


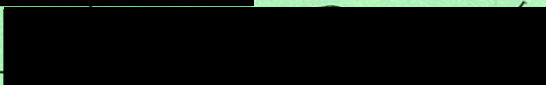
PUBLIC COMMENT – DECEMBER 11, 2023
MEETING OF THE ST TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL

Please print all information. Please return to designated library staff member.
Please use one form for each agenda item you wish to comment on.

I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: F
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

FULL NAME: Rachel Rhodes

ADDRESS: 


TELEPHONE NUMBER:  EMAIL: 

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I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: F (Ana on the edge)
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

Child appropriate book about Younger People
growing up

FULL NAME: Ashlie Chatagnier 

ADDRESS:  Solomon La 70437

TELEPHONE NUMBER:  EMAIL: _____

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I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: F
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

FULL NAME: Joan Simon

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] Covington 70433

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: [REDACTED]

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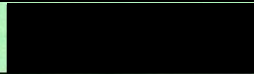
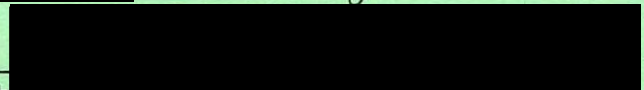
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I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: F
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Both books

FULL NAME: Lisa A Rustemeyer

ADDRESS:  Corington LA

TELEPHONE NUMBER:  EMAIL: 

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I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: F: Ana on the Edge
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

FULL NAME: ~~Devin~~ Devin McGee

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] Mandeville LA 70471

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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X I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: F
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

FULL NAME: TERRI LEWIS STEWART

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] CON.

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: [REDACTED]

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11

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I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: 2F
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

FULL NAME: Kevin Marino

ADDRESS: 70448

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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1

PUBLIC COMMENT – DECEMBER 11, 2023
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I **do not** wish to speak but would like my written comment below added to the public record of this meeting. (Your name will **not** be called to approach the Board to speak.)

Agenda Item #: 2 F

I ~~do~~ want this book back on the shelf, in the
same section as it was originally when
purchased

FULL NAME: Jackie Hall

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

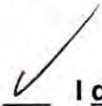
TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: —

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W

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Agenda Item #: 2F

Just recommend book complaint being denied. Does not fall into categories needed to be removed.

FULL NAME: Rebecca Bohm

ADDRESS: 

TELEPHONE NUMBER:  EMAIL: _____

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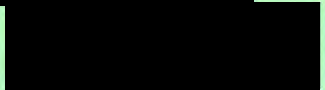
I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: ~~1~~ 6
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

FULL NAME: Cynthia Weatherly

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] Abita Springs

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: [REDACTED]

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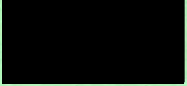
✓ I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: 6
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

FULL NAME: Rachel Rhodes

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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1

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I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: 6 (infantrymen)
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

Removing History from shelves is tyranny

FULL NAME: Ashlee Chetevier

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] Solson La 70437

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: _____

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Please print all information. Please return to designated library staff member.
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I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: 26
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

FULL NAME: Rebecca Bohm

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] Mandeville LA 70471

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: _____

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X I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: 2G
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

FULL NAME: ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Kevin Marino

ADDRESS: 70448

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: 6

(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

FULL NAME: Terri Stevens

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] Cov.

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: [REDACTED]

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PUBLIC COMMENT – DECEMBER 11, 2023
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I request to speak on the following topic/Agenda Item #: C
(Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.)

FULL NAME: Sonnet Ireland

ADDRESS: Slidell, LA

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: [REDACTED]

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X I **do not** wish to speak but would like my written comment below added to the public record of this meeting. (Your name will **not** be called to approach the Board to speak.)

Agenda Item #: 26

This book should remain on the shelf, in the
same section as it was placed when originally
purchased.

FULL NAME: Jackie Hall

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: —————

From: Barbara Mamoulides <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 2:05:36 PM
To: lboc <lboc@stpl.us>; Kelly LaRocca <kelly@stpl.us>
Subject: [External] Challenged books for Dec.11 meeting

Dear Board Members and Ms LaRocca,

Thank you again for all you have done to maintain the excellent library system in St Tammany. You all have been a shining example of professionalism, efficiency, and stewardship in what is arguably one of the craziest years we have experienced. Your work and dedication is appreciated more than you can know.

I will not be able to attend the meeting tonight, so I wanted to share my comments about both challenged books on the agenda. Both of these books were chosen to be challenged for the same reason most of them have been targeted. They deal with gender matters that are not understood or even recognized by the challenger or her followers.

Ana On The Edge is appropriate for young readers and clearly does not meet the requirements for restriction. There are, indeed, young people who have questions about gender, make mistakes in trying to navigate those uncharted waters, and seek support, guidance, and acceptance from their family and friends. This book is a good resource for those youngsters as well for those who are willing to learn to be supportive and compassionate. As a counselor, I recommended this book to a family with a 13 year old girl experiencing many of the same emotions and conflicts. The parents as well as the child found it helpful.

The Fighting Infantryman is also a book about gender, conflict, relationships, and navigating a life one did not expect. It does not meet the requirements for restriction and should be placed back on the shelf where the professional librarians had it. Again, the challenger would restrict the stories of people she and others like her do not understand. It is not their right to erase fellow residents.

Libraries hold the stories of all people. Everyone has a story, and everyone has the right to tell their story. Some will choose to not listen, but others will listen, learn, and make space to hold those sacred stories as gently as their own.

May you all have peace and rest this holiday season. What you do matters.

Gratefully,

Barbara Mamoulides, MA, LPC

[REDACTED] Mandeville 70448

From: [REDACTED] <kevinjmarino@stpl.us>
Sent: Sunday, December 10, 2023 12:17:12 PM
To: lboc <lboc@stpl.us>; Kelly LaRocca <kelly@stpl.us>
Subject: [External] Rules and regulations around RS 25:225

Good afternoon,

I saw the updated card guideline based on the changes to the LBOC rules and regulations. I have concerns with the ultimate outcome of the policy. On October 22, 2023, E. Couvillon confirmed that the language is actually more restrictive and goes beyond what is required by law. The policy as it is currently written makes it where the decision of where books are shelved is taken away from the librarians and forced by regulation. If the board finds a young adult or juvenile title has sexually explicit material, there is no other option except to move this to the adult section. If it is in the adult section, it is possible that a juvenile who is browsing the library materials may never find this title. This would violate that juvenile's first amendment right to access information. This has already happened with the Juvenile non-fiction title, Sex is a funny word. The librarians and the LBOC determined this book was appropriate to be shelved in the Juvenile non-fiction section. Once this overly restrictive rule was put into effect, the book had to be moved into the adult section. As such, I suggest your rules and regulations committee review the policy again and consider making the changes below:

Current Text:

- Materials in the Children's Collections shall not contain sexually explicit material as defined by LA R.S. 25:225.
- Materials in the YA Fiction and YA Non-Fiction collections shall not contain material that has been deemed sexually explicit by the Library Board of Control as defined by LA R.S. 25:225.

Proposed change

- Materials in the Children's Collections shall not may contain sexually explicit material as defined by LA R.S. 25:225.
- Materials in the YA Fiction and YA Non-Fiction collections shall not may contain material that has been deemed sexually explicit by the Library Board of Control as defined by LA R.S. 25:225.

Thank you,
Kevin Marino

From: Hexecutable <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 9:58 AM
To: lboc <lboc@stpl.us>
Subject: [External] Regarding tonights Library Control Board meeting: Short speech.

Good morning,

I prepared a short speech for tonights meeting regarding an item on the agenda. (Ana on the Edge)
I also wanted to share it among the board members in document form.

I think its very important for the people in charge of the process for what is and isnt allowed on library shelves. Recently it was argued by the activists here in St. Tammany that it is somehow a freespeech issue that books they want in the libraries are pending review before being put on shelves. In response, it was decided the books would be mass adjudicated.

This will result in litigation undoubtedly because the contents of many of these books are **pornographic and extremely explicit** in nature.

This is no secret, all you have to do is the slightest bit of looking into these challenged books and you will see it.

I urge the board to do the right thing when it comes to these disputed materials and dedicate more people to go through these books and **be honest and transparent with their findings** for the taxpayers of St. Tammany.

The books pending review **ARE NOT** a free speech issue.

The activists are just lying to the board and those in control because they know they will cave when they get a letter from an organization saying it is so.

Respectfully,
DM

ATTACHED DOCUMENT:

Good afternoon, im here to speak about the concept of generative themes seen in "Ana on the Edge" and their use and purpose in transforming the American education system.

The book employs a generative theme of self discovery when the main character meets someone who is "trans." Introducing books like this generates the opportunity to have radicalizing social and political discussions with listeners who would otherwise not have been introduced to such complexities by an activist but instead by their parents.

Activists within our education system are using these works flying under the banner of "LGBTQ education" as tools to radicalize our children into becoming social and political activists. They plan to turn your children into the next generation of queer activists to further their own revolutionary goals, at the expense of the education of your children and their social, emotional, and physical well being.

What does gay and queer mean and are they the same thing?

Gay and Queer are in fact two different things and cannot be used interchangeably.

We all know what being gay means.

We all believe that gay Americans are deserving of their rights as fellow Americans and people.

Queer, coined and defined by David Halperin in a work titled "Saint Foucault: Towards a Gay Hagiography" says, "unlike gay identity, queer identity need not be grounded in any positive truth or any stable reality. As the very word implies, queer acquires its meaning from its oppositional relation to the norm."

Queer, by definition, is against all forms of both heteronormativity AND homonormativity.

It is against EVERYTHING that is normal, its only purpose is to further criticism of normativity itself and foster attitudes and actions of revolution against it.

So when people tell you that these books, using Queer Theory as a theme, are meant in some way to help "LGBTQ kids" they are LYING to you.

With all of this in mind, Queer Theory is a grooming method used to agitate the minds of those receiving it into becoming political activists.

The activists want you to think any criticism of Queer Theory is rooted in hate towards gays. (its not) Their whole game is to rely on people's good will and ignorance of the subject to further their radical agenda.

That is why the answer is not to "ban" the answer is to talk to your children and warn them of the literal snakes in the play yard grass.

These activists are in your child's schools and public libraries.

They want to corrupt your child's view of the world and any values you the parent have instilled. Our best shot at uprooting these activists is to expose them and argue for transparency, not argue for banning their works as that will most surely give them ammunition for their cause.

Our curriculum should be transparent.

Our libraries should be transparent with what works are entering the shelves.

Tax paying parents should decide what is / is not appropriate in Public Education.

If the content of the book is inappropriate, it should be age restricted. You know, kind of like how we age restrict other forms of media like movies or music. Age restrictions are not bans, dont let lying activists manipulate you into that. A particular thought terminating cliché "ban hate, not books" comes to mind. (which is rooted in the lie of book banning)

The activists want us to overreact because our overreaction is their real action.

Using their terms like "banned books" fuels their activism and gives them something to rally behind.

We simply need to continue doing what we are already doing, reading and exposing these works to people at work, our schools, and at meetings like this.

The only reason we are where we are now is because normal everyday people who are generally apolitical have been asleep at the wheel for far too long.