

Congress of THE United States,
began and held at the City of New York, on
Wednesday the fourth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.

Free People Read Freely

An Annual Report on Banned and Challenged Books in Texas, 2003-2004

THE Representatives of the United States, meeting at the City of New York, on Wednesday the fourth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine, do hereby certify to the People of the United States that the following Article, to be printed in the Constitution, shall be read and published in every State, Territory, and Possession, to be read to each child and juvenile as part of the said Constitution: 1797.

RECORDED

Article the first. After the first enumeration required by the first Article of the Constitution, there shall be one Representative for every thirty thousand, until the number shall amount to one hundred, after which the proportion shall have no other Regulation, than that one Representative shall be chosen for every fifty thousand persons, until the number of Representatives shall amount to two hundred, after which the proportion shall have no other Regulation, than that there shall not be less than one Representative for every fifty thousand persons.

Article the second. No law, varying the compensation for the Services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an increase of Compensation shall have been made.

Article the third. The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States, who shall hold his Office for four Years, and until another Person shall be chosen, he shall exercise the same.

Article the fourth. The judicial Power shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as may be from time to time ordained and established by Congress: but the Appointments, Removals, and Compensation of the Judges shall be regulated by Law.

Article the fifth. No State shall be deprived of Territory, without its Consent, nor shall any new State be admitted into the Union, without the Consent of the Congress, which Consent shall not be granted, unless the People of the State to be so admitted shall have petitioned for Admission, and shall have taken Oaths of Allegiance and of Fidelity to the United States, and shall have accepted of the said Constitution.

Article the sixth. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Article the seventh. All bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as to the Form of such Bills.

Article the eighth. No Bill shall be passed for raising or borrowing Money on the Credit of the United States, unless authorized by Appropriation, and for the Support of that Credit, unless authorized by Law.

Article the ninth. No Tax shall be laid on Imports or Exports, without the Consent of the Congress, except for Execution of the Laws, and no Tax shall be laid on Articles exported from any State.

Article the tenth. No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation, or State shall grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, or enter into any War, unless authorized by Congress, and except in Cases of actual Invasion or imminent Danger, no State shall enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or with the Indians, without the Consent of the Congress: provided that the Congress may, by Law, alter the foregoing Provisions.

Article the eleventh. The Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors in that State.

Article the twelfth. The Electors shall meet in one or more Cities, which shall be named by Congress, and they shall vote by Ballot for two Persons, in whose Opinion they shall give the Majority of their Votes, one of whom shall be President, and the other Vice-President; but no Person shall be eligible for either Office, who has not attained to the Age of thirty five Years, in the Case of the President, and seven Years, in the Case of the Vice-President, and who has not been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who was not, when elected, born within the same.

Article the thirteenth. The Electors shall vote for President and Vice-President, in separate Ballots, the Name of one of which shall be written on the Ballot for President, and the Name of the other on the Ballot for Vice-President; and the Person having the greatest Number of Votes for President, shall be the President; but if no Person have a Majority of the whole Number of Electors, then the Electors shall vote by Ballot for three Persons, in whose Opinion they shall give the Majority of their Votes, and the Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President; but if no Person have a Majority of the whole Number of Electors, then the Electors shall vote by Ballot for three Persons, in whose Opinion they shall give the Majority of their Votes, and the Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President; but if no Person have a Majority of the whole Number of Electors, then the Electors shall vote by Ballot for three Persons, in whose Opinion they shall give the Majority of their Votes, and the Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President.

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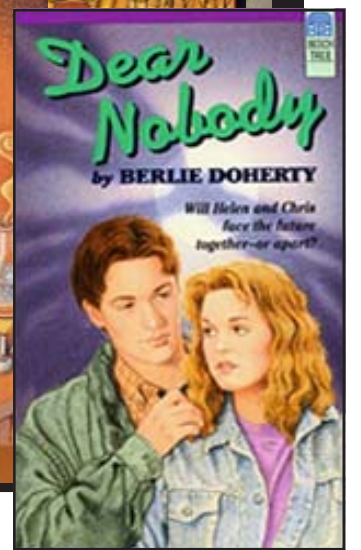
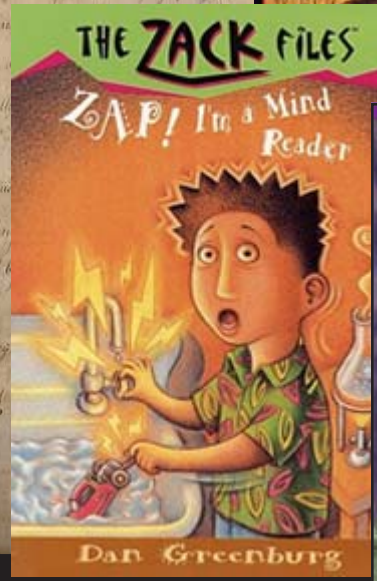
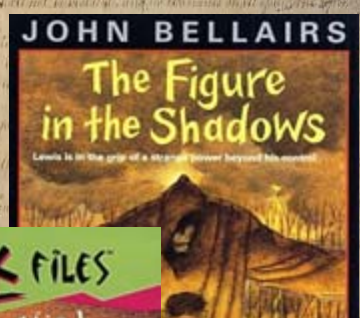




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Banned and Challenged Books in Texas Public Schools, 2003-2004

A Report of the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas

"To suppress free speech is a double wrong. It violates the rights of the hearer as well as those of the speaker." – Frederick Douglass, American abolitionist, author, and orator (1817-1895)

"People demand freedom of speech to make up for the freedom of thought which they avoid." – Soren Kierkegaard, Danish philosopher and religious thinker (1813-1855)

"Censorship reflects a society's lack of confidence in itself. It is the hallmark of an authoritarian regime..." – U.S. Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart, dissenting in *Ginsberg v. U. S.* (383 U.S. 463)

"And when we do that, shut off the dialogue, we do violence to the First Amendment and to the children of this generation and the next generation..." – John Henry Faulk, Texas humorist and author (1913-1990)

This is the ACLU of Texas' eighth consecutive annual report on censorship in Texas public schools. Again this year, the **Texas Library Association** has joined the ACLU in sponsoring this report, which is based on information furnished by Texas' nearly 1260 Independent School Districts (ISDs) and charter schools. The body of the report, which is indexed by book title, lists:

- the book's author(s)
- the district or charter school in which it was challenged
- the city in which the district is located (if different from the name of the district)
- the setting (library or curriculum)
- the reason(s) for the challenge: violence/horror; sexual content; profanity/inappropriate language; mysticism/paganism; or "other"
- the result of the challenge: banned; use restricted; retained; altered; alternate book allowed; decision pending; or not indicated
- any additional remarks made by the school employee furnishing the report

Indexes by author and school district appear at the end of this report.

Statistical Summary

In 2003-2004, **88** independent school districts (including the Texas Youth Commission) and charter schools banned or faced challenges to **151 different books and one video** used in their libraries and/or curricula. This is slightly more than 2002-2003's statistics: **134** challenges reported in **71** school districts.

In this year's report, no book stands out as the "most-challenged." In recent years, **J.R. Rowling's** popular ***Harry Potter*** series has surpassed other books in generating challenges and bans. In the 2001-2002 school year, *Harry Potter* books were the most often challenged books, with 71 challenges reported by 21 different districts; in most cases, the challenges were made to "all *Harry Potter* books." Last year, four ISDs faced challenges to *Harry Potter* books. Once again, four ISDs faced *Potter* challenges this year: **Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD, Venus ISD, Clyde CISD, and Dripping Springs ISD.**



El Campo ISD faced a challenge to Tamara L. Roleff's ***Abortion: Opposing Viewpoints*** after a pro-life employee complained about the book's presence in the El Campo High School school library. The school district eventually retained Roleff's book, a collection of articles written for high school students that explores differing perspectives and viewpoints on abortion.

However, 2003-2004 did produce a most-banned author: **Phyllis Reynolds Naylor**, who was also the most frequently banned author of 2002-2003. Naylor writes a series of books about Alice McKinley, a teenager who copes with the problems and complexities of growing up and adolescence. **Ector County, Klein, and Conroe** ISDs faced “Alice” challenges. Naylor’s trilogy about Shiloh, an abused beagle, also produced challenges: **Shiloh (Round Rock ISD)** and **Saving Shiloh (Carthage ISD)** made our list.

Lueders-Avooca ISD faced more challenges than any other ISD this year, banning **18** titles from the Lueders Elementary school library. Coming in second place was Houston’s **Cypress-Fairbanks ISD**, with **nine** challenges. In 2002-2003, the top book-banning ISD was **McKinney ISD**, which this year faced only one challenge -- to **Eloise in Paris** by **Kay Thompson** and **Hilary Knight**. The book was retained. Last year, McKinney faced **11** challenges and banned **five** books.

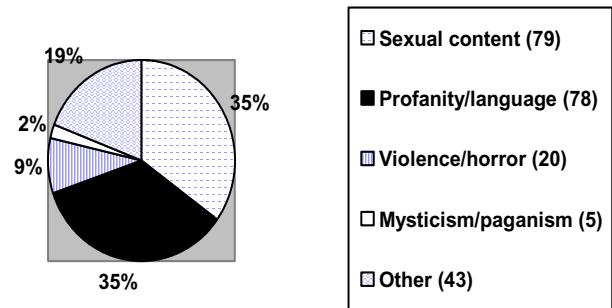
Banned books are those physically removed from a library. Restricted books remain in the library but can’t be accessed by all students. Some restrictions are so severe as to be tantamount to banning. This year, 6% more books were banned than retained. The overwhelming majority of books challenged or banned appeared in libraries (148 instances). Nineteen were used in curricula. One book was used in neither setting, and five were challenged or banned from an unreported setting.

Results:

- Banned (62 instances)(36%)
- Retained/no restriction on use (53 instances)(30%)
- Use/access restricted (33 instances)(19%)
- Alternate allowed in curriculum or reading list (11 instances) (6%)
- Final decision pending (10 instances)(6%)
- Altered (three instances)(2%)
- Not indicated (two instances)(1%)

Highlights

Reasons for book challenges fall into several distinct categories (see chart), as well as “**other**” (clarified by many, but not all, ISDs in their responses). Some “other” explanations included “reference to Jesus,” “misunderstood by students,” and “not suitable for age group.”



In “liberal” **Austin**, the local ISD reported two challenges: **Barbara Park’s Junie B. Jones** series, which the ISD reported was “altered”; and **Iona and Peter Opie’s I Saw Esau: The Schoolchild’s Pocket Book**, which was retained. Austin reported its *Jones* challenge as an unspecific, single entry, so we have listed it as such. **Hays Consolidated ISD**, located in the more conservative Austin metropolitan area, faced a challenge to **Joanna Cole’s My Puppy Is Born**, due to “photographs on page 6-7.” The ISD eventually retained the book.

ISDs faced many challenges to books by and about **African Americans** (see box for list), including the classic **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings** by **Maya Angelou**. Challenged or banned classics also include **Peter Pan** by **J.M. Barrie**; **Bless Me, Ultima** by **Rudolfo Anaya**; **Of Mice and Men** by **John Steinbeck**; **1984** by **George Orwell**; **Brave New World** by **Aldous Huxley**; and **The Ox-Bow Incident** by **Walter Van Tilburg Clark**.

Reasons for Challenges and Bans

Sexual content: This year, more books faced challenges due to **sexual content** than for any other specific reason provided to ISDs in our data collection survey. This is the same outcome as in the

2002-2003 school year. Many parents and administrators simply object to sex education of any kind in schools, or oppose references to homosexuality – a common topic in many of this year’s challenged books.

As with complaints about books containing references to the supernatural, wizards, etc. – much more numerous in the early years of *Harry Potter* – complaints about sexual content seem to be based on religious fundamentalism, and are associated with the increased activism of right-wing religious groups. It appears that some religious activists consider that any description of sex, outside the context of abstinence, encourages promiscuity. The increasing trend to oppose books for this reason is disturbing, due to the illustrated need for increased sex education in schools (for instance, Texas’ high teen pregnancy rate).

Profanity/inappropriate language:

Many books contain language that might be offensive to some people, for reasons of profanity or for derogatory or blasphemous content. One interesting complaint this year came from **Van Vleck ISD**, where a parent challenged **Maya Angelou’s *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*** after being “offended by the African-American Southern dialect used in the book.” According to the ISD, “the parent was satisfied with teacher’s explanation of the author’s use of dialect,” and the book remained in use at O.H. Herman Middle School without restriction.

Violence/horror: Compared to last year, challenges for this reason increased slightly. Books challenged or banned typically dealt with issues such as suicide (**Eric E. Rofes’ *The Kids’ Book About Death and Dying***) and murder (the ***Final Friends*** trilogy by **Christopher Pike**; **Richard Worth** and **Austin Sarat’s *Children, Violence, and Murder***).

Mysticism/paganism: Challenges were fewer than in 2002-2003. Some complaints focused on books’ discussion of religion. In Round Rock ISD, a parent complained about **Phyllis Reynolds Naylor’s *Shiloh*** because his Jewish son was asked to read the book. The parent “objected to a reference to praying to Jesus,” explained an ISD representative, and the student received an alternate assignment.

How We Compiled Our Report

The ACLU of Texas uses a list of school district numbers, names, addresses and other data compiled for the **Texas Education Agency** and offered on its Web site. Using this database, volunteers mailed requests for information to all Texas Independent School Districts and charter schools under the authority of the **Texas Public Information Act**, Texas Government Code Ch. 552 (formerly known as the Texas Open Records Act). State law requires that public entities are to respond to such inquiries within 10 days. Included in the mailing are forms enabling school administrators to remit the request-

Books by or about African Americans, challenged or banned by Texas ISDs

- Black Book (Diary of a Teenage Stud) Vol. III: Run, Jonah, Run**, Jonah Black
- Black Boy**, Richard Wright
- Black Talk: Words and Phrases from the Hood to the Amen Corner**, Geneva Smitherman
- Blue Star Rapture**, James W. Bennett
- Born in Sin**, Evelyn Coleman
- The Color Purple**, Alice Walker
- Every Time a Rainbow Dies**, Rita Williams-Garcia
- Flyy Girl**, Omar Tyree
- From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun**, Jacqueline Woodson
- I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings**, Maya Angelou
- Just the Two of Us**, Will Smith
- Nightjohn**, Gary Paulsen
- A Rainbow of Gangs: Street Cultures in the Mega-City**, James Diego Vigil
- Slave Day**, Rob Thomas
- Smart Mouth: Poetry & Prose**, WritersCorps youth
- The Well**, Mildred D. Taylor
- What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day**, Pearl Cleage
- Yolonda’s Genius**, Carol Fenner

ed information in a simple, straightforward process. Respondents either mail or fax the form to the ACLU of Texas office, or respond via an online form posted at www.bannedbooks.info. Information from these reports is entered into a spreadsheet and converted into the report. ACLU volunteers write all book synopses.

Texas Library Association Resources

No statewide, mandated standard for dealing with book challenges to public schools yet exists. Individual school districts manage book challenges in different ways. Some have adopted a written standard policy, which requires a formal review process by an established committee, while others leave the decision to teachers, principals and/or librarians. One district summarized its approved policy for addressing complaints as follows: "The major criterion for the final decision on challenged materials is the appropriateness of the material for its intended educational use. No challenged library material shall be removed solely because of the ideas expressed therein." Based on this information, a procedure similar to this would appear to be vague and subject to abuse at many levels.

The **Texas Library Association** offers a model policy for dealing with book challenges in its Intellectual Freedom Handbook, which also offers library book selection criteria guidance in several sections. You can access the Handbook at www.txla.org/pubs/ifhbk.html. The ACLU strongly recommends adoption of a standard policy, based on the TLA procedures, to be used by all public schools.

Acknowledgements

In most cases, ISD librarians and administrators responded promptly to our information requests. Often beset by special interest appeals to ban books from libraries and curricula, these individuals merit the thanks and appreciation of students and citizens who oppose censorship. However, a few school officials expressed strong resentment to our request. Some returned our forms without indicating which district they represented. Another official asked us why the ACLU only fought for "liberal" groups. The ACLU supports all individuals and groups facing censorship, regardless of political ideology or religious affiliation.

The following volunteers gave of their time and expertise (in alphabetical order):

- **Denise Brady:** Synopses and legal.
- **Deb Calderon:** ACLU Administrative Assistant. Mail and faxes.
- **S. Lee Leffingwell:** Director emeritus. Consultation.
- **Holly Martin:** ACLU summer 2004 law clerk. Fact-checking.
- **Matt Sharp:** ACLU summer 2004 law clerk. Fact-checking.
- **David Smith:** Webmaster, data management.

The project also extends much thanks to ACLU Executive Director **Will Harrell** and Development Director **James Canup**.

Report compiled, written, and designed by **Lauri Apple**.

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Banned Books (62 instances)

The Adventures of Super Diaper Baby: the First Graphic Novel

Dav Pilkey, Harold Hutchins, and George Beard

After the Rain

Norma Fox Mazer

Alice on the Outside

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

The Beet Fields: Memories of a Sixteenth Summer

Gary Paulsen

Black Talk: Words and Phrases from the Hood to the Amen Corner

Geneva Smitherman

Blue Star Rapture

James W. Bennett

Born in Sin

Evelyn Coleman

Both Sides Now

Ruth Pennebaker

The Boy Who Cried 'Wolf!'

Ellen Schecter

Changing Bodies, Changing Lives: A Handbook for Teenagers

Ruth Bell Alexander

Cosmos Coyote and William the Nice

Jim Heynen

Cowboy Ghost

Robert Newton Peck

Crack: The New Drug Epidemic

Gilda Berger

Crazy: A Novel

Benjamin Lebert

The Story of the X-Men: How It All Began

Michael Teitelbaum

Cut

Patricia McCormick

A Dance for Three

Louise Plummer

Daughter of Fortune

Isabel Allende

Drugs

Gail B. Stewart

Educating Esmé: Diary of a Teacher's First Year

Esmé Raji Codell

Ella Enchanted

Gail Carson Levine

Enchantment

Orson Scott Card

Every Time a Rainbow Dies

Rita Williams-Garcia

The Facts Speak for Themselves

Brock Cole

Faerie Wars

Herbie Brennan

The Figure in the Shadows

John Bellairs

Give a Boy a Gun

Todd Strasser

The Giver

Lois Lowry

I Saw Esau: The Schoolchild's Pocket Book

Iona and Peter Opie

In the Night Kitchen

Maurice Sendak

The Innocents Within

Robert Daley

It's Perfectly Normal: Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex, and Sexual Health

Robie H. Harris

It's So Amazing! A Book About Eggs, Sperm, Birth, Babies, and Families

Robie H. Harris

Jack & Jill

James Patterson

Leslie's Journal

Allan Stratton

Letters from the Inside

John Marsden

Mama puso un huero! O como se hacen los ninos (Mommy Laid an Egg: or Where Do Babies Come From?)

Babette Cole

Nightjohn

Gary Paulsen

On the Edge: Stories at the Brink

Lois Duncan (editor)

Pedro and Me: Friendship, Loss, and What I Learned

Judd Winick

The Period Book: Everything You Don't Want to Ask (But Need to Know)

Karen Gravelle and Jennifer Gravelle

The Perks of Being a Wallflower

Stephen Chbosky

Plainsong

Kent Haruf

The Rag and Bone Shop

Robert Cormier

A Rainbow of Gangs: Street Cultures in the Mega-City

James Diego Vigil

Secret Sacrament

Sherryl Jordan

Seek

Paul Fleischman

Slave Day

Rob Thomas

Slot Machine

Chris Lynch

Smart Mouth: Poetry & Prose

WritersCorps Youth

Stormy Night

Michele Lemieux

Suicide (Opposing Viewpoints)

David Bender

That Was Then, This Is Now

S.E. Hinton

Tithe: A Modern Faerie Tale

Holly Black

The Upstairs Room

Johanna Reiss

What's in a Name

Ellen Wittlinger

What My Mother Doesn't Know

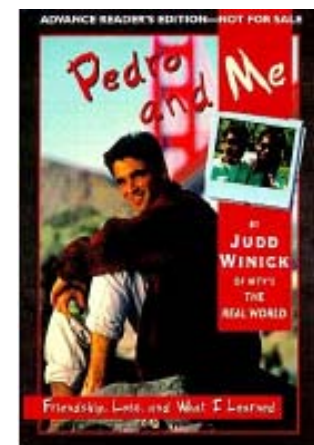
Sonya Sonos

When Dad Killed Mom

Julius Lester

Zap! I'm a Mind Reader

Dan Greenburg



Challenged Books

Abortion: Opposing Viewpoints

Tamara L. Roleff

Artemis Fowl: The Eternity Code

Eoin Colfer

Black Book (Diary of a Teenage Stud) Vol. III: Run, Jonah, Run

Jonah Black

Bless Me, Ultima

Rudolfo Anaya

Blubber

Judy Blume

Brave New World

Aldous Huxley

Bridge to Terabithia

Katherine Paterson

A Child Called "It": One Child's Courage to Survive

Dave Pelzer

Children, Violence, and Murder

Richard Worth and Austin Sarat

Dangerous Environments

Missy Allen and Michel Peissed

Don't Step on the Crack!

Colin McNaughton

Draw Me a Star

Eric Carle

The Drowned

Elizabeth Levy

El Leon, la Bruja y El Ropero (The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe)

C.S. Lewis

Eloise in Paris

Kay Thompson

The Encyclopedia of Serial Killers

Michael Newton

Fat Camp Commandos

Daniel Pinkwater and Andy Rash

The Fighting Ground

Avi

Flyy Girl

Omar Tyree

Forever

Judy Blume

Gib Rides Home

Zilpha Keatley Snyder

Goosebumps Series

R.L. Stine

The Great Gilly Hopkins

Katherine Paterson

Halloween ABC

Eve Merriam

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

J. K. Rowling

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

J. K. Rowling

Harry Potter series

J.K. Rowling

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

Maya Angelou

Iceman

Chris Lynch

Junie B. Jones series

Barbara Park

A Light in the Attic

Shel Silverstein

Lostman's River

Cynthia DeFelice

Mai the Psychic Girl

Kazuya Kudo and Ryoichi Ikegami

Mick Harte Was Here

Barbara Park

My Father's Scar: A Novel

Michael Cart

My Puppy Is Born

Joanna Cole

Of Mice and Men

John Steinbeck

Peter Pan

J.M. Barrie

Psychological Disorders Related to Designer Drugs

Elizabeth Connolly

Remember Me 2: The Return

Christopher Pike

Saving Shiloh

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark

Alvin Schwartz

Shiloh

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

Sinatra: A Life Remembered

Lew Irwin

Stranger in a Strange Land

Robert A. Heinlein

Stuck in Neutral

Terry Trueman

Tangerine

Edward Bloor

Vatos

José Galvez and Luis Alberto Urrea

The Well

Mildred D. Taylor

The Winner

David Baldacci

The Wish

Gail Carson Levine

What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day

Pearl Cleage

Yolonda's Genius

Carol Fenner

Decision Pending (10 instances)

The Chocolate War
Robert Cormier

Life Is Funny
E.R. Frank

Crazy: A Novel
Benjamin Lebert

Mara in the Morning
C.B. Christiansen

Final Friends (trilogy)
Christopher Pike

Memory Boy
Will Weaver

Harry Goes to Day Camp

James Ziefert and Mavis Smith

Stop Those Pants!
Mordicai Gerstein

What My Mother Doesn't Know
Sonya Sones

Just the Two of Us
Will Smith

Use Restricted (33 instances)

1984

George Orwell

Alice Alone

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

All American Girl

Meg Cabot

Amanda's Wedding

Jenny Colgan

Beware of Kissing**Lizard Lips**

Phyllis Shalant

Black Boy

Richard Wright

The Color Purple

Alice Walker

Cut

Patricia McCormick

Dear Nobody

Berlie Doherty

Flipped (A Texas**Bluebonnet Book)**

Wendelin Van Draanen

Flowers for Algernon

Daniel Keyes

**From the Notebooks of
Melanin Sun**

Jacqueline Woodson

Hate Crimes

Laura D'Angelo

**Hatemongers and
Demagogues**

Thomas Streissguth

In the Night Kitchen

Maurice Sendak

**Introducing
Michaelangelo**

Robin Richmond

**It's an Aardvark-Eat-
Turtle World**

Paula Danziger

The Kids' Book About**Death and Dying**

Eric E. Rofes

Magic Fire

Christopher Pike

Nathan's Run

John Gilstrap

The Ox-Bow Incident

Walter Van Tilburg Clark

Patriot Games

Tom Clancy

**Princess in the
Spotlight**

Meg Cabot

**Psychological Effects
of Cocaine and Crack
Addiction**

Ann E. Holmes, Carol C.
Nadelson and Claire E.
Reinburg

Sexual Politics

Kate Millett

The Silver Kiss

Annette Curtis Klause

Sloppy Firsts

Megan McCafferty

**Snow Falling on
Cedars**

David Guterson

Song for a Shadow

Bernie MacKinnon

Vampires

Janet Perry and Victor
Gentle

**What Happens When
You Grow?**

Joy Richardson

When Dad Killed Mom

Julius Lester

**The White Power
Movement: America's
Racist Hate Groups**

Elaine Landau

Banned and Challenged Books Synopses

[Quotations in "Notes" are taken from forms completed by ISD staff.]

1984

Author: Orwell, George

Synopsis: Set in 1984 London, this classic depicts a world in which Big Brother's always watching, the Thought Police can practically read minds, and the Party dictates "the Truth." Caught up in this frightening society is Winston Smith, who is in danger because he retains his memory and remains aware that the Party's truth is fiction.

School District: Round Rock ISD

Location: Round Rock

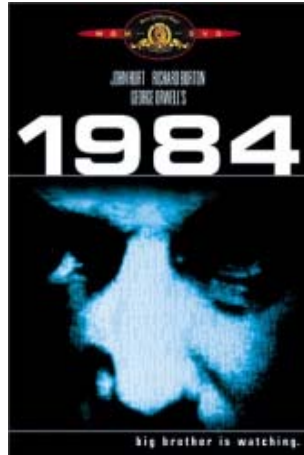
School(s) Involved: Stony Point Ninth Grade Center

Setting: Library and curriculum

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Use restricted

Notes: A parent challenged the book after her daughter was assigned to read it. An alternate title was assigned.



Synopsis: When the school principal finds George and Harold causing havoc in the cafeteria, he assigns them each an essay on good citizenship so they will not write another comic about their superhero, Captain Underpants. Instead, George and Harold write about a new character superhero: Super Diaper Baby and his fight against evil Deputy Doo-Doo.

School District: Friendswood ISD

Location: Friendswood

School(s) Involved: Westwood Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Inappropriate language

Result: Retained

Notes: Parent request.

School District: O'Donnell ISD

Location: O'Donnell

School(s) Involved: O'Donnell Elementary School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Inappropriate language; sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

Abortion: Opposing Viewpoints

Author: Roleff, Tamara L.

Synopsis: A collection of articles exploring differing perspectives and viewpoints on abortion, written for high school students.

School District: El Campo ISD

Location: El Campo

School(s) Involved: El Campo High School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Retained

Notes: "Staff member is totally against abortion for any reason. However, after looking at the entire book, she agreed that both sides of the issue were presented and fully discussed, and dropped her opposition to [it.]"

After the Rain

Author: Mazer, Norma Fox

Synopsis: Fifteen-year-old Rachel worries about everything. As her crotchety grandfather approaches death, she reaches out to him and comes to better understand herself and her world.

School District: Darrouzett ISD

Location: Darrouzett

School(s) Involved: Darrouzett Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: The book will be reviewed by a committee during the summer.

The Adventures of Super Diaper Baby: The First Graphic Novel

Author: Pilkey, Dav; Hutchins, Harold; and George Beard

Alice Alone

Author: Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds

Synopsis: From the continuing series about Alice McKinley, an adolescent girl. This volume finds

Alice in the ninth grade and struggling with family issues (as the only female in her motherless family), a new classmate's challenge to her longtime relationship with her boyfriend, and a startling revelation of sexual abuse from one of her classmates.

School District: Conroe ISD
Location: Conroe
School(s) Involved: Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Use restricted
Notes: Placed in intermediate library.

Alice in April

Author: Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
Synopsis: From the continuing series about Alice McKinley, an adolescent girl. In this volume, Alice faces her thirteenth birthday, and deals with puberty, bodily changes, her family, and an acquaintance's suicide.

School District: Klein ISD
Location: Klein
School(s) Involved: Roth Elementary
Setting: Not indicated
Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content
Result: Not indicated
Notes: None.

Alice on the Outside

Author: Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
Synopsis: Alice McKinley is in the eighth grade and wonders about the status of her relationship with her boyfriend, Patrick; gains some insight into the nature of prejudice from a weeklong, consciousness-raising exercise at school; and deals with the crush that another female student has on her.

School District: Ector ISD
Location: Ector
School(s) Involved: Blanton Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Banned
Notes: A parent informally challenged the book, claiming that it contained adult material.

All American Girl

Author: Meg Cabot
Synopsis: The trials and tribulations of Sam, a 15-year-old girl and self-described "urban rebel" living in Washington D.C. who falls in love with the boyfriend of her sister, a popular cheerleader. When Sam inadvertently saves the life of the President of the United States, she becomes a national hero overnight, is named teen ambassador to the United Nations, and gets the president's son as her boyfriend.



School District: Pleasant Grove ISD
Location: Texarkana
School(s) Involved: Pleasant Grove Middle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language; other
Result: Use restricted
Notes: Inappropriate subject matter.

Amanda's Wedding

Author: Colgan, Jenny
Synopsis: The lives and loves of several twenty-something female Londoners, chronicled in the style of the popular film *Bridget Jones's Diary*.

School District: Denison ISD
Location: Denison
School(s) Involved: Denison High School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language
Result: Use restricted
Notes: None.

Artemis Fowl: The Eternity Code

Author: Colfer, Eoin
Synopsis: The third in a series of fantasy adventures of an adolescent boy criminal "mastermind."

School District: Mesquite ISD
Location: Mesquite
School(s) Involved: Rutherford Elementary
Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; violence/horror

Result: Retained

Notes: A committee reviewed the book.

The Beet Fields: Memories of a Sixteenth Summer

Author: Paulsen, Gary

Synopsis: For a 16-year-old boy out in the world alone for the first time, every day is an education in the hard work and boredom of migrant labor. Every day teaches him something more about friendship, hunger, or profanity. He joins up with a carnival and becomes a grunt, running a ride and shilling for the show.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD

Location: Lueders

School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

School District: Vidor ISD

Location: Vidor

School(s) Involved: Vidor Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

Beware of Kissing Lizard Lips

Author: Shalant, Phyllis

Synopsis: A scrawny sixth-grade boy discovers girls and gains confidence through learning martial arts.

School District: Houston ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Emerson Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Retained

Notes: Parent challenge.

School District: Winnsboro ISD

Location: Winnsboro

School(s) Involved: Memorial Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Use restricted

Notes: "The book was previously marked, '7th- and 8th-grade only.' The grandmother of a fifth-grader felt the book contained offensive passages. Upon examination of said passages by the principal and librarian, the decision to allow the book to remain 'as-is' was upheld."

Black Book (Diary of a Teenage Stud) Vol. III: Run, Jonah, Run

Author: Black, Jonah

Synopsis: Jonah is about to lose his virginity, but a call from his ex-girlfriend changes the mood.

School District: Crowley ISD

Location: Crowley

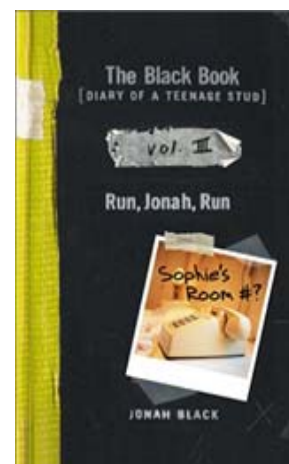
School(s) Involved: Crowley Ninth Grade

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Retained

Notes: None.



Black Boy

Author: Wright, Richard

Synopsis: An autobiography describing Wright's coming of age in poor, racist, rural Mississippi and Memphis, Tenn.

School District: Pearland ISD

Location: Pearland

School(s) Involved: Ninth grade center

Setting: Curriculum

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Use restricted/alternate book allowed

Notes: Novel removed from curriculum; excerpt in textbook will be used.

Black Talk: Words and Phrases from the Hood to the Amen Corner

Author: Smitherman, Geneva

Synopsis: The book opens the hidden history of African-American culture as expressed through contemporary “Black English,” and is written as a dictionary of words and phrases unique to the culture: for examples, “kitchen,” “jump salty,” and “got her nose open.”

School District: Texas Youth Commission
School(s) Involved: Corsicana Residential Treatment Center
Location: Corsicana
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language
Result: Banned
Notes: Teacher challenge.

Bless Me, Ultima

Author: Anaya, Rudolfo
Synopsis: Antonio, a young Hispanic boy living in New Mexico, faces a more complex maturation process after Ultima, a “curandera,” comes to live with his family. Antonio is torn between his traditional Catholic beliefs and the influence of Ultima, who cures with herbs and uses supernatural forces to combat the evil in their midst.

School District: Orangefield ISD
Location: Orangefield
School(s) Involved: High School
Setting: Curriculum
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Alternate book allowed
Notes: Religious objection to character in book. Student received an alternate assignment.

School District: Van Vleck ISD
Location: Van Vleck
School(s) Involved: Van Vleck High School
Setting: Curriculum
Reason Cited: Profanity/language
Result: Alternate book allowed
Notes: None.

Blubber

Author: Blume, Judy
Synopsis: Julie and her classmates tease their overweight classmate Linda, but their schemes to torment her backfire when the tables are turned.

School District: Friendswood ISD
Location: Friendswood

School(s) Involved: Bales Intermediate School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language
Result: Retained
Notes: None.

Blue Star Rapture

Author: Bennett, James W.
Synopsis: T.J. Nucci, a cigarette-smoking junior, has a life-changing experience during a week of basketball camp.

School District: Beaumont ISD
Location: Beaumont
School(s) Involved: Elementary and Middle schools
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: Executive warning from district lead librarian after teacher/principal complaints. Few libraries at elementary or middle school levels actually had title in campus collections. “This book is simply inappropriate for lower-grade levels.”



Born in Sin

Author: Coleman, Evelyn
Synopsis: Fourteen-year-old Keisha lives in a Georgia housing project full of drug dealers, but works hard in school and is determined to achieve her goals. She overcomes the discouragement of school administrators and threats from a local drug lord, and ends up training for the Olympics in swimming.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD
Location: Lueders
School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

Both Sides Now

Author: Pennebaker, Ruth

Synopsis: Fifteen-year-old, ultra-responsible Liza has her life under control until her creative mother is diagnosed with breast cancer. Liza's life begins to fall apart, until she learns to accept the uncertainties of life and come to terms with her mother's illness.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD

Location: Lueders

School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity; sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

The Boy Who Cried 'Wolf!'

Author: Schecter, Ellen

Synopsis: Retelling of the traditional fable for young readers. Illustrated by Gary Chalk.

School District: China Spring ISD

Location: China Spring

School(s) Involved: China Spring Elementary

Setting: Not indicated

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

Brave New World

Author: Huxley, Aldous

Synopsis: This novel describes a utopian state in which everyone consumes daily doses of "soma," babies are born in laboratories, and the most popular form of entertainment is "Feelie," a movie that stimulates the senses of sight, hearing, and touch. There is no violence, and every need is provided for, but Bernard feels that something is missing. He senses that his relationship with a young



woman has potential beyond the confines of their normal existence.

School District: South Texas ISD

Location: Mercedes

School(s) Involved: Science Academy

Setting: Curriculum

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Retained/alternate book allowed

Notes: Alternate books offered as per board policy (policy unchanged; administrative guidelines reviewed and revised).

Bridge to Terabithia

Author: Paterson, Katherine

Synopsis: Jesse's dull rural world expands when he befriends Leslie, the new girl in school, and they create the secret world of Terabithia beneath a tree. When Leslie dies while trying to reach Terabithia in a storm, Jesse struggles with her death and the effect her life had upon his.

School District: Nederland ISD

Location: Nederland

School(s) Involved: Central Middle School

Setting: Curriculum

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Content changed/deleted

Notes: None.

Changing Bodies, Changing Lives: A Handbook for Teenagers

Author: Alexander, Ruth Bell

Synopsis: Written by the authors of *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, this book discusses health and sexuality issues for teenagers, including puberty, STDs and the danger of promiscuous sex, and teenage pregnancy and its alternatives. Illustrated with cartoons, photographs, diagrams, and line drawings. Includes interviews with teenagers.

School District: Texas Youth Commission

Location: Corsicana

School(s) Involved: Corsicana Residential Treatment Center

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: Assistant superintendent and principal challenge.

A Child Called “It”: One Child’s Courage to Survive

Author: Pelzer, Dave

Synopsis: Autobiographical story of a boy’s child abuse as his alcoholic mother isolates him from the rest of the family, torments him, and tries to kill him by starving, poisoning and stabbing him. One in a series.

School District: Clear Creek ISD

Location: League City

School(s) Involved: Brookside Intermediate

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Violence/horror

Result: Retained

Notes: Book challenged by a sixth-grader’s parent.

Children, Violence, and Murder

Author: Worth, Richard and Austin Sarat

Synopsis: Explores causes of violent crime involving children as well as attitudes toward child criminals. Profiles case histories of young murderers and tragedies such as the Columbine High School shooting.

School District: Wharton ISD

Location: Wharton

School(s) Involved: Wharton Junior High School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Violence/horror

Result: Retained

Notes: This is the same challenge reported last year as a “decision pending.”

The Chocolate War

Author: Cormier, Robert

Synopsis: Stunned by his mother’s recent death, and appalled by the way his father sleepwalks through life, Jerry Renault, a New England high school student, ponders the poster in his locker that asks, “Do I dare disturb the universe?” Jerry defies the school bully, Archie, and is at first a hero, then a victim. Citations include “ALA Best Book for Young Adults.”

School District: Athens ISD

Location: Athens

School(s) Involved: Athens High School

Setting: Curriculum

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Decision pending

Notes: None.

The Color Purple

Author: Walker, Alice

Synopsis: A moving novel about an abused and uneducated black woman’s search for empowerment. Winner of the 1983 Pulitzer Prize.

School District: Joshua ISD

Location: Joshua

School(s) Involved: Loflin Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Use restricted

Notes: None.

Cosmos Coyote and William the Nice

Author: Heynen, Jim

Synopsis: When Cosmos DeHaag leaves Seattle after a brush with the law, he goes to live with his conservative Christian relatives in Iowa. In order to get along, he develops an alter ego, William the Nice. When he falls in love with Cherilyn, who is a charismatic Christian, he begins to have trouble distinguishing truth from falsehood as his two personalities come into conflict.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD

Location: Lueders

School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

School District: Texas Youth Commission

Location: Crockett

School(s) Involved: Crockett State School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Banned

Notes: All-male campus, caused classroom disruptions.

Cowboy Ghost

Author: Peck, Robert Newton

Synopsis: The story of 16-year-old Titus's transition out of boyhood during a cattle drive in 1924 Florida. Titus and his crew battle Indians and cattle thieves and unpredictable weather, and receive words of wisdom from a "cowboy ghost."

School District: Ector County ISD

Location: Odessa

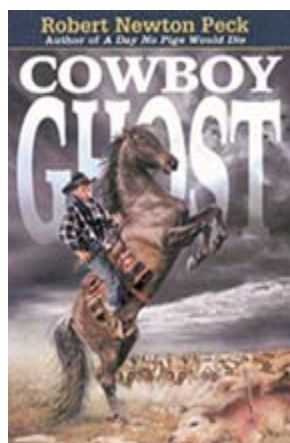
School(s) Involved: Blanton Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Banned

Notes: A parent informally challenged the book, claiming it contained adult material.



Crack: The New Drug Epidemic

Author: Berger, Gilda

Synopsis: Explores the drug crack (the pure crystallized form of cocaine) and educates teens about the dangers of use and addiction, manufacture and sale of the drug, the impact on children, and efforts to treat addicts and end the crack trade. Illustrated with black-and-white photographs, it includes a glossary and lists of suggestions for further reading and help organizations.

School District: Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Thorton Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Banned

Notes: Explicit descriptions of drug use. Outdated information.

Crazy: A Novel

Author: Lebert, Benjamin

Synopsis: Lebert was only 16 years old when this autobiographical novel debuted, eventually becoming a German bestseller. Benni, the protagonist, suffers from paralysis and poor learning habits. Kicked out of four boarding schools, he teams up with a bunch of fellow misfits and sets out to explore the "crazy" life of drinking, sex, and culture.

School District: Garrison ISD

Location: Garrison

School(s) Involved: High School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

School District: Hays Consolidated ISD

Location: Kyle

School(s) Involved: Hays High School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Decision pending

Notes: None.

School District: Round Rock ISD

Location: Round Rock

School(s) Involved: All middle schools

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Banned at some schools, retained at others

Notes: This title was first challenged at Canyon Vista Middle School, where the principal removed it from the library collection at a parent's request. The parent then asked for the book to be removed from the entire district. A district level II committee was selected, read the book, and decided it should remain in the high school collections.

Cut

Author: McCormick, Patricia

Synopsis: Thirteen-year-old Callie is confined to a mental hospital, Sea Pines, because she cuts herself with sharp objects. She gradually improves and responds to therapy.

School District: Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Goodson Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Use restricted

Notes: Belief that character's self-mutilation would cause readers to do it, too. For only seventh- and eighth-grade checkout.

School District: Texas Youth Commission

Location: Corsicana

School(s) Involved: Corsicana Residential Treatment Center
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other; self-destructive behavior
Result: Banned
Notes: Student challenge.

A Dance for Three

Author: Plummer, Louise
Synopsis: Fifteen-year-old Hannah Ziebarth is pregnant with the child of her first love, Milo Fabiano, a good-looking boy from a wealthy family. In addition to the baby, Hannah's mother has become agoraphobic, her father has died, and Milo is cheating on her. All this lands Hannah in a mental facility, where a therapist eventually helps her to reassemble her life.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD
Location: Lueders
School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

Dangerous Environments

Author: Allen, Missy and Michel Peissed
Synopsis: A compilation of maps, illustrations, and information about 25 dangerous environments. Part of the *Encyclopedia of Danger* series.

School District: Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
Location: Houston
School(s) Involved: Milsap Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other/explicit descriptions
Result: Retained
Notes: Informal challenge; no paperwork.

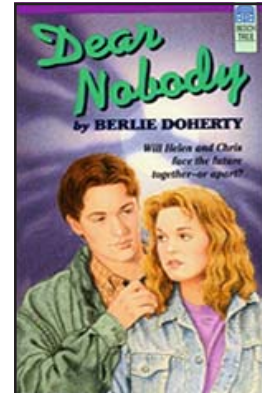
Daughter of Fortune

Author: Allende, Isabel
Synopsis: Allende's sixth novel focuses on Eliza Sommers, a Chilean whose British adoptive parents a spinster and her brother try to raise her as a Brit. As Eliza grows up, she becomes more attuned to her heritage, falls in love with her father's clerk, and follows him to California. In her travels she meets a Chinese doctor who becomes her best friend. Set in the mid-1800s.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD
Location: Lueders
School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

Dear Nobody

Author: Doherty, Berlie
Synopsis: Story of the impact of a teenage pregnancy on a young girl's life, family, and plans for college and the future. Carnegie Medal-winning novel.



School District: Pleasant Grove ISD
Location: Texarkana
School Involved: Pleasant Grove Middle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content; other/inappropriate subject matter
Result: Use restricted
Notes: None.

Don't Step on the Crack!

Author: McNaughton, Colin
Synopsis: A "what-if" story, presented in picture-book format, about the dangers of failing to heed the old wives' tale.

School District: Allen ISD
Location: Allen
School(s) Involved: Bolin Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Violence/horror
Result: Retained
Notes: Too scary for young children.

Draw Me a Star

Author: Carle, Eric
Synopsis: The artist tells a young child to draw a star. Then the star tells him to draw a sun, then a man and a woman, and so on, until a "universe" is created. The story is based on the author's childhood memories of stories his grandmother had told him.

School District: Northside ISD
Location: San Antonio
School(s) Involved: Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content/illustrations
Result: Retained
Notes: None.

The Drowned

Author: Levy, Elizabeth
Synopsis: A teenager spends a boring summer in Atlantic City with her aunt, tries to occupy herself with a “haunted tour” of the city, and becomes embroiled in the case of a drowned teenage boy and his distraught mother.

School District: Mesquite ISD
Location: Mesquite
School(s) Involved: Berry Middle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content
Result: Retained
Notes: None.

Drugs

Author: Stewart, Gail B.
Synopsis: Social studies exploration of issues surrounding drugs and drug use.

School District: Little Elm ISD
Location: Little Elm
School(s) Involved: Hackberry Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Banned
Notes: Inappropriate subject matter for elementary students.

Educating Esmé: Diary of a Teacher’s First Year

Author: Codell, Esmé Raji
Synopsis: The actual diary of a young, hip, first-year teacher in an inner-city Chicago elementary school.

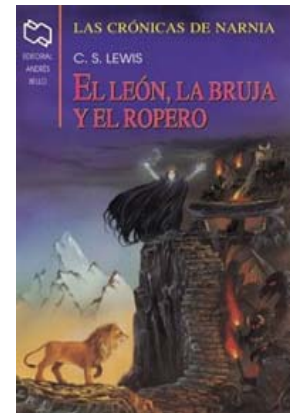
School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD
Location: Lueders
School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary

Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity; sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

El Leon, la Bruja y El Roperero (The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe)

Author: Lewis, C.S.
Synopsis: Spanish translation of the popular children’s fantasy book. Features religious undertones and an exploration of “good” and “evil.”

School District: Houston ISD
Location: Houston
School(s) Involved: Rodriguez Elementary
Setting: Curriculum
Reason Cited: Mysticism/paganism
Result: Alternate book allowed
Notes: Parent challenge.



Eloise in Paris

Author: Thompson, Kay and Hilary Knight
Synopsis: Sequel to the original *Eloise*, first published in 1957. Eloise is now six years old and goes to Paris. Pen-and-ink illustrations.

School District: McKinney ISD
Location: McKinney
School(s) Involved: E.H. Slaughter Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Retained
Notes: “Nude illustrations, pages 38 and 45.”

Ella Enchanted

Author: Levine, Gail Carson
Synopsis: Young Ella is cursed at birth when a fairy gives her the “gift” of obedience. Her mother dies and she is left with an evil stepmother and stepsisters. Spunky Ella embarks on a search to find the fairy to break the curse and set her free, encountering ogres, elves, a pumpkin coach, a glass slipper, and a prince along the way. Newberry Honor.

School District: Ector County ISD
Location: Odessa
School(s) Involved: Blanton Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Banned
Notes: A parent informally challenged the book, claiming it contained adult material.

Enchantment

Author: Card, Orson Scott
Synopsis: A Ukrainian-born American student is transported to the ninth century to play the prince in a Russian version of *Sleeping Beauty*. Depicts history, religion, and myth in a time-travel tale.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD
Location: Lueders
School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

The Encyclopedia of Serial Killers

Author: Newton, Michael
Synopsis: A reference book providing information about individual serial killers and related topics in criminal justice.

School District: Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
Location: Houston
School(s) Involved: Cy Ridge High School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Violence/horror; other
Result: Retained
Notes: Believed book would cause students to become killers.

Every Time a Rainbow Dies

Author: Williams-Garcia, Rita
Synopsis: The world of 16-year-old Thulani, who came to Brooklyn from Jamaica with his mother and brother, changes when his mother returns to Jamaica and dies, and he witnesses a rape in the alley outside his apartment. Thulani rescues the victim, who dresses in colorful “rainbow” clothes, and, in spite of her resistance, they become friends.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD
Location: Lueders
School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

The Facts Speak for Themselves

Author: Cole, Brock
Synopsis: Twelve-year-old Linda witnesses a murder. It quickly becomes clear during her interrogation that she was sexually involved with the murdered man. The story is structured around the interrogation and Linda’s matter-of-fact narration of her tragic life story – from her Mother’s failed marriage to being forced to care for her two brothers.

School District: Colorado ISD
Location: Colorado
School(s) Involved: Colorado Middle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: “Described a rape scene in too much detail.”

Faerie Wars

Author: Brennan, Herbie
Synopsis: Henry Atherton’s family disintegrates when his mother has an affair with his father’s female secretary. Henry escapes by helping an eccentric old man with household chores, and discovers a parallel world where faeries in “the Purple Kingdom” are embroiled in a battle to defeat the forces of evil. In the end, what Henry learns allows him to resolve his issues with his family.

School District: Newcastle ISD
Location: Newcastle
School(s) Involved: Newcastle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

Fat Camp Commandos

Author: Pinkwater, Daniel and Andy Rash

Synopsis: To protest their forced attendance at a weight loss camp, a brother and sister and their friend run away and become pro-fat activists.

School District: Waller ISD

Location: Waller

School(s) Involved: Fields Store Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Retained

Notes: “A mother stated that she felt the book made fun of overweight people. After reading it, [the librarian] felt the book was a humorous story about some boys at a weight loss camp who learned self-acceptance, and put it back on the shelf.”

The Fighting Ground

Author: Avi

Synopsis: During the Revolutionary War, a 13-year-old boy and his father are working on their farm in New Jersey when they become drawn into the war. Jonathon is taken prisoner, and realizes that the real war is being fought within himself.

School District: East Central ISD

Location: San Antonio

School(s) Involved: Harmony Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/inappropriate language

Result: Retained

Notes: Challenge made by a parent.

The Figure in the Shadows

Author: Bellairs, John

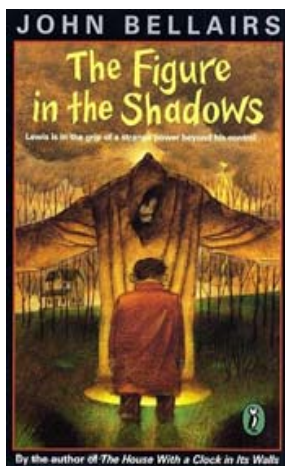
Synopsis: An insecure, overweight sixth-grader is convinced that an ancient amulet owned by his grandfather is really a lucky, magical talisman, although it also appears to bring him danger.

School District: Amarillo ISD

Location: Amarillo

School(s) Involved: Windsor Academy

Setting: Library



Reason Cited: Profanity/inappropriate language

Result: Banned

Notes: Parent objection. A committee formed, reviewed the book, and decided to keep it. An upper-level administrator/cluster director decided that it needed to be taken off after parents appealed.

Final Friends (trilogy)

Author: Pike, Christopher

Synopsis: Three-part series involving an apparent suicide of a high school student at a party, which may actually be a covered-up murder.

School District: Stanton ISD

Location: Stanton

School(s) Involved: Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; violence/horror

Result: Decision pending

Notes: “Paperwork on the challenge was brought to the elementary school office on Monday, April 19. It was sent to the librarian for committee review.”

Flipped (A Texas Bluebonnet Book)

Author: Van Draanen, Wendelin

Synopsis: Told alternately by eighth-graders Bryce and Juli, this story describes a unique girl who is infatuated (“flipped”) with a boy from her neighborhood. The boy thinks she is weird until the eighth grade, when his opinion changes and he begins to like her – just as she begins to lose interest in him.

School District: Burleson ISD

Location: Burleson

School(s) Involved: Frazier Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Use restricted

Notes: Inappropriate relationship issues for younger students.

Flowers for Algernon

Author: Keyes, Daniel

Synopsis: First published in 1959, this best-seller focuses on Charlie, a mentally disabled man who becomes part of a medical experiment to in-

crease his intelligence. The experiment has only ever been tried once, on a laboratory mouse named Algernon. Charlie's I.Q. gradually increases, until he surpasses most other humans and becomes as alienated from his peers as he was when simpleminded. Then, suddenly, the smart mouse Algernon begins to deteriorate. Nebula Award-winning novel, and adapted into the Oscar-winning movie *Charley* (1968).

School District: Bellville ISD
Location: Bellville
School(s) Involved: Bellville Junior High
Setting: Curriculum
Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content
Result: Use restricted/alternate book allowed
Notes: None.

Flyy Girl

Author: Tyree, Omar
Synopsis: Tracy Ellison lives in Germantown, Pa., a predominantly Black, middle-class neighborhood of Philadelphia. Tracy's teenage problems stem mainly from boys, courting, kissing, and sex. The book chronicles her coming of age with a variety of men. Her life is turned around when she sees what happens to her neighbor's older sister, who has become a crack-addicted prostitute. The moral of the book is that virtue is rewarded, and vice punished.

School District: Killeen ISD
Location: Killeen
School(s) Involved: Shoemaker High School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Retained
Notes: None.

Forever

Author: Blume, Judy
Synopsis: This story of first love between teenagers involves sexual activity, separation and loyalty, parental relationships, and other young adult issues central to romantic relationships.

School District: Beaumont ISD
Location: Beaumont
School(s) Involved: "One"
Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Retained

Notes: "Parent objected but did not submit formal request for reconsideration."

School District: Mesquite ISD

Location: Mesquite

School(s) Involved: Horn High School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Retained

Notes: "Parent said content was unsuitable. Parent was mailed district reconsideration forms, but didn't return [them]."

From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun

Author: Woodson, Jacqueline

Synopsis: At age 13, Melanin Sun, an African-American boy growing up in Brooklyn, has to cope with finding out that his single mother has become the lesbian partner of a white woman. Explores themes of racism, prejudice, and familial love.

School District: Killeen ISD

Location: Killeen

School(s) Involved: Liberty Hill Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Use restricted (in library office)

Notes: Challenged by a teacher who is also the parent of a student at campus.

Gib Rides Home

Author: Snyder, Zilpha Keatley

Synopsis: Story of young Gib Whittaker's experiences at an early 20th-century orphanage. Gib dreams of leaving the orphanage and having a real family. When an affluent family adopts him, Gib dares to hope that he's found a loving home at last, only to realize that he has been "farmed out" – a routine practice of the era wherein older orphans were adopted to be sent to work as farm hands.

School District: Carthage ISD

Location: Carthage

School(s) Involved: Libby Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Altered

Notes: "We're a campus of second and third graders. This book is in the 4.9-7.2 range of Accelerated Reader. 'White-out' was applied to the words, and the book was returned to the shelf."

Give a Boy a Gun

Author: Strasser, Todd

Synopsis: The jocks have harassed and beaten up high school sophomores Gary and Brendan for years. The boys plan and carry out a killing spree at their school that leaves them and other students dead or injured. Explores issues of school violence, gun control, and peer bullying.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD

Location: Lueders

School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; violence/horror

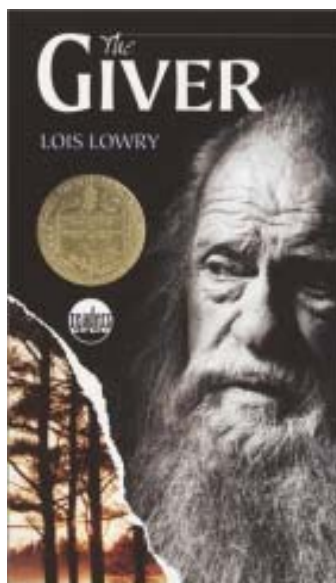
Result: Banned

Notes: None.

The Giver

Author: Lowry, Lois

Synopsis: A 12-year-old boy is chosen as leader of an apparently utopian society unhindered by sickness, crime or poverty, but soon discovers the disturbing truth about what the citizens must give up to achieve such an ordered and conflict-free environment. 1994 Newberry Medal winner.



School District: Graham ISD

School(s) Involved: Woodland Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Banned

Notes: "Inappropriate for grade levels served. Book moved to Junior High library, which already had it available."

The Goosebumps series

Author: Stine, R.L.

Synopsis: Series of stories involving ghosts, goblins, and scary happenings.

School District: Humble ISD

Location: Humble

School(s) Involved: Maplebrook Elementary

Setting: Library/book club

Reason Cited: Violence/horror; other

Result: Retained

Notes: "Too frightening."

The Great Gilly Hopkins

Author: Paterson, Katherine

Synopsis: Gilly is a precocious eleven-year-old girl who has lived with several foster families, all of whom she has intensely disliked. She is sent to live with the Trotter family, the strangest so far, and devises a scheme to persuade her real mother to take her away. The plans do not work out as Gilly had expected, and she begins to wonder if she would rather stay with the Trotters after all.

School District: Pasadena ISD

Location: Pasadena

School(s) Involved: Parks Elementary

Setting: Library and curriculum

Reason Cited: Profanity

Result: Retained

Notes: None.

Halloween ABC

Author: Merriam, Eve

Synopsis: A collection of 26 poems, one for each letter of the alphabet, about the spookiest holiday.

School District: Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Emmott Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Mysticism/paganism

Result: Retained

Notes: Informal challenge/no paperwork.

Harry Goes to Day Camp

Author: Ziefert, James and Mavis Smith

Synopsis: Harry the Hippo heads off to day camp. Early reader.

School District: Midway ISD
Location: Waco
School(s) Involved: South Bosque Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Decision pending
Notes: "Phrase in book, '99 bottles of beer on the wall ... 98 bottles of beer.' ISD is in the process of selecting a committee and making a decision."

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

Author: Rowling, J.K.
Synopsis: In one of the most hotly anticipated sequels in memory, J.K. Rowling takes up where she left off with Harry's second year at the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Old friends and new torments abound, including a spirit named Moaning Myrtle who haunts the girl's bathroom; an outrageously conceited professor, Gilderoy Lockhart; and a mysterious force that turns Hogwarts students to stone.

School District: Venus ISD
Location: Venus
School(s) Involved: Middle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Violence/horror; mysticism/paganism
Result: Retained
Notes: "The grandfather of a middle school student believed the book encouraged witchcraft, suicide, etc. Following school policy, a committee reviewed the book and decided that the book should not be labeled or restricted."

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Author: Rowling, J.K.
Synopsis: First in a series of books chronicling Harry Potter's adventures at the Hogwart's School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Raised by a non-wizard "muggle" aunt and uncle, Harry does not know that his parents were wizards, or that he is famous in the wizard world. He is summoned to attend the infamous school and experiences the first of many adventures.

School District: Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD
Location: Carrollton
School(s) Involved: Thompson Elementary

Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Mysticism/paganism
Result: Retained
Notes: None.

School District: Clyde CISD
Location: Clyde
School(s) Involved: Intermediate
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Retained
Notes: "Lack of respect of adults in authority; lack of consequences for breaking school rules; bad behavior rewarded."

Harry Potter series

Author: Rowling, J.K.
Synopsis: Series of books revolving around a boy wizard.

School District: Dripping Springs ISD
Location: Dripping Springs
School(s) Involved: Primary (PK-3)
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Mysticism/paganism
Result: Retained
Notes: Parent challenged at campus level and did not appeal.

Hate Crimes

Author: D'Angelo, Laura
Synopsis: A factual book discussing the motivations of those who perpetrate violence against others for reasons of religion, sexual preference, ethnicity, or race. Uses high-profile U.S. cases as examples.

School District: Spring ISD
Location: Houston
School(s) Involved: Twin Creeks Middle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Use restricted
Notes: "Books were placed behind the circulation desk for teachers to read, but not for student use. The parent has not requested reconsideration of instructional materials."

Hatemongers and Demagogues

Author: Streissguth, Thomas

Synopsis: Starting with the original Salem witch hunts, this book explores the history of racism and bigotry and the American leaders who have spurred “hatemongering.” Includes coverage of McCarthyism, the Ku Klux Klan, “skinheads,” and others.

School District: Spring ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Twin Creeks Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Use restricted

Notes: “Books were placed behind the circulation desk for teachers to read, but not for student use. The parent has not requested reconsideration of instructional materials.”

Iceman

Author: Lynch, Chris

Synopsis: The boys on 14-year-old Eric’s hockey team call him “the Iceman” for his ruthless playing of the sport. Eric is alienated from his father, who wants him to play even meaner; his mother, who constantly criticizes him; and his slacker brother. His only friend is the quiet loner who works with him at the local mortuary. 1995 Best Books for Young Adults (ALA); 1995 Recommended Books for Reluctant Young Adult Readers (ALA); 1995 Books for the Teen Age (New York Public Library); Books for Youth Editors’ Choices 1994 (*Booklist*); *English Journal* Young Adult Literature 1994 Honor List.

School District: McAllen ISD

Location: McAllen

School(s) Involved: Morris Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Retained

Notes: “Librarian will continue to allow eighth-graders to use this book as purchased. The book meets district criteria/does not display pervasively vulgar language because it contains such language on less than 9% of the book. Eighteen pages were noted of a total of 225 pages, each page containing one word.”

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

Author: Angelou, Maya

Synopsis: The autobiography of a distinguished African-American poet. Angelou recounts the anguish of her Arkansas childhood, and her adolescence in northern slums. In one incident, she becomes pregnant against her will.

School District: Como-Pickton CISD

Location: Como

School(s) Involved: Como-Pickton High School

Setting: Curriculum

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content; violence/horror

Result: Alternate allowed

Notes: “Challenged by a parent. The book was used in a classroom setting for all kids (10th-grade English) to read.

The teacher/school substituted a book to

accommodate any child (or parent of a child) uncomfortable with the book. Instructional method was also altered from large class group reading/discussion to silent reading.”

School District: Van Vleck ISD

Location: Van Vleck

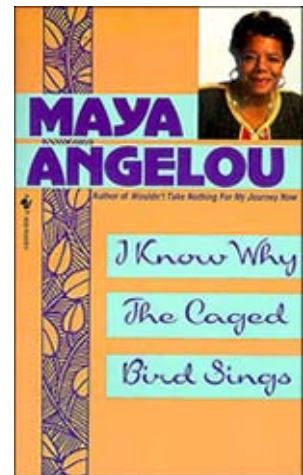
School(s) Involved: O. H. Herman Middle School

Setting: Curriculum

Reason Cited: Language/offended by African-American Southern dialect used in the book

Result: Retained

Notes: “No formal action was taken. Parent was satisfied with teacher’s explanation of the author’s use of dialect.”



I Saw Esau: The Schoolchild’s Pocket Book

Author: Opie, Iona and Peter Opie

Synopsis: First published in Great Britain in 1947, this book is a collection of over 170 whimsical “schoolyard chants.” Illustrated by Maurice Sendak.

School District: Austin ISD

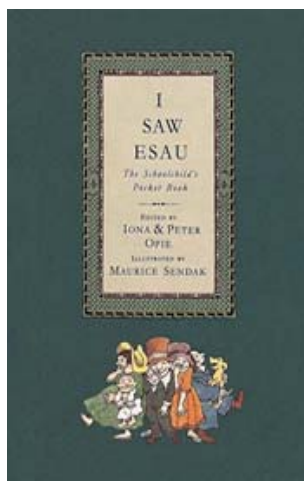
Location: Austin

School(s) Involved: Hart Elementary

Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language
Result: Retained
Notes: “A campus committee found the book to be appropriate, and it remains on the library shelves.”

School District: Nederland ISD
Location: Nederland
School(s) Involved: Highland Park Elementary

Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: None.



In the Night Kitchen

Author: Sendak, Maurice
Synopsis: Mickey, a small boy, dreams of a “Night Kitchen” where he makes a cake with a cook who looks like Oliver Hardy, and has an adventure while looking for milk.

School District: China Spring ISD
Location: China Spring
School(s) Involved: China Spring Elementary
Setting: Not indicated
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Use restricted
Notes: None.

School District: Little Elm ISD
Location: Little Elm
School(s) Involved: Hackberry Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Banned
Notes: “Inappropriate illustrations for elementary students.”

The Innocents Within

Author: Daley, Robert
Synopsis: An American pilot shot down over central France in 1944 during WWII falls in love with

the Jewish ward of a pastor who runs an underground resistance network. Based on the true story of Pastor Andre Trocme of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, whose small Protestant village in France became a haven for Jews during the Holocaust.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD
Location: Lueders
School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content; profanity/language
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

Introducing Michaelangelo

Author: Richmond, Robin
Synopsis: Part of a series exploring the lives and masterpieces of three major artists.

School District: China Spring ISD
Location: China Spring
School(s) Involved: China Spring Intermediate
Setting: Not indicated
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Use restricted
Notes: None.

It's an Aardvark-Eat-Turtle World

Author: Danziger, Paula
Synopsis: Fourteen-year-old best friends Rosie and Phoebe are happy when their single parents fall in love and move in together, but soon discover that being sisters is harder than being friends, and that there is no perfect family.

School District: Bonham ISD
Location: Bonham
School(s) Involved: Finley-Oates Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Use restricted

Notes: “A parent brought the book to the librarian because he didn't believe the content was appropriate for third-graders. The parent didn't demand re-



moval of the book, but just wanted it brought to the librarian's attention. The librarian has pulled the book from the shelf and has restricted student use."

It's Perfectly Normal: Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex, and Sexual Health

Author: Harris, Robie H.

Synopsis: Explains the physical, psychological, emotional and social changes that occur during puberty. Includes watercolor and pencil illustrations of various body types to encourage teen self-acceptance. Illustrated by Michael Emberley.

School District: Fort Bend ISD

Location: Sugar Land

School(s) Involved: Stephen F. Austin and George H. Bush High Schools

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

It's So Amazing! A Book About Eggs, Sperm, Birth, Babies, and Families

Author: Harris, Robie H.

Synopsis: Written in comic book style, this book is directed toward assisting parents in talking to children about "where babies come from," and addresses topics such as conception, birth, love, sexuality and family. Illustrated by Michael Emberley.

School District: Fort Bend ISD

Location: Sugar Land

School(s) Involved: Not indicated

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

Jack & Jill

Author: Patterson, James

Synopsis: Popular murder detective Alex Cross (*Kiss the Girls*) returns to the D.C. streets to solve the homicides of a controversial U.S. senator and an innocent little girl.

School District: Plainview ISD

Location: Plainview

School(s) Involved: Plainview High School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity

Result: Banned

Notes: Parent challenge.

Junie B. Jones series

Author: Park, Barbara

Synopsis: Series involving rambunctious youngster Junie B. Jones. Includes *Junie B. Jones Has a Peep in Her Pocket*, *Junie B. Jones Is a Party Animal*, *Junie B. Jones Is Not a Crook*, *Junie B. Jones Is a Beauty Shop Guy*, and *Junie B. Jones Smells Something Fishy*.

School District: Austin ISD

Location: Austin

School(s) Involved: Webb Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Altered

Notes: Main character's nonstandard English.

Just the Two of Us

Author: Smith, Will

Synopsis: Picture book by actor/singer Smith follows a father as he watches his son grow through three stages of life – from newborn, to young child, to young man.

School District: College Station ISD

Location: College Station

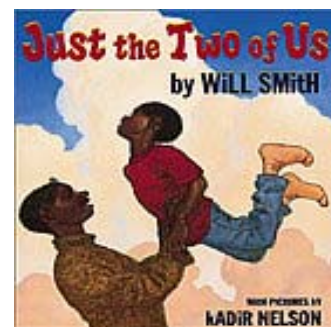
School(s) Involved: Rock Prairie Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/inappropriate language

Result: Decision pending

Notes: "A committee will review the parent's written complaint."



The Kids' Book About Death and Dying

Author: Rofes, Eric E.

Synopsis: Fourteen children offer facts and advice to help young readers understand death.

School District: Deer Park ISD

Location: Deer Park

School(s) Involved: Deer Park Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Violence/horror; profanity/language

Result: Use restricted

Notes: "Challenge made by a community member who felt that the book was inappropriate for elementary-aged children. She specifically noted sections addressing cremation, fatal accidents, autopsies, the Top Ten causes of death, suicide, assassination, and other issues ... and also noted that the word 'bitch' appears on one page of the book. The school librarian reviewed the book and shared it with the school counselor, who agreed that much of the book's contents were not appropriate for elementary children. According to the librarian, the book was recoded as a 'professional' book and was indefinitely checked out to the school counselor, who plans to use it when working with students who experience death."

Leslie's Journal

Author: Stratton, Allan

Synopsis: Leslie, a 10th-grade girl, struggles with a broken family and being raped and abused by her older boyfriend, with whom she's obsessed. Leslie runs away, but a substitute teacher exposes her situation after reading her journal and reporting the crimes to the authorities.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD

Location: Lueders

School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

Letters from the Inside

Author: Marsden, John

Synopsis: Set in Australia, this psychological drama plays out in the correspondence between two teenage girls, one of whom is in a maximum-security prison for a horrendous, unnamed crime.

School District: Pearland ISD

Location: Pearland

School(s) Involved: Silverlake Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: Book sent to secondary library.

Life Is Funny

Author: Frank, E.R.

Synopsis: The lives and loves of 11 Brooklyn teenagers, whose experiences involve domestic violence, alcoholic parents, and religious intolerance, among other things.

School District: Somerset ISD

Location: Somerset

School(s) Involved: Junior High

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Decision pending

Notes: Book removed after teacher challenge. The principal retained the book.

A Light in the Attic

Author: Silverstein, Shel

Synopsis: A collection of humorous poems and drawings. ALA Notable Children's Book; *School Library Journal* Best Book of 1981.

School District: Ector County ISD

Location: Odessa

School(s) Involved:

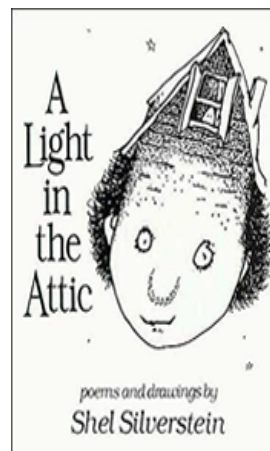
Bowie Junior High School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Retained

Notes: "Obscenity of picture on p. 26 was in question. A committee of five members met on Jan. 1, 2004 to consider the challenge. After careful review, they retained the book in the library. The illustration met the selective criteria in Local Policy EFA." Parent challenge.



Lostman's River

Author: DeFelice, Cynthia

Synopsis: Tyler MacCauley and his family live in poverty in the wetlands of Florida, and befriend a stranger who claims to be studying the area. They discover he is planning to kill the wildlife rather than save it, and their future becomes threatened.

School District: Mabank ISD

Location: Mabank

School(s) Involved: Lakeview Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Retained

Notes: The ISD will provide guidance to students to determine individual appropriateness.

Magic Fire

Author: Pike, Christopher

Synopsis: A Los Angeles high school student has “pyrekinetic” ability – i.e., he can start fires with his mind. He and his girlfriend lead a delusional crusade to free Earth from an alleged alien domination, and jeopardize the entire city.

School District: Rains ISD

Location: Emory

School(s) Involved: Intermediate

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Use restricted

Notes: “As a result of the challenge, the consensus was to clearly label books according to interest level. The Intermediate Administration requested grades 4-5 students receive parental permission to check out upper-grade interest-level library materials.”

Mai the Psychic Girl

Author: Kudo, Kazuya and Ryoichi Ikegami

Synopsis: First of three volumes that tell the story of Mai, a Japanese schoolgirl who becomes the target of organizations of powerful conspirators who want to use her for her psychic powers.

School District: Clear Creek ISD

Location: League City

School(s) Involved: Clear Brook High School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content/nudity

Result: Retained

Notes: Parent challenge.

Mama puso un huevo: O como se hacen los niños (Mommy Laid an Egg: or Where Do Babies Come From?)

Author: Cole, Babette

Synopsis: A comical story highlighting the birds and the bees, featuring Cole’s cartoonish illustrations.

School District: Amarillo ISD

Location: Amarillo

School(s) Involved: Humphreys Highland Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: Librarian-filed. “A committee was formed and decided that the book was not appropriate for young readers.”

Mara in the Morning

Author: Christiansen, C.B.

Synopsis: Mara and her mother share some quiet moments together in the early morning hours while the house is still quiet. For preschool and elementary readers.

School District: Boyd ISD

Location: Boyd

School(s) Involved: Boyd Elementary School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Decision pending

Notes: “The school has not received the forms required for a formal challenge.”

Memory Boy

Author: Weaver, Will

Synopsis: Set in the year 2008. Sixteen-year-old Miles discovers that the volcanic ash falling over his hometown of Minneapolis is affecting the whole country, which is thrown into chaos. Miles reveals his hidden mechanical skills, and uses his tools to build a vehicle in which the family can escape the city.

School District: Klein ISD

Location: Klein

School(s) Involved: Strack Intermediate

Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Inappropriate language
Result: Decision pending
Notes: "Attitude towards adults."

Mick Harte Was Here

Author: Park, Barbara
Synopsis: Phoebe Harte, age 13, describes the death of her brother Mick in a bicycle accident. Her grief runs the gamut of emotions – shock, rage, disassociation, and anger with God. Phoebe believes that if only Mick had worn a helmet, he would have survived the accident.

School District: Houston ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Lovett Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Retained

Notes: "Parent did not present a formal challenge, although she was told she had that right. She stated she would write to the HISD superintendent about this book."



My Father's Scar: A Novel

Author: Cart, Michael

Synopsis: A gay youth's coming-of-age story, set in the early 1970s when he is a college freshman. Includes flashbacks to pivotal moments in the character's adolescence, including his relationship with his father and first loves.

School District: Edgewood ISD

Location: San Antonio

School(s) Involved: Wrenn Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Retained

Notes: "Pulled for administrative review. Returned to shelf since claimant did not pursue a formal reconsideration process."

My Puppy Is Born

Author: Cole, Joanna

Synopsis: A new litter of Norfolk terriers makes life exciting for the little girl who lives next-door.

School District: Hays Consolidated ISD

Location: Kyle

School(s) Involved: Hemphill Elementary School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Retained

Notes: "Photographs on pages 6-7."

Nathan's Run

Author: Gilstrap, John

Synopsis: Twelve-year-old Nathan Bailey is orphaned, alone, and accused of murdering a police officer. He becomes the target of a nationwide manhunt, is followed by a hit man, and must plead his case to a rapt nation via an interested talk radio show host.

School District: Brownsboro ISD

Location: Brownsboro

School(s) Involved: Brownsboro Junior High

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Use restricted/already on restricted list

Notes: "No official challenge; only a complaint by student's relative (not the parent or guardian)."

Nightjohn

Author: Paulsen, Gary

Synopsis: An adult slave named Nightjohn teaches 12-year-old Sarny, also a slave, how to read – in spite of grim consequences (dismemberment) that could result if they are discovered.

School District: Union Grove ISD

Location: Gladewater

School(s) Involved: Sixth-grade

Setting: Extra reading resource

Reason Cited: Sexual content; profanity/inappropriate language

Result: Banned

Notes: "A teacher read this book aloud to students. The book was not part of the actual curriculum, but an extra resource in reading. Teacher stopped reading the book after parents objected to graphic content."

Of Mice and Men

Author: Steinbeck, John

Synopsis: George Milton and Lennie Small are ranch hands who dream of one day owning a small farm. George acts as a father figure to simple-minded Lennie, calming him and helping to rein in his great physical strength. When Lennie accidentally kills the ranch owner's flirtatious daughter-in-law, George shoots his friend rather than allow him to be captured by a vengeful lynch mob.

School District: Copperas Cove ISD

Location: Copperas Cove

School(s) Involved: Copperas Cove High School

Setting: Curriculum

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; violence/horror

Result: Alternate book allowed

Notes: None.

School District: Waxahachie ISD

Location: Waxahachie

School(s) Involved: Secondary

Setting: Library/Curriculum

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; violence/horror

Result: Retained

Notes: None.

On the Edge: Stories at the Brink

Author: Duncan, Lois (editor)

Synopsis: Duncan, an award-winning author of more than 40 suspense thrillers for young adults, puts together a riveting collection of short stories by Gail Carson Levine, Alden Carter, and other esteemed writers.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD

Location: Lueders

School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity; sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

The Ox-Bow Incident

Author: Clark, Walter Van Tilburg

Synopsis: Set in 1885, and first published in 1940, Clark's book tells the story of the lynching of three innocent men and the emotional tragedy that consequently ensues in a Western town.

School District: Seguin ISD

Location: Seguin

School(s) Involved: Vogel Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Use restricted

Notes: "Marked for older students' use only."

Patriot Games

Author: Clancy, Tom

Synopsis: An ultra-left-wing faction of the IRA has targeted a CIA analyst for stifling an assassination attempt on the life of Prince Charles. For his act of salvation, the analyst must pay with his life.

School District: Rains ISD

Location: Emory

School(s) Involved: Intermediate

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Violence/horror

Result: Use restricted

Notes: "As a result of the challenge, the consensus was to clearly label books according to interest level. The Intermediate Administration requested grades 4-5 students receive parental permission to check out upper-grade interest-level library materials."

Pedro and Me: Friendship, Loss, and What I Learned

Author: Winick, Judd

Synopsis: Graphic novel tells the story of the author's friendship with Zamora, an HIV-positive AIDS activist.

School District: Texas Youth Commission

Location: Crockett

School(s) Involved: Crockett State School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content; other/gang content

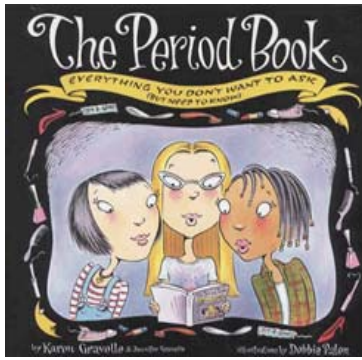
Result: Banned

Notes: All-male campus; caused classroom disruptions.

The Period Book: Everything You Don't Want to Ask (But Need to Know)

Author: Gravelle, Karen and Jennifer Gravelle

Synopsis: The author and her 15-year-old niece answer questions a young girl might have about her period, including what it feels like, how to choose pads and tampons, the physical, social and emotional changes that come with it, and to how to talk to your parents about it. Illustrations by Debbie Palen.



School District: Texas Youth Commission
Location: Crockett
School(s) Involved: Crockett State School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Banned
Notes: All-male campus. Caused classroom disruptions.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower

Author: Chbosky, Stephen
Synopsis: Story of a high school “wallflower,” told through letters of an introverted boy. Includes experiences with first dates and first loves, family, friends, sex drugs, and music.

School District: Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
Location: Houston
School(s) Involved: Hamilton Middle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language
Result: Retained
Notes: Informal challenge; no paperwork.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD
Location: Lueders
School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

Peter Pan

Author: Barrie, J.M.
Synopsis: Wendy, John, and Michael Darling follow Peter Pan, the boy who never grows up, to a world where fairies live and children can fly. In-

cludes encounters with mermaids, Indians, fairy dust, and Captain Hook.

School District: Carthage ISD
Location: Carthage
School(s) Involved: Libby Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Retained
Notes: “Illustrations of a mermaid with a bare chest. The 7.2 reading level book is seldom read by second- and third-graders.”

Plainsong

Author: Haruf, Kent
Synopsis: Story of a life in a small town in Colorado, including the trials and tribulations of a single father trying to raise his two sons, a pregnant teenager deserted by her boyfriend, and two elderly lifelong bachelors farming their old family homestead.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD
Location: Lueders
School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity; sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

Princess in the Spotlight

Author: Cabot, Meg
Synopsis: Continuing story of *The Princess Diaries*, accounts of the teenaged princess of Genovia. In this volume, Mia must deal with unexpected news from her mother and a secret admirer.

School District: Crandall ISD
Location: Crandall
School(s) Involved: L.F. Raynes Middle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other; sexual content
Result: Use restricted
Notes: “The parent challenged that the subject matter and sexual explicitness were inappropriate for a sixth-grader. The committee agreed the book is appropriate for only very mature, middle school-age students. Since the grade configuration is 6, 7, and 8, the book was restricted for check-out by sixth-graders.”

Psychological Disorders Related to Designer Drugs

Author: Connelly, Elizabeth

Synopsis: Examines the history, nature, effects, and dangers of drugs such as Ecstasy, PCP, fentanyl, and meperidine.

School District: Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Thorton Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Retained

Notes: Detailed descriptions of drug use. Informative, age appropriate.

Psychological Effects of Cocaine and Crack Addiction

Author: Holmes, Ann E., Carol C. Nadelson and Claire E. Reinburg

Synopsis: Examines the problems associated with the use of crack and other forms of cocaine, focusing on the mental and psychological disorders that can occur.

School District: Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Thorton Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Use restricted/in reference

Notes: "Explicit descriptions of drug use. Research-based; better uses are for teachers and individual student research projects."

The Rag and Bone Shop

Author: Cormier, Robert

Synopsis: A young interrogator tries to prove a reclusive 12-year-old murdered his seven-year-old friend in Monument, Mass.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD

Location: Lueders

School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

A Rainbow of Gangs: Street Cultures in the Mega-City

Author: Vigil, James Diego

Synopsis: About youth "street culture" in current society.

School District: Texas Youth Commission

Location: San Saba

School(s) Involved: San Saba State School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Banned

Notes: Gang content.

Remember Me 2: The Return

Author: Pike, Christopher

Synopsis: The spirit of a murdered teenager returns in the body of another 18-year-old to keep the murderer from killing again.

School District: Amarillo ISD

Location: Amarillo

School(s) Involved: Bowie Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/inappropriate language; sexual content; violence/horror

Result: Retained

Notes: "Parent objection. Parents moved to another school and did not file a formal complaint."

Saving Shiloh

Author: Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds

Synopsis: Sixth-grader Marty and his family try to help their tough neighbor, Judd, change his mean ways, even though their West Virginia community considers Judd to be a terminal troublemaker.

School District: Carthage ISD

Location: Carthage

School(s) Involved: Libby Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Retained

Notes: "This is the only book in the trilogy that has been challenged. Should another complaint transpire, alterations of the words will be made."

Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark

Author: Schwartz, Alvin

Synopsis: One of Schwartz's popular books on American folklore, filled with 24 scary stories and songs. Includes skeletons, ghosts, and haunted houses. Illustrated.

School District: Humble ISD
Location: Humble
School(s) Involved: Maplebrook Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Violence/horror; other
Result: Retained
Notes: "Too frightening."

Secret Sacrament

Author: Jordan, Sherryl
Synopsis: Award-winner Jordan's fantasy novel about Gabriel, a young healer whose journeys involve both danger and personal sacrifice.



School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD
Location: Lueders
School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

Seek

Author: Fleischman, Paul
Synopsis: A high school senior uses the San Francisco radio airwaves to search for his missing father.

School District: Huntington ISD
Location: Huntington
School(s) Involved: Intermediate (grades 4-5)
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity; sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: "Principal refused to follow written policy."

Sexual Politics

Author: Millett, Kate

Synopsis: Feminist treatise regarding the oppression of women in literature, philosophy, psychology, and politics.

School District: Millsap ISD
Location: Millsap
School(s) Involved: High School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Use restricted
Notes: "The text was deemed inappropriate for high school students due to explicit descriptions of sexual acts. Book came in a 'bundle' and did not get screened prior to shelving."

Shiloh

Author: Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
Synopsis: When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, who is unduly harsh to his dogs.

School District: Round Rock ISD
Location: Round Rock
School(s) Involved: Pond Springs Elementary
Setting: Library/curriculum
Reason Cited: Other/reference to Jesus
Result: Alternate book allowed
Notes: "The Jewish parent of a student objected to a reference to praying to Jesus. The student was given an alternate assignment."

The Silver Kiss

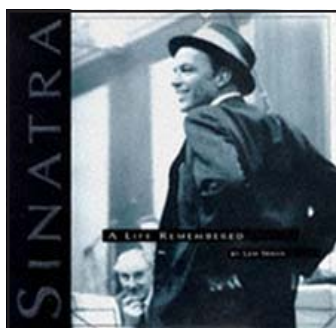
Author: Klause, Annette Curtis
Synopsis: A mysterious teenage boy who harbors a secret helps a girl come to terms with her mother's deadly illness.

School District: Mission CISD
Location: Mission
School(s) Involved: Mission, K. White, and Alton Memorial Junior High Schools
Setting: Curriculum
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Use restricted
Notes: "Age appropriateness of content material."

Sinatra: A Life Remembered

Author: Irwin, Lew

Synopsis: A biographical book featuring photos and facts about the legendary crooner.



School District: Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Watkins Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Retained

Notes: "Informal challenge; no paperwork."

Slave Day

Author: Thomas, Rob

Synopsis: On "Slave Day," student council members and some of the faculty at Robert E. Lee High School in Deerfield, Texas are "sold" to "masters" to raise money for charity. Shawn Greeley, the African-American student council president, is purchased by an African-American activist, who contends the event is racist and wants to teach Shawn and others a lesson. Other slave-master relationships take unusual and surprising turns, as a poor student buys an unpopular teacher, a female student buys a computer "geek," and a cheerleader buys her athlete boyfriend. Written from the perspective of each of the main characters as they explore the issues of racism, feminism, and equality.

School District: Kountze ISD

Location: Kountze

School(s) Involved: Kountze Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Banned

Notes: "Two parents expressed concerns about the suitability of this book for middle school students. Upon detailed review, the parents' concerns were found to be factual."

Sloppy Firsts

Author: McCafferty, Megan

Synopsis: When her best friend moves away from their small New Jersey town, sensitive 16-year-

old Jessica is distraught that the only person with whom she could really communicate has gone. Now she has to deal with the superficial girls at school, her family's obsessions, and her lack of a love life all by herself.

School District: Barbers Hill ISD

Location: Mont Belvieu

School(s) Involved: Barbers Hill Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/inappropriate language; sexual content

Result: Use restricted

Notes: None.

Slot Machine

Author: Lynch, Chris

Synopsis: When overweight teenager Elvin is sent to a retreat, he and his two best friends try out different sports to see where they fit in.

School District: Liberty-Eylau ISD

Location: Texarkana

School(s) Involved: Liberty-Eylau Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

Smart Mouth: Poetry & Prose

Author: WritersCorps Youth

Synopsis: A collection of poetry and prose by inner-city youths.

School District: Graham ISD

Location: Graham

School(s) Involved: Graham Junior High

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Banned

Notes: "Book moved up to high school library."

Snow Falling on Cedars

Author: Guterson, David

Synopsis: Focused on the post-World War II murder trial of a Japanese-American man accused of murdering his colleague, a fisherman. The plot also traces the personal histories of the main characters, dealing with Japanese internment during the war and race relations in a small, mixed-race

community. It is also an intriguing mystery with an interesting twist at the end of the trial.

School District: Hamilton ISD

Location: Hamilton

School(s) Involved: Hamilton High School

Setting: Curriculum

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

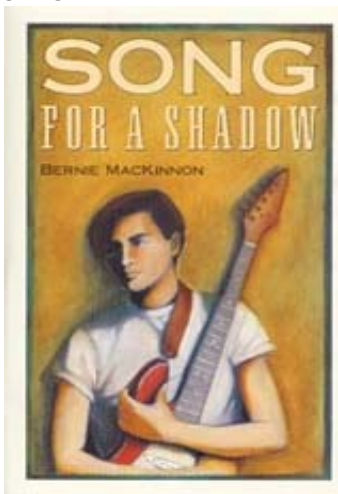
Result: Use restricted/alternate book allowed

Notes: "Parents and students who found the book offensive were allowed to choose another book. Also, the teacher primarily focused on the segments of literary value, choosing to omit the sections containing profanity, inappropriate language, and sexual content. Campus principal formally challenged the book."

Song for a Shadow

Author: MacKinnon, Bernie

Synopsis: Being the son of a famous rock star creates a troubled family life for Aaron, who has to live in the shadow of his father's fame and his mother's mental illness.



School District: Pleasant Grove ISD

Location: Texarkana

School(s) Involved: Pleasant Grove Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Use restricted

Notes: None.

Stop Those Pants!

Author: Gerstein, Mordicai

Synopsis: A young boy has trouble getting dressed one morning because his clothes have minds of their own.

School District: Boyd ISD

Location: Boyd

School(s) Involved: Boyd Elementary School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Decision pending

Notes: None.

Stormy Night

Author: Lemieux, Michele

Synopsis: The author's exquisite, inventive drawings imaginatively illustrate the Big Questions racing through a girl's mind as she lies in bed on a stormy night.

School District: Little Elm ISD

Location: Little Elm

School(s) Involved: Hackberry Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Banned

Notes: "Inappropriate illustrations for elementary students."

The Story of the X-Men: How It All Began

Author: Teitelbaum, Michael

Synopsis: This illustrated book introduces readers to the original team of X-Men and describes how Charles Xavier, a.k.a. Professor X, brought them together.

School District: North East ISD

Location: San Antonio

School(s) Involved: Hardy Oak Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content; violence/horror

Result: Banned

Notes: "Book deemed inappropriate for the elementary level and sent to the middle school."

Stranger in a Strange Land

Author: Heinlein, Robert A.

Synopsis: Science-fiction story of a man, raised on Mars by Martians, who arrives on Earth with no knowledge of its cultures or religions. He espouses a religion of free love and psychic intervention, which creates turmoil.

School District: South Texas ISD

Location: Mercedes

School(s) Involved: Science Academy

Setting: Curriculum

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Retained

Notes: "Alternate books offered as per board policy (policy unchanged; administrative guidelines reviewed and revised)."

Stuck in Neutral

Author: Trueman, Terry

Synopsis: Fourteen-year-old Shawn McDaniel has cerebral palsy and cannot walk or talk. Unbeknownst to anyone, however, he also has excellent cognitive abilities and is well-adjusted and happy. Shawn discovers that his well-meaning father wants to kill him to end what he believes must be a tortured life because of Shawn's physical disability. Told from Shawn's perspective, the book raises issues of the meaning of freedom, life and death, and parental responsibility.

School District: Abilene ISD

Location: Abilene

School(s) Involved: Franklin Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content

Result: Retained

Notes: None.

Suicide (Opposing Viewpoints)

Author: Bender, David

Synopsis: Discussion of the issues surrounding suicide. For teen readers.

School District: Texas Youth Commission

Location: Corsicana

School(s) Involved: Corsicana Residential Treatment Center

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other; misunderstood by students

Result: Banned

Notes: Student challenge.

Tangerine

Author: Bloor, Edward

Synopsis: Twelve-year-old Paul, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother Erik, fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness, and slowly begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight.

School District: Friendswood ISD

Location: Friendswood

School(s) Involved: Friendswood Junior High

Setting: Curriculum

Reason Cited: Violence

Result: Retained

Notes: "Action taken by parent."

That Was Then, This Is Now

Author: Hinton, S.E.

Synopsis: Sixteen-year-olds Mark and Bryon have been like brothers since childhood. As their involvement with girls, gangs, and drugs increases, their relationship seems to gradually disintegrate.

School District: Big Spring ISD

Location: Big Spring

School(s) Involved: Marcy Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other/not suitable for age group

Result: Banned

Notes: None.

Tithe: A Modern Faerie Tale

Author: Black, Holly

Synopsis: Kaye Fierch, a hard-living, 16-year-old "Asian blonde" faerie, believes she's human. After her rock-and-roll mom's boyfriend threatens to kill her, Kaye returns to her childhood home in New Jersey with her mother, and discovers herself in the middle of a rivalry between two faerie kingdoms.

School District: Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Langham Creek High School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Retained

Notes: "Informal challenge; no paperwork."

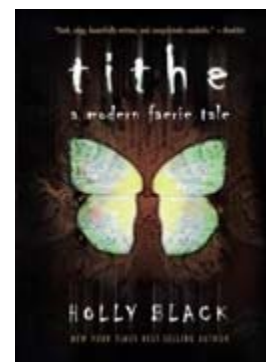
School District: Port Neches-Groves ISD

Location: Port Neches

School(s) Involved: Port Neches Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content



Result: Banned

Notes: None.

The Upstairs Room

Author: Reiss, Johanna

Synopsis: An autobiography about two young Dutch-Jewish sisters during World War II, who were separated from their family and forced to hide for more than two years in the upstairs room of a peasant Gentile family's remote farmhouse. Honors include: 1973 Newberry Honor Book, Notable Children's Books of 1971-1975 (ALA) and Outstanding Children's Books of 1972 (*New York Times*), among many others.

School District: Midway ISD

Location: Waco

School(s) Involved: Spring Valley Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Banned

Notes: "The book was removed from the library because of the strong language and story content: the treatment of Jewish people in Germany during World War II."

Vampires

Author: Perry, Janet and Victor Gentle

Synopsis: A survey of the roles of vampires in legends, pop culture, and the arts.

School District: Waller ISD

Location: Waller

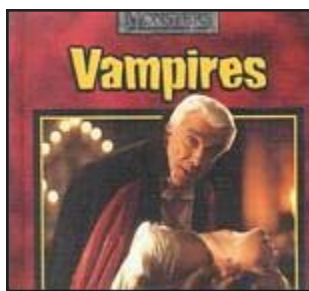
School(s) Involved: Fields Store Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Use restricted

Notes: "A mother ... stated that she didn't like the book and didn't want [her child] to read it. Books with high (6.0 and above) reading levels and some books with more mature subject matter have purple dots. The librarian put a 'purple dot' on this book. Before being allowed to check out these books, students must have a letter of permission signed by their parent."



Vatos

Author: Galvez, José and Luis Alberto Urrea

Synopsis: Collection of photographs and prose by and about Latino boys and men. Galvez has won the Pulitzer Prize.

School District: Granbury ISD

Location: Granbury

School(s) Involved: Acton Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Retained

Notes: "A teacher thought it encouraged Hispanic gangs. No formal challenge."

The Well

Author: Taylor, Mildred D.

Synopsis: In this continuation of the Logan family saga, the father recounts an incident from his boyhood during the 1910 drought in Mississippi involving interracial relations and adolescent behavior.

School District: Newton ISD

Location: Newton

School(s) Involved: Newton Elementary School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Profanity/language

Result: Retained

Notes: None.

What Happens When You Grow?

Author: Richardson, Joy

Synopsis: Describes how bodies grow, develop and change.

School District: Chisum ISD

Location: Paris

School(s) Involved: Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Use restricted

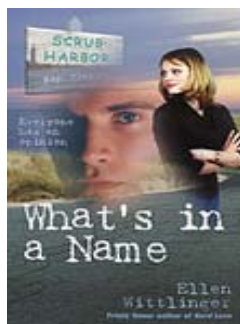
Notes: None.

What's in a Name

Author: Wittlinger, Ellen

Synopsis: Ten teens each narrate a vignette involving a town war over the city's name. Their stories intermingle with the teenage issues they face.

School District: Houston
ISD
Location: Houston
School(s) Involved: Barbara
Bush Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual con-
tent
Result: Banned
Notes: Parent challenge.



What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day

Author: Cleage, Pearl
Synopsis: Story of a woman who returns to her small hometown in Michigan, her lofty career dreams dashed by finding out she has tested positive for HIV. Being needed by family and friends, and falling in love, help save her from despair.

School District: Granbury ISD
Location: Granbury
School(s) Involved: Acton Middle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language
Result: Retained
Notes: “No formal challenge. Questioned by a parent.”

What My Mother Doesn't Know

Author: Sones, Sonya
Synopsis: Teenage Sophie's diaries, expressed as poems full of revelations about young love and lust, friendship, and family life.

School District: Abilene ISD
Location: Abilene
School(s) Involved: Franklin Middle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Result: Retained
Notes: None.

School District: Klein ISD
Location: Klein
School(s) Involved: Hildebrandt Intermediate
Setting: Not indicated
Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content
Result: Decision pending
Notes: “Committee has yet to determine status.”

School District: Port Neches-Groves ISD
Location: Port Neches
School(s) Involved: Port Neches Middle School
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity/language; sexual content
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

When Dad Killed Mom

Author: Lester, Julius
Synopsis: Narrated alternately by a sixth-grade boy and his eighth-grade sister, this story describes what two children experience when their father murders their mother.

School District: Leggett ISD
Location: Leggett
School(s) Involved: All
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity; sexual content
Result: Use restricted
Notes: None.

School District: Lueders-Avoca ISD
Location: Lueders
School(s) Involved: Lueders Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Profanity; violence/horror
Result: Banned
Notes: None.

Where Do You Think You're Going, Christopher Columbus? (Video)

Author: Fritz, Jean
Synopsis: Video version of a humorous biography of the legendary explorer. An ALA Notable Book, *School Library Journal* Best Book of the Year, *Booklist* Notable Children's Book of the Year, and *American Bookseller* Pick of the Lists.

School District: Klein ISD
Location: Klein
School(s) Involved: Benfer Elementary
Setting: Library
Reason Cited: Other
Result: Retained
Notes: “Illustrations in this video show Indians without clothes.”

The White Power Movement: America's Racist Hate Groups

Author: Landau, Elaine

Synopsis: Book details origins and development of racist hate groups in the U.S., such as the Ku Klux Klan and skinheads. Examines the history of such groups, analyzing causes for the phenomenon of hatred and modern racist movements.

School District: Spring ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Twin Creeks Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Other/content

Result: Use restricted. Books were placed behind the circulation desk for teachers to read, but not for student use.

Notes: "The parent has not requested reconsideration of instructional materials."

The Winner

Author: Baldacci, David

Synopsis: LuAnn Tyler is pretty and smart, but stuck in poverty and living with her abusive boyfriend. A stranger offers her the chance to win \$100 million in the next lottery, and LuAnn ends up with her life in danger.

School District: Granbury ISD

Location: Granbury

School(s) Involved: Acton Middle School

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content; profanity/language; violence/horror

Result: Not indicated

Notes: Parent questioned whether the book was appropriate for seventh grade.

The Wish

Author: Levine, Gail Carson

Synopsis: A girl is granted one wish by an old lady to whom she gives up her seat on the subway. She chooses to be "the most popular kid" at her school, with unexpected results. Explores what it means to popular and to learn who your real friends are.

School District: Carthage ISD

Location: Carthage

School(s) Involved: Libby Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Result: Retained

Notes: "We're a campus of second- and third-graders. This book is in the 4.9-7.2 range of Accelerated Reader. The subject of a kiss within the story was questioned."

Yolonda's Genius

Author: Fenner, Carol

Synopsis: Yolonda is smart, tough, and big for her age. Her younger brother Andrew doesn't talk very much, and has trouble learning to read, but creates beautiful music with the old harmonica their father left him. When bullies destroy Andrew's cherished harmonica, it falls to Yolonda to replace the instrument and reveal her brother's musical genius to the world. 1996 Newberry Honor Book, 1996 ALA Notable Children's Book.

School District: Houston ISD

Location: Houston

School(s) Involved: Clinton Park Elementary

Setting: Curriculum

Reason Cited: Other

Result: Alternate book allowed

Notes: Parent challenged.

Zap! I'm a Mind Reader

Author: Greenburg, Dan

Synopsis: After a botched experiment involving electricity in science class shocks 10-year-old Zack, he discovers that he can read other people's minds and hear their thoughts – which leads to chaos.

School District: Joshua ISD

Location: Joshua

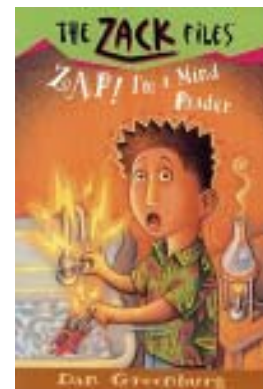
School(s) Involved: North Joshua Elementary

Setting: Library

Reason Cited: Violence/horror

Result: Banned

Notes: "The book was scanned and it was concluded that an immature reader could get the wrong message while reading the book. Example: page 22, '... I love to kill. Can't kill now. Wait till tomorrow. Kill tomorrow! ...'"



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