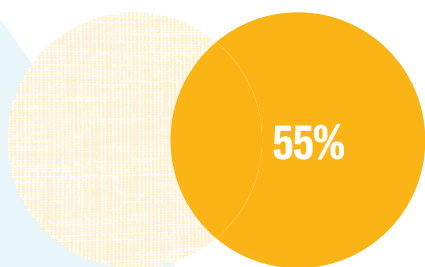
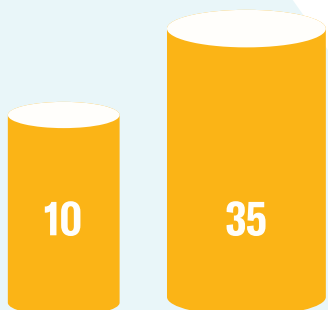




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This year 55% of schools in Texas responded to our request for information about banned and challenged books.



10 out of 35 of the books challenged were banned. The most frequently challenged book was *The Best Man* by Richard Peck .

In 2017-2018 we recorded 35 book challenges submitted to Texas schools. The books in question were challenged for various reasons, including violence (Thomas, Asher), political or racial offensiveness (Herthel, Telgemeier), or being upsetting to religious sensitivities (Riordan).

Twenty school districts logged book challenges during the school year. Some logged multiple challenges, including Cypress-Fairbanks and Katy Independent School Districts (ISDs).

School administrators made efforts to restrict access to challenged material without banning books outright. Book retention was the most frequent result of challenges this year.

While some books were moved to other campuses, a few were banned outright from library collections, including *Push* by Sapphire and *What my Mother Doesn't Know* by Sonja Jones.

BANNED BOOK

THE HATE U GIVE

Angie Thomas





BANNED

2017-2018

1.

WHAT MY MOTHER DOESN'T KNOW

Sonya Sones

Reason: language, sexual content

2.

THE HATE U GIVE

Angie Thomas

Reason: language, violence

3.

PUSH

Sapphire

Reason: language,
sexual content,
drug use

4.

Dios para Locos Bajitos

Enrique Barrios

Reason: language

BANNED BOOKS



SP4RX by Wren McDonald was removed from Northside ISD middle school libraries and was relocated to high school.

40%

of books removed from collections were permanently banned

KATY ISD

School: Mayde Creek JH

Book: The Hate U Give, Angie Thomas

- Reasons Cited: language, violence
- Action Taken: removed from middle school library; moved to HS

MISSION C. ISD

School: Mission Junior High

Book: Pretty Little Liars: Killer, Sara Shepard

- Reasons Cited: language, sexual content, violence
- Action Taken: Banned; removed permanently from library

AXTELL ISD

School: Axtell Elementary

Book: Timmy Failure, Stephan Pastis

- Reasons Cited: drug and alcohol use
- Action Taken: Removed from elementary school library; allowed to remain in MS and HS.

AXTELL ISD

School: Axtell High School

Book: What My Mother Doesn't Know, Sonja Jones

- Reasons Cited: profanity, sexual content
- Action Taken: Banned; permanently removed from library collection.

COOPER ISD

School: Cooper JH/HS

Book: Push, Sapphire

- Reasons Cited: language, sexual content, drug use
- Action Taken: Banned; permanently removed from library collection

GRAHAM ISD

School: Graham Junior High

Book: Ghost Story, Julian F. Thompson

- Reasons Cited: sexual content, drug or alcohol use
- Action Taken: Banned; permanently removed from library.

GRAHAM ISD

School: Graham Junior High

Book: Death Benefits, Sarah N. Harvey

- Reasons Cited: language, sexual content
- Action Taken: removed from junior high library; allowed to remain in HS

KATY ISD

School: WoodCreek Elementary

Book: The Graveyard Volumes I & II, Russell P. Craig

- Reasons Cited: violence
- Action Taken: removed from elementary school library; allowed to remain in MS and HS

NORTHSIDE ISD

School: Hobby Middle School

Book: Sp4rx, Wren McDonald

- Reasons Cited: profanity, 'adult content'
- Action Taken: removed from MS libraries; allowed to remain in HS

NEW BRAUNFELS ISD

School: Voss Farms Elementary

Book: Dios para Locos Bajitos, Enrique Barrios

- Reasons Cited: sexual content, drug and alcohol use
- Action Taken: Banned; permanently removed from library

CHALLENGED BOOKS



The Best Man by Richard Peck was challenged by three school districts, more than any other book this school year.

AXTELL ISD

School: Axtell High School

Books: *Princess in Training* by Meg Cabot, *Exposed* by Kimberly Marcus, *The Boy Most Likely* by Huntley Fitzpatrick

- Reasons Cited: language, sexual content, violence
- Action Taken: Reviewed and retained for older high school students, respectively

CARLISLE ISD

School: Carlisle JH/HS

Book: *I'm With Stupid and Stupid Fast Series*, Geoff Herbach

- Reasons Cited: language, sexual content
- Action Taken: Use restricted

GRAHAM ISD

School: Crestview Elementary

Book: *Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales*, Nathan Hale

- Reasons Cited: language, violence
- Action Taken: Retained, the material was altered to censor profanity

MESQUITE ISD

School: Mackey Elementary

Book: *The Best Man*, Richard Peck

- Reasons Cited: same-sex marriage
- Action Taken: Not banned, committee determined book met district standards

EAGLE MTN-SAGINAW ISD

School: Prairie Vista MS

Books: *Freak the Geek* by John Green, *I am Malala* by Malala Yousafai and Patricia McCormick

- Reasons Cited: language, religious references
- Action Taken: Edited version of story provided, and removed from reading list, respectively

CALHOUN COUNTY ISD

School: Jackson Roosevelt Elementary

Book: *The Best Man*, Richard Peck

- Reasons Cited: sexual content
- Action Taken: Use restricted

BEAUMOUNT ISD

School: Not Disclosed

Book: *Me Before You*, Jojo Moyes

- Reasons Cited: inappropriate content
- Action Taken: Content changed or deleted

MONTESSORI FOR ALL

School: Montessori For All

Book: *I am Jazz*, Jessica Herthel

- Reasons Cited: sexual content, politically, racially, or socially offensive
- Action Taken: Removed from elementary school library; allowed to remain in MS and HS

KILLEEN ISD

School: Pershing Park Elementary

Book: *Drama*, Raina Telgemeier

- Reasons Cited: politically, racially, or socially offensive
- Action Taken: Retained (no restriction)

LIVINGSTON ISD

School(s): All Middle Schools, Livingston High School

Books: *13 Reasons Why* by Jay Asher, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*, Mark Haddon

- Reasons Cited: language, sexual content, violence
- Action Taken: Use restricted, and retained (no restriction), respectively

CHALLENGED BOOKS



Drama by Raina Telgemeier was challenged for the third year in a row. Reasons cited include being politically, racially, or culturally offensive.

FORT BEND ISD

School: Lake Olympia Middle School

Book: *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, Mildred Taylor

- Reasons Cited: politically, racially, or socially offensive
- Action Taken: Content changed or deleted

PROSPER ISD

School: Prosper HS

Book: *A Separate Peace*, John Knowles

- Reasons Cited: Challenged due to community concern
- Action Taken: Book under review and advisement by administration; still available through school library

HALLETTSVILLE ISD

School: Hobby Middle School

Book: *The Best Man*, Richard Peck

- Reasons Cited: not disclosed
- Action Taken: Retained (no restriction)

SAN FELIPE DEL RIO CISD

School: Del Rio Middle School

Book: *Lying Out Loud*, Kody Keplinger

- Reasons Cited: language
- Action Taken: Alternate book provided

COLDSPRING-OAKHURST CISD

School: Coldspring Intermediate School

Book: *The House of Hades*, Rick Riordan

- Reasons Cited: offensive to religious sensibilities
- Action Taken: Retained (no restriction)

CYPRESS-FAIRBANKS ISD

School: Axtell Elementary

Book: *Timmy Failure*, Stephan Pastis

- Reasons Cited: drug and alcohol use
- Action Taken: Removed from elementary school library; allowed to remain in MS and HS

KLEIN ISD

School: French Elementary

Book: *PebbleGo Database*, Capstone Publishers

- Reasons Cited: politically, racially, or socially offensive
- Action Taken: Retained (no restriction)

YES PREP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School: All Schools

Book: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, Sherman Alexie

- Reasons Cited: politically, racially, or socially offensive
- Action Taken: Retained (no restriction)

CYPRESS-FAIRBANKS ISD

School(s): Cy-Fair HS, Bridgeland HS, Hamilton MS, Farney Elementary

Books: *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls, *FML* by Shaun David Hutchinson, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie, *Ghosts in Prison* by Lisa Owings

- Reasons Cited: sexual content or nudity, politically, racially, or socially offensive
- Action Taken: Retained (no restriction)

FRISCO ISD

School: Not Disclosed

Book: *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*, Christopher Paul Curtis

- Reasons Cited: language
- Action Taken: Retained (no restriction)

MCKINNEY ISD

School: Minshew Elementary

Book: *The Giver*, Lois Lowry

- Reasons Cited: sexual content and violence
- Action Taken: Retained (no restriction)