THE KITCHEN TABLE ACTIVIST REMOVE PORN IN SCHOOLS TOOLKIT

UPDATED TO INCLUDE A MODEL POLICY FOR YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BEHIND THE TOOLKIT



Karen England

The Kitchen Table Activist & President, Parental Rights Council

Karen England is the President of Parental Rights Council. PRC is a pro-family public policy organization with a focus on education, religious freedom, parental rights, and life. Karen has a long history of mobilizing citizens at rallies, school board meetings, and before state legislatures. She is a highly coveted speaker due to her vast experience and knowledge of the relevant topics of the day.

Today she leads the fight to expose and eliminate progressive ideologies in the school setting. This includes CRT, SEL, and graphic, inappropriate sexual education. Karen is an effective advocate for reclaiming parental rights at the local district level and she is passionate about sharing her decades of experience with parents and other concerned citizens.

Karen was nominated by Congressman Tom McClintock to the California Republican Party Initiatives Committee where she served for 6 years. In 2012, Karen relocated to Virginia for a time to serve as the National Coalitions Director for Rick Santorum for President. Karen has been featured on various media outlets including the Laura Ingraham Show, The O'Reilly Factor, Tucker Carlson Tonight, The San Francisco Chronicle, World Net Daily, the FlashReport, Fox News, and as of January, 2024, Karen will be a regular contributor for the Washington Times Higher Ground. Karen brings her engaging conversational personality wherever she is speaking, but more than anything, she brings a passion for the truth.

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PORN IS IN OUR SCHOOLS

Are you hearing rumblings about the presence of sexually explicit books in your school library? Is your public library targeting children by purchasing taxpayer funded obscene materials and hosting "Drag Queen Story Hour"? Even with heightened media attention and endless examples of schools trampling on parental rights, you may still think that this is not happening in your community. But the truth is that NO town and no public school district is immune. From the bluest of states such as California to the reddest of states like Florida, there are no more "safe" areas.

This toolkit is designed for all those who are concerned about the sexually graphic and obscene materials now available to children in public schools and county libraries. Regardless of your level of knowledge and experience, this resource will help you to understand how we got here, who is involved, and most importantly, what YOU can and should do to ensure these materials are removed.

"YOU MAY CHOOSE TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY BUT YOU CAN NEVER SAY AGAIN THAT YOU DID NOT KNOW."

— William Wilberforce



OBSCENITY LAWS

The sustained and coordinated effort to include pornographic material in K-12 public schools is a multi-faceted issue, but the most important thing you need to know now is that these graphic materials are more than likely already in your county library, your public-school library, and/or they are being used in your child's classroom.

Forty-three states have passed obscenity exemption laws that *eliminate any liability associated with using these graphic materials* if they are employed for "educational" purposes, as part of courses of instruction, or if they are in libraries in K-12 schools.

Distribution of this material off school grounds would be considered criminal, but exposing our children to it during school hours is somehow deemed "educational." This means that someone who provides obscene or vulgar materials to a child will face fines and jail time for harming the child, EXCEPT when that person is a teacher or a librarian providing the materials in a public-school classroom or library.

Over the years, the concept of "freedom of speech" has expanded well beyond spoken or written words to include "expression" of all types, e.g., literature, art, political activity, photographs, broadcasts, and internet postings, as courts have attempted to protect all methods of self-expression from censorship. Throughout our nation's history, however, certain categories of speech have not been protected by the First Amendment, which means the government can limit the activity. Obscenity is not protected under the First Amendment right to free speech, and violations of federal obscenity laws are criminal offenses.

Even if your state has passed an obscenity exemption law, this does <u>not</u> give the state carte blanche to expose minors to pornographic, pervasively vulgar material. You must know your rights, and be prepared to engage the public school system.

ALLOWED IN SCHOOLS



ALLOWED IN SCHOOLS



THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A American Library Association

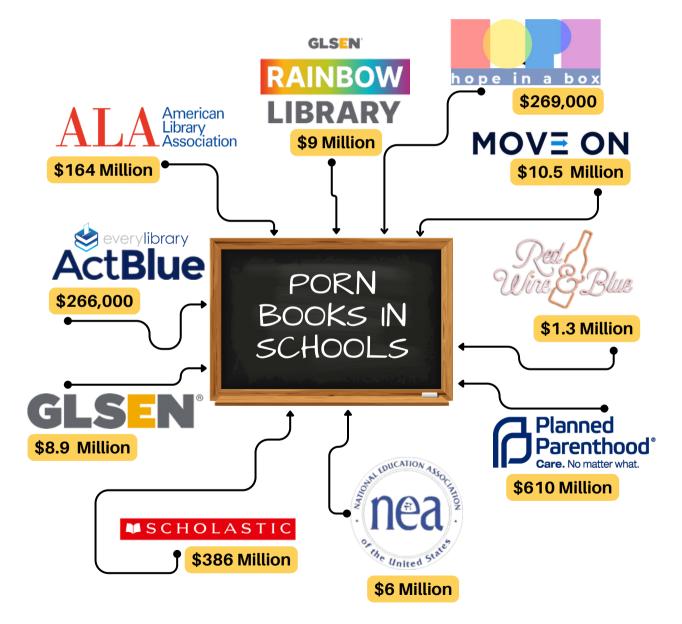
While it was once a trusted resource, today the American Library Association (ALA) is not on your side, and with the ALA's outsized influence on policy and practices in public schools, parents can no longer assume that our schools share their values.

The ALA's goal is to use your child in their social experiment that is meant to indoctrinate the next generation. With easy and sustained access to our children through the public school system, the ALA and their many allies manipulate young people with deceptive and immoral subject matter.

The school library used to be a sanctuary, but now it is a battleground. The ALA is not content to passively engage students, rather they aim to influence our children by actively promoting their agenda via events such as Banned Books Week. Using graphic displays and school-wide advertising, this school sanctioned activity encourages students to examine the most egregiously obscene books, some of which include links and QR codes that lead to pornographic websites. Additionally, GLSEN, an education organization devoted entirely to promoting and normalizing radical views of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, has developed the Rainbow Library. This program sends free LGBTQ+ affirming K-12 books to schools in select states that GLSEN specifically targets.

PORN PUSHERS & GROOMERS

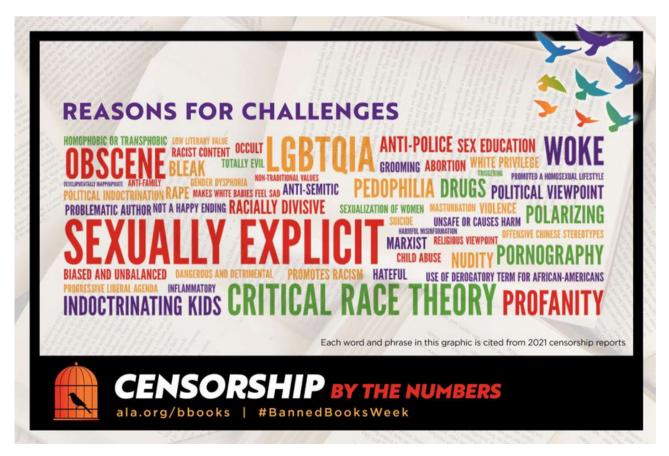
Progressive organizations like Planned Parenthood, the ALA, GLSEN, and the Human Rights Campaign, along with the teachers' unions, understand the technicalities of these obscenity exemption laws, and they have clearly taken advantage of them by relentlessly advocating for the inclusion of graphic, sexually explicit books in schools and local public libraries. These organizations have also encouraged school districts and individual counties to adopt burdensome policies and procedures that make it exceedingly difficult to remove this type of material.



PORN PUSHERS & GROOMERS

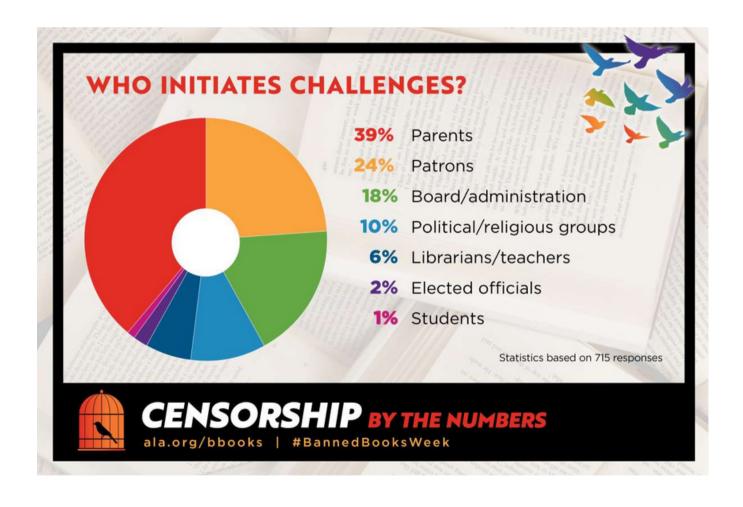
There is nothing haphazard in their approach. Many years ago, the above-mentioned groups and their allies launched a sustained effort to devalue the beliefs of conservatives and diminish the power of our collective voice by labeling us as the miniscule fringe element. Until now, they have found success using lies and intimidation, but with a new resolve and the education this toolkit provides, parents can unite and arm themselves with effective resources to fight back.

Selective and misleading ALA polling is often trotted out to "prove" that a majority oppose removing books from schools, concluding that those who support "book bans" are the misguided minority. As is evident in the graphic below, the ALA and their collaborators have grown so callous in their quest to normalize obscenity, they are willing to boldly publicize the reasons specific books are challenged, as if it were perfectly appropriate to expose children to sexually explicit, obscene, and pornographic material in the name of equity and inclusion.



WE CAN CHALLENGE THE RADICAL AGENDA

As we see in the following graphic, parents comprise the largest constituency of those who challenge selected titles, and they are therefore the primary target of the ALA's accusation that widespread censorship is taking place. From the perspective of the ALA, parents are but an obstacle to overcome, and instead of respecting the call for accountability by a large and varied segment of the community, they simply carry on with their radical agenda.



TRUTH AND COMMON SENSE

While the process of removing a book can be daunting, it is certainly not impossible. The good news is that you are not alone in this fight. CRI and others are here to help and guide you through this process.

Take courage! This toolkit will equip you to stand up for your values and protect your children from unnecessary exposure to vulgar, pornographic materials.

We have the truth and common sense on our side. Both the law and public opinion are clear: this material doesn't belong in the hands of minors.

In September 2022, our parent organization, Capitol Resource Institute, commissioned a poll with Rasmussen Reports, a well-respected and proven pollster. Rasmussen concluded that:



A vast majority is opposed to sexually explicit books in public **elementary school** libraries.

79%

Again, a large majority is opposed to sexually explicit books in public **middle school** libraries. **69%**

Voters believe books containing explicit depictions of sex acts, including homosexual sex, should not be present in public **high school** libraries.

The survey of 1,000 U.S. Likely Voters was conducted on September 20-21, 2022 by Rasmussen Reports and Capitol Resource Institute. The margin of sampling error is +/- 3 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence. Field work for all Rasmussen Reports surveys is conducted by Pulse Opinion Research.



WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY

Progressive groups that advocate for the inclusion of obscene materials in publicschool settings are often bolstered by certain laws that do, in fact, protect this right in some instances. So, while the obscenity exceptions granted to public schools and county libraries may initially allow these books space on the library or classroom shelf, this does not mean that we are prohibited from petitioning to have them removed. In other words, the will and the voice of a united community can and should still have a tremendous impact on decisions that are made at the local level.

We must remind district officials, school personnel, and librarians that books and other materials may be removed based on whether they meet an agreed upon standard of "educational suitability" or whether the books are "pervasively vulgar."

Island Trees School District v. Pico

In 1982, the Supreme Court offered guidance in the Island Trees v. Pico case.

1. School boards and administrators are responsible for supervising the education of students in their care and can remove materials that are deemed educationally unsuitable or pervasively vulgar.

2. School boards cannot impede the student's right to read a book just because the board objects to a certain view point or idea expressed in the book.

3. School boards need to follow established procedures to remove materials from school libraries or classrooms.

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REMOVING BOOKS

As concerned citizens, it is our responsibility to insist on inclusion in the process by which community standards are defined. School and county librarians and the ALA do not have unlimited authority to either define standards or to impose them on others. We must do the hard work to make our voices heard.

1. The first step in the process of removing obscene material is to find and acquaint yourself with your school district's current policy for challenging an objectionable book or other item. While districts often use the ALA recommended policy, which starts with filling out a reconsideration form about the book in question, many districts will include additional specific requirements that you must understand before you begin.

2. If necessary, use a search engine to find the policy online, and if you are unable to source the policy in full, contact your local district administrator and request the policy in writing. It is always preferable to maintain a paper trail of your correspondence with all district employees, as doing so will provide you with evidence of actions taken and responses received.

3. Next, find out what is in your school library. Again, using a search engine to obtain publicly available information is the easiest first step. For example, begin with a search such as <"School Name", "County", "State", library media center>. Some districts may restrict access to school websites and will therefore require login information. If so, you can use your child's login information for their own school, which should grant you access from any computer, not just school-issued devices.

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REMOVING BOOKS (CONT.)

4. Once you access the library page on the school or district website, search for a library catalog. This catalog may be in plain sight, but it is also possible that you will have to click around to locate it. *Follett Destiny* and *Alexandria* are two widely used operating systems for library cataloging. Should you see either of these, know that it is the catalog for books children are able to check out of that school's library.

***Follett Destiny may allow you to search all district libraries at one time. When you are inside the catalog for one school there is a large rectangle under the search bar that says, "Narrow your search to..." Select the drop-down menu next to "Location" and choose to search the entire county or district.

***Should you find a book that seems questionable, but you remain unsure about the full content, theme, or intended audience, search websites such as amazon.com to see pertinent book reviews. Like-minded parents who have taken the time to write a public review are likely to share disturbing or inappropriate elements that will help you determine if a certain book should be challenged. If necessary, visit your local public library to peruse the book and make copies or photograph examples of obscene verbiage and/or graphics that will help you to make your case for removal.

5. When you do find a book that you believe should be challenged, annotate the information by including critical or explanatory elements. Include data such as the number of copies on the shelf and which school(s) have the title available for check out. Use whatever means you prefer (excel spreadsheet, notebook, etc.) to keep and organize your findings, as this will help you to present relevant evidence and it may also be used to assist others who are willing to help you in this endeavor. Be sure to save any links that have been helpful so you will not have to repeat a search. You might also consider printing off certain pages of book lists, so if the list disappears from the website you will still possess a copy.

6. Save and record all correspondence between you and your district that concerns a book challenge. It is very important to catalog this information, as it forms a body of evidence that will prove helpful in the future.

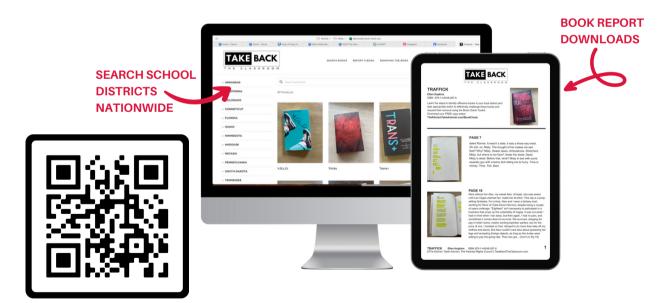
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REMOVING BOOKS (CONT.)

7. Continue to check your district's school libraries for obscene material. At various times throughout the year, schools purchase new books and/or receive book donations, so the list of catalogued materials will likely change over time. Having a record of prior lists will also serve as a tool to allow you to confirm when/if a successfully challenged book has been removed.

8. Lastly, if you find that your district is stonewalling, or you believe that the information provided to you is incomplete, use the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to create an open records request. This Act provides the public the right to request access to government records, except for some narrow exceptions.

It is imperative that your FOIA request be very specific. For example, you might ask for all email traffic between the ABC Book Company and the school librarian between 1 August 2022 and 30 April 2023, or, printouts of all purchase orders for library books and curriculum in a given school year. More general inquiries may be refused or delayed due to their ambiguity, and they make it easier for the school to say, "you didn't ask for that."



WHICH BOOKS SHOULD BE CHALLENGED?

We frequently receive requests for a compilation of inappropriate books, but it's difficult to narrow it down to just one short definitive list. Factors such as the specific school district and grade level can greatly affect which books should be targeted, and new titles are continually coming to light. To help get you started, we suggest referring to the American Library Association's list of the most challenged books. Visit takebacktheclassroom.com to view excerpts from these books and others that have already been found in schools across the country.



SCHOOL

BOOK REMOVAL TRACKER

DATE	BOOK TITLE	AUTHOR	LOCATION OF BOOK (NAME OF SCHOOL)	REQUEST FOR REMOVAL (DATE/RECIPIENT)



FOIA YOUR DISTRICT

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Having trouble acquiring a list of books? Don't worry, you can exercise your right to access public records through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

DO YOUR DUE DILIGENCE

Start by checking the school district's policy on open records requests. They may have a specific form that you will need to fill out to begin the process.



Next, complete CRI's FOIA or the school's open record form, specifically requesting a list of all cataloged books in the school library.

Scan Here Free FOIA Template





FOLLOW UP

Once submitted, mark your calendar with the submission and response due dates, and wait for the requested information to be provided.

REQUEST HELP

If you feel like the district is still withholding information or you have concerns to report please reach out to our staff at: PORNINSCHOOLS@GMAIL.COM



MODEL POLICY

Parents often face challenges when navigating policies related to inappropriate books because the district may lack transparency and school officials will attempt to prioritize the school's perspective over that of the community. In response to this dilemma, our parent organization, Capitol Resource Institute (CRI), created a new model policy that empowers the community and the elected school board to make important decisions about sensitive materials.

Under this model policy, those with the greatest investment in their own child's education and well-being will have the decision-making authority, and all voices will be heard and respected throughout the process. By involving the community and elected officials, this policy aims to establish a more transparent system for evaluating and potentially removing inappropriate materials from the library. We encourage you to advocate for this policy to be passed in your local school district for the benefit of all students and families.

Changing a school board policy can seem like a daunting task, but it's actually quite manageable if you follow a few simple steps. The first thing you'll need to do is understand the current policy and identify what changes you'd like to make. Then, you'll need to gather support from other parents and community members. Once you have a coalition of supporters, you will attend school board meetings and make your case for the policy change. With persistence and a well-organized plan, you can successfully advocate for a new policy that better allows the community to swiftly remove vulgar and pornographic books from the library shelves and classrooms in your local schools.



Model Policy to Challenge Vulgar Books in School Libraries

The (insert district name) Board of Education supports the fundamental right of parents and guardians to direct the care and upbringing of their children, including the right to be informed about and involved in all aspects of their child's education. This includes the right to monitor and challenge all non-curricular reading materials in the school library and within a teacher's classroom library. This Board believes that the library serves as a fundamental and necessary resource within the school setting, and to ensure that all students in ______ District continue to have access to materials that are age-appropriate and free from harmful elements, we will strive to foster trust between the district and parents/guardians by approving the following policy.

It is the policy of _____ District that:

Parents, students, staff, or residents of the school district may register a complaint and make a request to remove a specific item from a school or classroom library that is alleged to contain obscene or vulgar content or other elements considered unsuitable for minors.

For purposes of this policy, vulgar or obscene materials are printed or digital materials that contain:

- Visual or visually implied depictions of sexual acts or simulations of such acts
- · Explicit or implied written descriptions of sexual acts
- Visual depictions of nudity this does not include diagrams, photographs, drawings or related material used in science classes such as anatomy or biology, nor does it include content relating to classical works of art.

Materials that have been labeled as harmful to minors under state or federal law by a court or administrative body are also subject to this policy.

Once a formal complaint is received, the principal of the school in which the challenged material is located is required to remove the item and notify the district Superintendent of the removal within three days. Once notified, the Superintendent shall notify the school board within one business day. The board shall then hold a public hearing within forty-five days to determine whether the material is appropriate for student use or whether it is harmful to minors and therefore should be permanently removed from all district facilities.

The public hearing may be at a regularly scheduled board meeting or at a special session called for this specific purpose. The meeting must include a minimum of 30 minutes for public comment specific to the book or material in question. Immediately following public comment, the board will vote to determine if the book is suitable for students throughout ______ (district name) schools. If the board votes that it is unsuitable, said material shall be removed from all ______ (district name) schools within five days.

PARENTALRIGHTSCOUNCIL.ORG

THEKITCHENTABLEACTIVIST.COM

Next Steps

COURAGE IS CONTAGIOUS

Join us in this movement and share what you discover. Tag us on social media and encourage other parents to get involved. If you'd like to volunteer with Take Back the Classroom (TBTC) to search for obscene books in your district contact Dana at danaf@capitolresource.org.

YOUR LOCAL DISTRICT

Find obscene books that have been discovered in your district at www.takebacktheclassroom.com

QUESTIONS?

Email your questions to our team at porninschools@gmail.com



PARTNER WITH US



RECEIVE OUR EMAIL ALERTS

