like to see, adding, "We are sorry you feel the need to hide books you don't agree with since that takes up valuable time to reorder and replace lost titles."

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

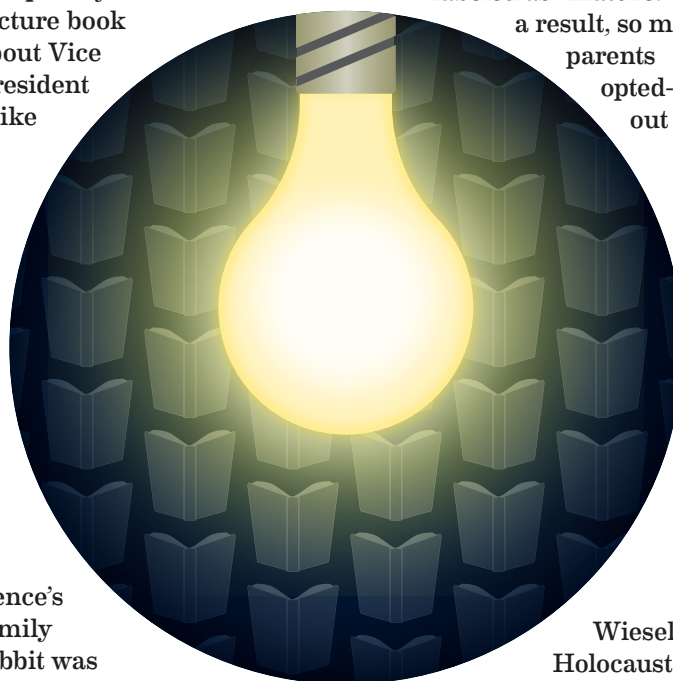
Campus library book

A Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) Jewish student found swastikas and anti-Semitic comments scribbled in a campus library book. One page had the words "Jews have no business at CMU!," and below it in different handwriting, "you are right :)" The book that was vandalized addresses ways in which Judaism and the LGBTQIA+ community intersect through theater, according to *Forward*.

"'Jews Have No Business At CMU!' Found In Library Book At Carnegie Mellon," *Forward*, December 2, 2018.

Woodward, Bob
Fear: Trump in the White House (2018)

A Berkeley Springs (West Virginia) public library director declined to accept a donation of a renowned journalist's bestselling portrait of the Trump administration, based on the belief that "we have other Trump books." The board stepped in and directed that



BEYOND BOOKS

The following are 2018 public challenges to library or school services and resources that aren't books.

FILMS

Eyes Wide Shut (1999)

Fifty Shades of Grey (2015)

Fifty Shades Darker (2017)

Fifty Shades Freed (2018)

Jerusalem (2015)

Staff at the Berkeley (Michigan) Public Library noticed that DVDs of the *Fifty Shades* series (and, as further investigation showed, *Eyes Wide Shut* and the documentary *Jerusalem*) were missing. Some books were apparently deliberately misshelved. The library purchased additional copies, and posted a sign stating, "The Berkley Public Library is against censorship. Someone didn't want you to check these items out. They deliberately hid all of these items so you wouldn't find them. This is not how libraries work."

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Founding Fathers: The Men Who Shaped Our Nation and Changed the World (2000)

After checking out two videos on early US leaders, a patron expressed concern that the DVDs didn't respect or show the spiritual beliefs of the founding fathers, and instead discussed "their moral indiscretions or sexual lives." In accordance with the Oregon public library's Reconsideration Policy, the director reviewed both videos, their usage, their availability in other libraries, and the featured speakers. She found the DVDs available in many public libraries and the speakers were considered reputable. The director informed the patron in writing that the DVDs would be retained, and that he had 14 days to appeal to the library board. He did not appeal.

Source: 2018 Annual Report, State Library of Oregon

Layer Cake (2004)

An Oregon public library patron challenged this crime film starring Daniel Craig as a cocaine dealer trying to get out of the business. The objections to the film included gratuitous sex, profanity, violence, and drug use. The library retained the DVD in its collection.

Source: 2018 Annual Report, State Library of Oregon

Tightrope (1984)

Citing concerns about sexism, nudity, and voyeurism, a patron challenged this thriller about a serial murderer of prostitutes. Clint Eastwood plays the detective. The Oregon public library retained the title.

Source: 2018 Annual Report, State Library of Oregon

NEWSPAPERS

Prison Legal News

The Human Rights Defense Center (HRDC) filed a lawsuit against the Illinois Department of Corrections that alleges constitutional violations related to censorship of HRDC's publications mailed to people who are incarcerated in Illinois prisons. Prison officials sometimes designate "security" as a concern and sometimes do not indicate why the publication is censored. According to the plaintiffs' lawyer, it is unclear why the articles, which typically report on recent court judgments, are a problem.

Source: "Publisher Files Censorship Suit Against Illinois Dept. Of Corrections," CBS Chicago, February 13, 2018.

PROGRAMS & MEETING ROOMS

Local LGBTQ support group Rainbow Mobile hosted a drag queen story hour at the Mobile (Alabama) Public Library. Wade Brasfield, in his drag persona of "Ms. Khloe Kash," read two books for the young crowd: *The Rainbow Fish* and *Stella has a Family*, which is about a girl with two dads. There were more supporters than opponents at the readings. Demonstrators in favor of the reading event carried signs with slogans like "I'm going to tolerate the heck out of you," while critics carried placards with messages including "your lifestyle isn't for my children." The event was held, and no incidents or arrests occurred.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

A pastor interrupted the Loussac Library (Anchorage, Alaska) drag queen story hour to "tell the kids the truth, there's no such thing as transgenders." Parents and children responded by singing "The Wheels on the Bus" until he left.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Students from Cesar Chavez Elementary School performed at the La Quinta (California) library in a celebration of Mexican Independence Day. According to the teacher who organized the presentation, students were required to omit an explanation of the historical context as well as the use of Mexican flags. The privately-managed public library received a request from city officials that the library change the name of the event from “Mexican Independence Day” to a more inclusive title celebrating all “Hispanic culture.” Riverside County announced its intent to investigate the incident.

Source: “Third party will investigate alleged censorship of Mexican heritage at La Quinta library,” *Desert Sun*, November 6, 2018.

After the Clearview Library District (Windsor, Colorado) announced a drag queen story hour, allegations were made that the performer’s social media postings revealed his drug use and participation in the website Pornhub.com. The program proceeded in January of 2019, garnering over 100 protesters and counter-protesters.

Source: “Planned Windsor Drag Queen Story Hour sparks controversy,” *Greeley Tribune*, December 14, 2018.

Plans to hold a drag queen story hour at the Danville (Illinois) Public Library were cancelled by the director after public complaints. She gave two reasons: a perceived lack of interest in the event (although no RSVPs were required) and “a large quantity of phone calls” that were negative about the event. The organizers indicated that they would hold the event in

a private location.

Source: “Some disapprove of “diverse” event,” *WCIA.com*, September 11, 2018.

Justice Makes a Difference: The Story of Miss Freedom Fighter, *Esquire* by Artika Tiner was featured in a program at the O’Fallon (Illinois) Public Library for children age 5 and older. The story: A young girl named Justice talks with her grandmother and learns about historic black and civil

rights leaders. A school board member who did not attend the program nonetheless criticized it at a City Council meeting, saying it “provided a platform for social indoctrination” and that the children were being “set up.” “It was totally inappropriate for two reasons: the venue, the intended audience,” he said at the meeting. “The venue was the O’Fallon Public Library, a taxpayer-funded facility, which should cater to an entire community, not just some factions within it,” he added.

Source: *JIFP Spring 2018*

Announcement of a drag

queen story hour at the Evansville (Indiana) Vanderburgh Public Library met with criticism and support. One city councilperson told the press, “I consider that to be very confusing for [kids] and there’s other ways for the LGBT community to educate people about diversity.” A social studies high school teacher said, “I think it’ll

help kids that are questioning,

I think it’ll help kids that

need to

work on acceptance,

to practice their empathy muscles.”

During the divisive time in the community, a library board member was not reappointed to the library board because she supported the library’s inclusive programming.

Source: “Drag queen story time stirs debate in Evansville,” *TriStateHomepage.com*, December 17, 2018.

A program designed to promote literacy was hosted by local drag queens who read to a crowd consisting of about 200 adults, and a few children at the Wichita (Kansas) Public Library. Backlash prompted a public

library board meeting, featuring about 45 minutes of public testimony both for and against drag queen and LGBTQIA+ programming issues.

Source: “Feedback from ‘drag queen’ event prompts Wichita library to consider programming policy,” *KWCH12*, December 17, 2018.

State Sen. Tom Buford, R-Nicholasville (Kentucky), protested the use of public library meeting rooms at five different public libraries for “Teacher Talks” forums held by his Democratic challenger (Carolyn Dupont), and he tried to pressure the libraries’ directors into canceling the events. Buford called the forums “unethical,” and took them as partisan endorsements of his opponent. Despite being assured that the libraries were simply providing public meeting space, available to all, Buford announced that he would support limits on the taxing authority of local library boards by requiring their members to either be elected or appointed by an elected official, such as the county judge-executive. The meetings proceeded.

Source: “Libraries say Kentucky senator tried to pressure them into canceling opponent’s forums,” *Lexington Herald Leader*, October 19, 2018.

The mayor of Lafayette, Louisiana, attempted to cancel a library-planned drag queen story hour at the public library. Local news reported that the majority of speakers at a Lafayette City-Parish Council meeting who spoke about drag queen story hour were in support of the event. Twice the event was moved to accommodate



larger crowds and because of security concerns. Two religious organizations, Warriors for Christ and Special Forces of Liberty, filed a lawsuit in an attempt to stop drag queen story hour. The judge eventually dismissed the lawsuit. The event is still postponed.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

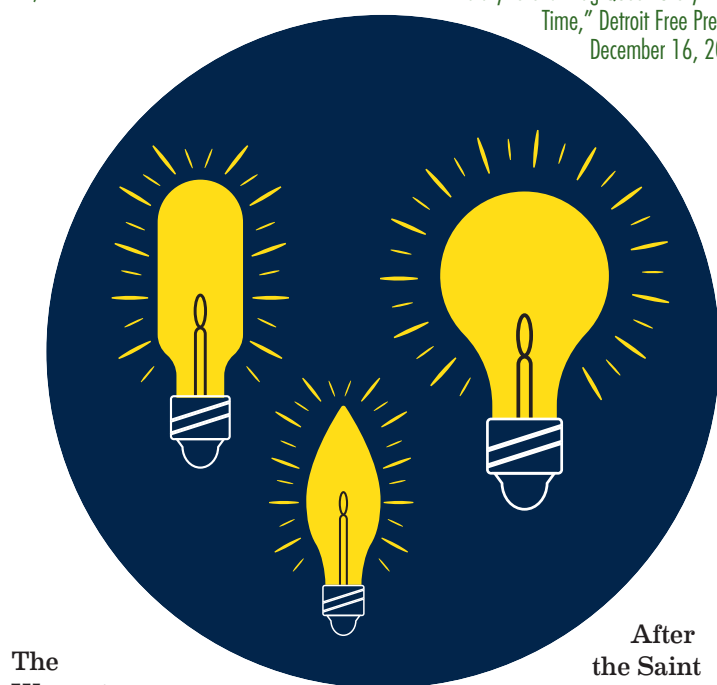
After a group filed a lawsuit to stop drag queen story hours at the Lafayette, Louisiana public library, a group reserved a meeting room at the public library, intending to hold a drag queen story hour. Because of the lawsuit, the director canceled the room reservation, citing an agreement that the library would require those reserving meeting room space to promise they would not do drag queen story hours while the lawsuit was pending before the court. After the American Civil Liberties Union intervened, the city agreed to withdraw the requirement and allow the meeting to take place.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Mindfulness Moments, a program in use for a year at the Buckingham (Maryland) Middle School, was withdrawn and replaced after a local pastor called the pre-taped videos “unbiblical.” The program incorporated breathing exercises, calming techniques, and mindful movements to promote social and emotional growth. It had been funded by a grant, and featured a local children’s yoga instructor and a licensed clinical therapist. The yoga connection was the problem. “Yoga seeks to draw and

recruit people and in some cases indoctrinate them to false truths and practices,” the pastor said. In the words of a parent of a student at the school, “I am concerned that, on the surface, it appears as though Worcester County Schools caved to a religious organization.”

Source: “Yoga objections get mindfulness program pulled,” *Bayside Gazette*, September 20, 2018.



The Worcester (Massachusetts) Public Library hosted a drag queen story hour. A Facebook recap by the library garnered some 1,700 comments and 1,600 reposts. The library stood by the program. “The trolls are ... not going to get us to shut up,” said one of the organizers of the event. “If you don’t like an event, you just don’t go to it—that’s the reality of the situation.”

Source: “Worcester comes to library’s defense after Drag Queen Storytime post draws a hateful mob,” *Worcester Magazine*, December 18, 2018.

Huntington Woods (Michigan) Public Library

had been providing drag queen story hours since 2017, and originally they were very popular. At the end of 2018, one city official objected to the drag queen story hour, as did the California chapter of socially conservative MassResistance. While general attendance is falling, the programs continue.

Source: “Critics want Huntington Woods Library to end Drag Queen Story Time,” *Detroit Free Press*, December 16, 2018.

After the Saint Paul (Minnesota) Public Library announced their hosting of three drag queen story hours and a Pride celebration, there was some pushback on Twitter and in comments to library staff. The programs were held nonetheless.

Source: “Despite the squawking, the St. Paul Library’s Drag Story Hour must go on,” *City Pages*, June 8, 2018.

Lisa Daftari, an award-winning investigative journalist who graduated from Rutgers University (New Jersey), is a frequent guest on Fox News. After a claim about a quote that was attributed to her (but altered from her actual

comments), Rutgers disinvited her from a scheduled talk at the university on “Radicalism on College Campuses,” which focused on free speech on college campuses.

Source: “Rutgers University Cancels Appearance of Fox News Guest ... Which Was About Free Speech on Campus,” *mediaite.com*, October 12, 2018.

The Broome County (New York) Public Library announced a drag queen story hour. On Facebook and over the phone, people weighed in. The program was called “sick and sad,” as well as “a fantastic event.” The program was retained.

Source: “Broome County Public Library ‘Drag Queen Story time’ stirs controversy,” *WENY News*, January 9, 2018.

A drag queen story hour at Olean (New York) Public Library sparked some protests, including threats to burn down the library. But hundreds of people showed up to attend and support the event.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Organizers of a Banned Books Week Symposium at the Mount Saint Mary College (Newburgh, New York) disinvited its scheduled speaker, author Jay Asher, following allegations against him of sexual harassment. They also cited reports of his departure from the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators. Asher, who was also scheduled to speak about suicide at the college, denies the sexual harassment charge and admitted to consensual affairs. He also claims that he left the author’s group voluntarily.

Source: “Jay Asher Uninvited from MSMC After Sexual Harassment Accusations,” *Mount Messenger*, February 26, 2018.

The New York-based Catholic League for Civil and Religious Rights objected to the Multnomah County (Oregon) Library's hosting of a children's hour with drag queens who dress as flamboyant nuns, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. A Catholic League spokesperson called the program "disrespectful to Catholicism," and warned that the drag queen Sisters "have set their sights on little kids." A library spokesperson stated, "The library will weigh and reflect on the feedback and work to ensure that the library remains open and inclusive to all."

Source: "Multnomah County Library children's show criticized," Catholic Sentinel, November 8, 2018.

Derrick Jensen of the group Deep Green Resistance rented a public meeting room for a talk at the Eugene (Oregon) Public Library. Although his talk was about his current and forthcoming books on environmental issues, Jensen has also made comments some found offensive about people who are transgender. A group called United Front: Families Resisting and Organizing Nonviolently Together organized a protest against Jensen, whom they say promotes bigotry against transgender people. United Front claimed its supporters accounted for 90-100 of the 150 attendees. One protester was arrested.

Source: "Controversial Speaker Sparks Outcry," Eugene Weekly, March 3, 2018.

In a letter to the editor, a Charleston resident called on the family members of law enforcement officers to protest author Angie Thomas's appearance at the College of Charleston (South Carolina). Her book, *The Hate U Give*, which has themes of racism and police brutality, is featured as a campus-wide reading choice for incoming freshmen, but those who object to the book and event say it is "heavy-duty

indoctrination with dire consequences."

Source: "Charleston-area police protest 'The Hate U Give' school assignment," The Post and Courier, July 3, 2018.

Local group Equality Clarksville reserved space in the Clarksville-Montgomery (Tennessee) County Public Library to offer a story time. On occasion, the group had featured drag performers. Despite public controversy, the meeting was held.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

The Upper Cumberland Pride group booked a drag

queen story time at the Putnam County (Tennessee) Library. The library received both criticism and support for allowing this use of the public meeting rooms, but it proceeded.

Source: "Story hour causes controversy," Herald-Citizen, December 10 2018.

Several people gathered outside the Houston (Texas) Public Library to protest its drag queen story hour event.

Protesters believed the

program

was

a way to

"groom children to

be acquainted with these issues." A participating drag queen described the event as a way of spreading joy and love. The event also featured a musical number, a photo booth, and various activities for families. The event went on as planned.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

The Harris County (Texas) Public Library hosted its first Pride program, aimed at ages 12-18. Although a majority of social media comments and phone calls were positive, some people were angry that their tax dollars were

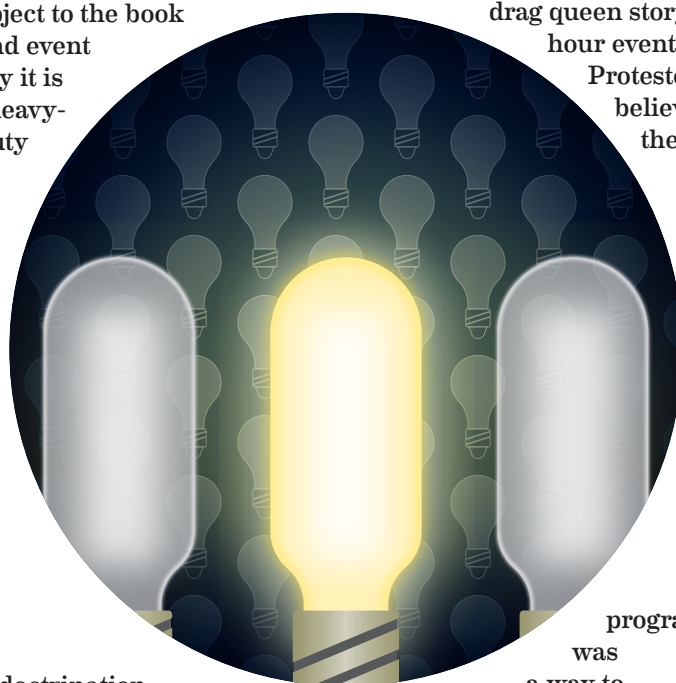
being used to support the program. Others said that the title "Celebrate Pride!" suggested that the library was hosting a sex party, and it was inappropriate to bring sexuality into a public space and "force it on young children." The program was held.

Source: JIFP Spring 2019

After the announcement of a drag queen story hour, the Beloit (Wisconsin) Public Library got a lot of public feedback. The drag queen story hour is part of the "E Pluribus Unum Series," which the library said sometimes presents controversial topics and challenges standard thoughts and ideas. In a statement, the library wrote, "We believe everyone in our community shares an appreciation for openness, acceptance and the opportunity to educate their children about people who are different from them. We also know that values differ, and are grateful to have received a variety of comments from multiple perspectives."

Source: "Drag Queen Storytime prompts community feedback, Beloit Public Library says," Channel 3000, June 6, 2018.

Amid threats and controversy, Shorewood (Wisconsin) School District officials cancelled performances of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The school district stated that it "should have done more outreach to dialogue about the sensitivity of this performance with the Shorewood and greater Milwaukee community." A week later, the district announced its plans to resume the performance,



as well as schedule a community talkback after the play and a community conversation on race. Accusations of racism and threats to protest the play were communicated to district officials, and hours before the curtain was to open, the superintendent cancelled the performance during a live press conference, citing the “social and emotional welfare of the students.”

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

DISPLAYS & ARTWORK

A board member of the Aurora (Illinois) Public Library directed staff to remove a poem titled “Hijab Means Jihad” from a photo-poems exhibit after the poem drew criticism that it encouraged violence against Muslim women. Over a background of a Confederate flag, the poem begins “Every kid should be like my kid / And snatch a hijab.” Members of the public quickly denounced the poem as Islamophobic on social media. The poet, George Miller, said the piece was satirical, according to the library.

Source: JIFP Spring 2018

Three local pastors in Rumford, Maine protested LGBTQIA+ books in the Banned Books Week display at the Rumford Public Library. They co-signed a letter to the library board, which held a public meeting featuring testimony from the pastors, and at least one gay member of the community. The titles, and the display,

were retained.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

An art exhibit featuring photographs of seven public train riders was approved, then canceled, by the Queens Public Library (New York). Library officials cited their concern for the privacy of the people in the photographs, who had not given permission. The conflict between free expression and the right to

privacy has generally been decided in favor of free expression, providing that the images are not used commercially, and that the subject’s “expectation of privacy” was not violated.

Source: ““Faces of the 7 Train” Exhibit Abruptly Canceled by Queens Library Over Privacy Concerns, Artist Cries Foul,” *Flushing Post*, December 11, 2018.

A controversial mural at the Knight Library (Eugene, Oregon) was vandalized. Created in 1937 and titled “The Mission of the University,” the mural stated, “The university process is a social process that does not stop short of transforming

men ... It means conservation and betterment not merely of our national resources but also of our racial heritage and of opportunity to the lowliest.” In 2017, students submitted an 1,800-signature petition to have the mural removed. In 2018, the words “racial heritage” were splashed with red paint, and an index card was left stating, “Which art do you choose to conserve now?”

The mural remains, and the

card has been archived.

Source: “Controversial mural in Knight Library vandalized, library staff say,” *Daily Emerald*, August 25, 2018.

Alleging various public complaints, the director of the Washington County (Utah) public library directed staff to take down a sign over a display of LGBTQIA+ titles. The following year (2018), the display focused on a more general diversity theme. When staff wore buttons stating “Ask Me about LGBTQ Reads,” the director required them to remove the buttons. While no books or exhibits were removed, the director

responded to comments about controversial subjects: “Generally, as a library we try to avoid those kinds of things.”

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Students of the Mary Baldwin University (Staunton, Virginia) complained that an art exhibit about monuments to Confederate heroes was racist. The two artists are white people who grew up in the South. They said that the exhibit reflects their awareness that these monuments—glorified by some—are deeply hurtful to others and contribute to distortions of US history. The exhibit was removed.

Source: “Is Artistic Freedom a Lost Cause?,” *Inside Higher Ed*, November 12, 2018.

Open a BANNED BOOK





ONLINE SERVICES & RESOURCES

EBSCO Database

Following a parent's complaint that she found pornographic materials in EBSCO databases, the state provider for electronic resources, Utah Education Network (UEN), blocked access to all of the licensed EBSCO resources in the state for every K-12 school. After a period of public comment and investigation, UEN restored K-12 access to the EBSCO database.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

EBSCO Database

The Cherry Creek School District in Greenwood, Colorado cancelled its contract to have EBSCO provide online research databases in its schools, after a two-year campaign by a couple who said their daughter's EBSCO school account allowed her to see unfiltered pornography. The following month, the couple sued to limit materials from EBSCO at schools throughout Colorado. The suit is pending in a Colorado District Court.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

Gale Database

A parent of a freshman at the Smithfield (Virginia) High School attended an open house at the school and found what she considered pornography in a Gale database. The "Gender Studies" section included articles from The Advocate,

a gay and lesbian periodical. Photographs of nude men accompanied some articles. The parent, an IT professional, made a video of how she found the content, and alerted school officials. According to one news article, officials then took down the site.

Source: JIFP Fall-Winter 2018

INSPIRE Virtual Online Library

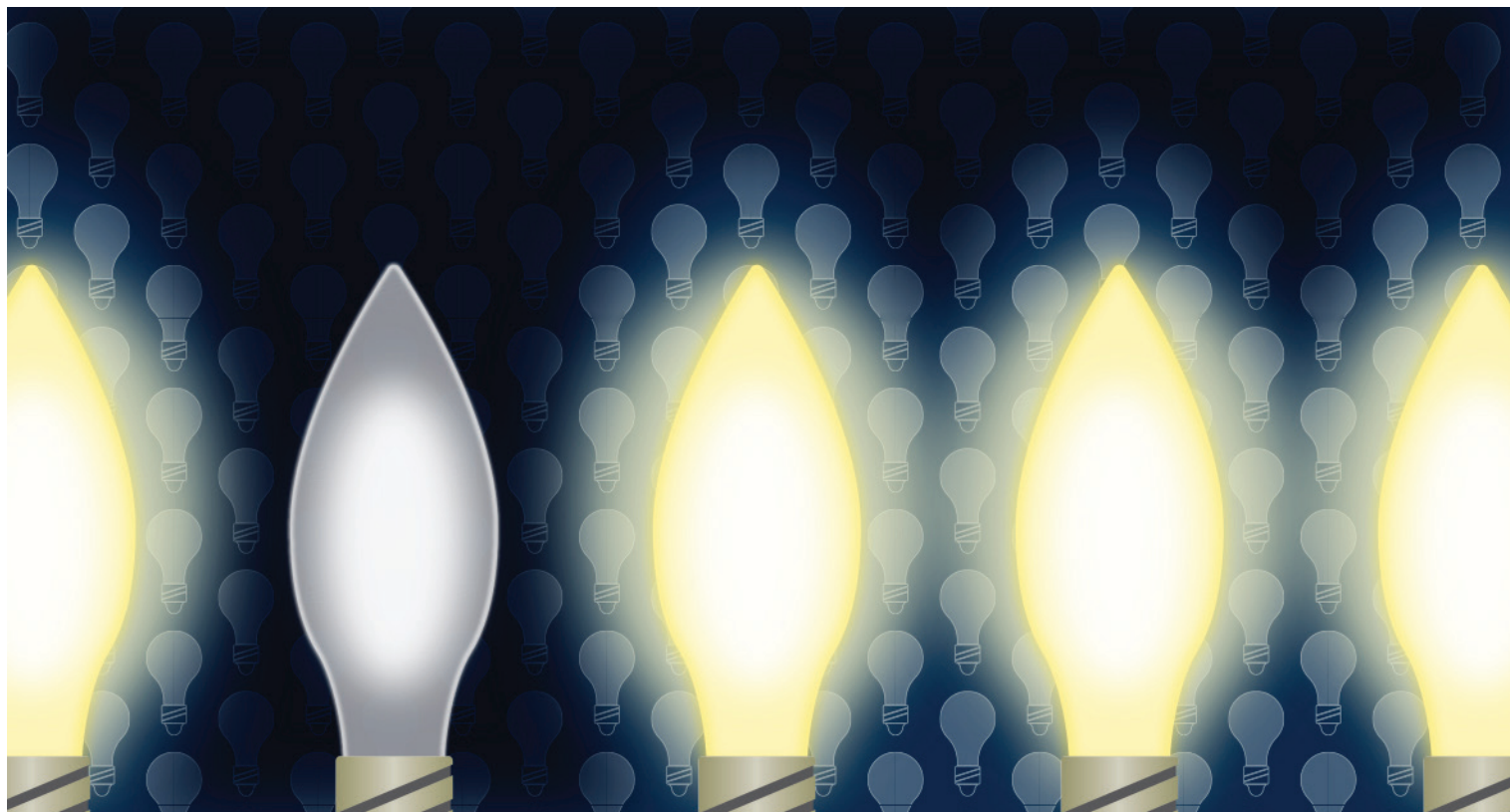
INSPIRE is a collection of online academic databases and other information resources supported by the Indiana General Assembly and managed by the Indiana State Library. Letters were sent to Indiana public school superintendents claiming INSPIRE is "pandering obscenity to minors." Access to the virtual library resources has been successfully restored in schools that initially removed it.

Source: JIFP Spring 2019

ACCESS

Parents in the Mahwah, New Jersey school district were outraged when the district changed its library policy, sharply limiting how frequently students could check books out from the school libraries. The intent, according to district officials, was to provide more time for technology instruction. Both parents and students protested the new policy. It is not known whether the policy has been changed.

Source: "Library is limiting book rentals to boost kids' screen time. Parents are peeved," NJ.com, November 21, 2018.



GET INVOLVED! 12 WAYS TO KEEP THE LIGHT ON

The 2019 Banned Books Week theme is
"Censorship leaves us in the dark. Keep the light on."
Here are some ways that you can spotlight censorship
every day of the year!

LEARN

1. Stay updated on censorship attempts by following the Office for Intellectual Freedom on Twitter (@OIF) and Facebook (@ALAOIF), and subscribing to Intellectual Freedom News.

ENGAGE

2. Suggest an enlightening banned or challenged book as your next book club read.
3. Ask your librarians, teachers, superintendents, and local public officials about attempts to ban or challenge books. They need to know you support the freedom to read in schools and libraries.
4. Attend school board, library board, and parent-teacher association (PTA) meetings.

SHARE

5. Spotlight censorship when it happens. Share stories and calls to action on social media.

WRITE

6. If there's a local challenge reported in the news, write a powerful letter to the editor in your newspaper. The letter could touch on the benefits of unrestricted reading, or let the media and others know that there are members of the community who oppose censorship.
7. Send a letter to a banned or challenged author who has impacted your life. Find resources and addresses at ala.org/bbooks/dear-banned-author.

SUPPORT

8. Celebrate Banned Books Week (September 22-28, 2019) by attending local programs or starting your own event. Learn more at ala.org/bbooks.
9. Promote the freedom to read in style by purchasing posters, T-shirts, and mugs at the ALA Store (alastore.ala.org/keywords/banned-books-week). Sales support the defense of intellectual freedom in libraries and schools.
10. Join organizations that defend and promote free access to information. Find a list of sponsors of Banned Books Week at bannedbooksweek.org.
11. Visit your local library to check out a variety of materials on an array of perspectives, attend programs, and take advantage of the library's many resources.

REPORT

12. Share your censorship story. If there's a challenge to materials or services in your local library or school, report the challenge to the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom (ala.org/challengereporting). We'll support you in whatever way you think is best—from writing letters and initiating campaigns, to visiting board meetings and contacting public officials. All challenges can be reported confidentially.

TOP 11 CHALLENGED BOOKS OF 2018

The American Library Association tracked 347 challenges to library, school, and university materials and services in 2018. Of the 483 books that were challenged or banned in 2018, here are the top 11 most challenged:

#1: *George* by Alex Gino

Reasons: banned, challenged, and relocated because it was believed to encourage children to clear browser history and change their bodies using hormones, and for mentioning “dirty magazines,” describing male anatomy, “creating confusion,” and including a transgender character

#2: *A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo* by Jill Twiss

Reasons: banned and challenged for including LGBTQIA+ content, and for political and religious viewpoints

#3: *Captain Underpants* series by Dav Pilkey

Reasons: series was challenged because it was perceived as encouraging disruptive behavior, while *Captain Underpants and the Sensational Saga of Sir Stinks-A-Lot* was challenged for featuring a same-sex married couple

#4: *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas

Reasons: banned and challenged because it was deemed “anti-cop,” and for profanity, drug use, and sexual references

#5: *Drama* by Raina Telgemeier

Reasons: banned and challenged for including LGBTQIA+ characters and themes

#6: *Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher

Reasons: banned, challenged, and restricted for addressing teen suicide

#7: *This One Summer* by Mariko Tamaki, illustrated by Jillian Tamaki

Reasons: banned and challenged for profanity, sexual references, and certain illustrations

#8: *Shippypjon Jones* series by Judy Schachner

Reason: challenged for depicting stereotypes of Mexican culture

#9: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie

Reasons: banned and challenged for sexual references, profanity, violence, gambling, and underage drinking, and for its religious viewpoint

#10: *This Day in June* by Gayle E. Pitman

Reason: challenged and burned for including LGBTQIA+ content

#11: *Two Boys Kissing* by David Levithan

Reason: challenged, burned, and hidden for including LGBTQIA+ content

