



BOOK BANS

A GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY
RESPONSE & ACTION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3** INTRODUCTION
- 4** FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
- 6** COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT
 - GLEN RIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY
 - MEDIA COVERAGE
- 10** TAKE ACTION
 - RESEARCH & ORGANIZATION
 - ONCE ORGANIZED
 - ONE WEEK TO DECISIVE HEARING
 - NIGHT OF PUBLIC COMMENT
 - AFTER THE DECISION
- 18** RESOURCES
- 20** CONTACT US

INTRODUCTION

Storytelling is vital to learning, understanding, and acceptance. The current story of book bans in the U.S. is interwoven with the story of the skyrocketing number of legislative proposals targeting LGBTQ people, and especially transgender and nonbinary youth. Like bills targeting health care, drag performance, pronouns, and public spaces, book bans baselessly and disingenuously purport to be about protecting children and parents' rights, when their true intent is aimed at limiting the rising visibility and acceptance of LGBTQ youth, and removing parents' rights to make private health care decisions for their families, or determine what their own children can read.

A recent [American Library Association \(ALA\) report](#) notes a record number of book challenges occurred nationwide in 2022, nearly doubling from the year prior. The ALA states that censorship groups targeted more than 2,500 titles, the majority about LGBTQ people and/or communities of color.

The speed, frequency and vast scope of the latest book challenges should serve as a wake-up call to anyone who values free speech and a free society. The ALA notes that censorship groups compiled and shared lists of books to challenge in local communities, with 90% of book challenges involving attempts to censor multiple titles. Responding to these growing challenges drains time, money and resources from libraries, hampering their ability to effectively serve their communities. Further, they send a dangerous message about whose stories are valid when the truth is, all readers should see themselves reflected in books available in their schools and libraries.

The consequences of book bans extend to everyone in our country. Every LGBTQ young person needs to see themselves in stories about their lives, to let them know they belong just as they are. Every American needs stories about LGBTQ people, Black people, queer people of color, and all marginalized groups to better understand each other's experiences. Books nurture more compassionate human beings and a more successful society, where all are welcome to participate. School boards and libraries must follow established protocol to ensure access to books, and to represent and serve LGBTQ youth. All leaders must speak up against hostile rhetoric and behavior targeting vulnerable young people and books about their lives, and prioritize protecting them and safe spaces for all to learn.

GLAAD created this guide with resources from professional library and free speech advocates to help communities defeat book ban efforts. By using the power of storytelling and engaging media, communities can unite with their neighbors, send a powerful signal of welcome and acceptance, and see challenged books return to shelves. Rallying around shared values of diversity, safety, and progress empowers and strengthens communities, power that can be deployed to defeat extremism wherever it rises up, including in candidates for elected office, as well as school and library boards. While book bans attempt to curb fundamental freedoms, they are far from the final chapter. Communities who care about each vulnerable reader and a future where all can be free should get the last word.



SARAH KATE ELLIS

President and CEO, GLAAD
Author, with Kristen Ellis-Henderson, of *All Moms*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BOOK CHALLENGE AND A BOOK BAN?

Book challenges seek removal of titles and materials from school and public library shelves, whereas book bans see them successfully removed. To be clear, there is arguably little difference - books that are challenged and removed are effectively banned, usually until a period of review is completed.

WHICH BOOKS ARE CURRENTLY BEING CONTESTED?

Each year, the American Library Association publishes a [list of the 10 most challenged books](#). These publications predominantly feature LGBTQ people or topics, are written by LGBTQ authors, or highlight race and racism, including queer Black people. In 2022, the following titles were most frequently targeted:

- 1. Gender Queer: A Memoir**
by Maia Kobabe
- 2. All Boys Aren't Blue**
by George M. Johnson
- 3. The Bluest Eye**
by Toni Morrison
- 4. Flamer**
by Mike Curato
- 5. (tie) Looking for Alaska**
by John Green
- 5. (tie) The Perks of Being a Wallflower**
by Stephen Chbosky
- 7. Lawn Boy**
by Jonathan Evison
- 8. The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian**
by Sherman Alexie
- 9. Out of Darkness**
by Ashley Hope Perez
- 10. (tie) A Court of Mist and Fury**
by Sarah J. Maas
- 10. (tie) Crank**
by Ellen Hopkins
- 10. (tie) Me and Earl and the Dying Girl**
by Jesse Andrews
- 10. (tie) This Book Is Gay**
by Juno Dawson



WHICH STATES HAVE BANNED THE MOST BOOKS FROM SCHOOL LIBRARIES?

According to a 2022 [PEN America](#) report, Texas led the list with 801 bans in 22 school districts, followed by Florida with 566 in 21 districts, and Pennsylvania with 457 bans in 11 districts.

HOW MANY CHALLENGES ARE TAKING PLACE?

The [American Library Association](#) tracked 1,269 censorship demands in 2022, nearly doubling the 729 challenges the year prior.

HOW MANY TITLES ARE FACING CHALLENGES?

According to an [American Library Association report](#), “a record 2,571 unique titles were targeted for censorship, a 38% increase from the 1,858 unique titles targeted for censorship in 2021. Of those titles, the vast majority were written by or about members of the LGBTQIA+ community and people of color.” Of the challenges, 58% were filed against school libraries, while 41% targeted public libraries. In 90% of cases, organizations set their sights on multiple books, with 40% of attempted bans calling into question more than 100 books.

ON WHAT GROUNDS ARE THESE BOOKS BEING CHALLENGED?

Book challenges are often politically charged or filed on moral grounds, most frequently citing LGBTQ-inclusive content, falsely claiming inappropriate subject matter for younger readers.

WHAT’S AT STAKE?

Book challenges threaten our First Amendment right to free speech, limiting or restricting access to educational and potentially life-saving information. In addition to stripping parents of the right to decide what is best for their children, they also threaten to silence already marginalized voices. Book challenges create an unsafe environment for vulnerable youth, who see their stories and themselves falsely described, and diminish their view of a future where they can be themselves and belong.

WHERE CAN I REPORT CENSORSHIP ATTEMPTS?

The American Library Association (ALA) is home to a confidential [challenge reporting form](#). After completion, a representative from the ALA’s Office of Intellectual Freedom (OIF) will contact your team to offer support and resources. Provided information will also aid the OIF in maintaining their challenged materials database.

NUMBER OF CENSORSHIP DEMANDS

2022: 1,269

2021: 769

NUMBER OF TITLES TARGETED

2022: 2,571 (38% ↑)

2021: 1,858

WHERE CHALLENGES ARE OCCURRING

School & classroom libraries/curricula:

58%

Public libraries:

41%

INVOLVING MULTIPLE TITLES

90% involve multiple titles

40% involve 100 or more books

SOURCE: [American Library Association reports record number of demands to censor library books and materials in 2022](#)

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

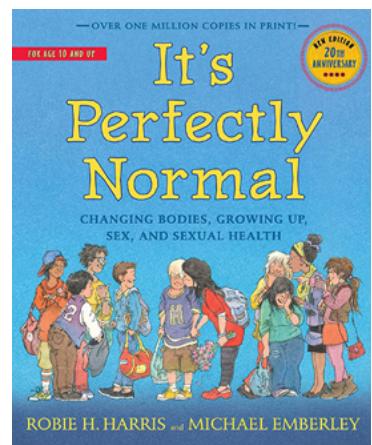
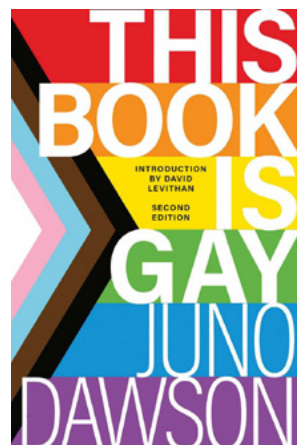
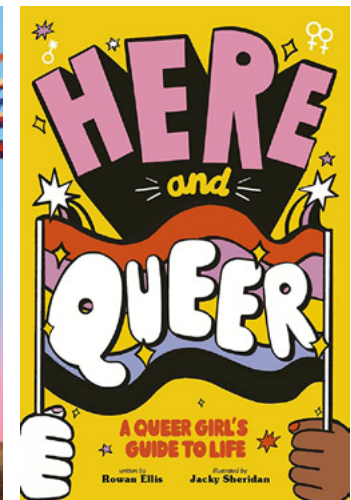
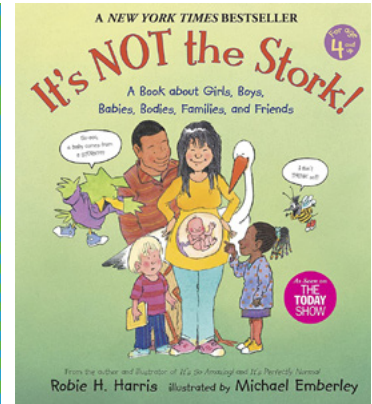
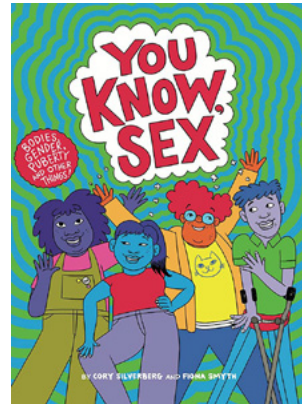
GLEN RIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Glen Ridge, New Jersey

In October 2022, eight people from five families, under the letterhead of an organization purporting to be about education, submitted requests to have six books removed from Glen Ridge Public Library shelves:

- *You Know, Sex*
by Cory Silverberg and Fiona Smyth
- *It's Perfectly Normal*
by Robie H. Harris and Michael Emberley
- *Here and Queer: A Queer Girl's Guide to Life*
by Rowan Ellis and Jacky Sheridan
- *It's Not the Stork!*
by Robie H. Harris and Michael Emberley
- *This Book is Gay*
by Juno Dawson
- *All Boys Aren't Blue*
by George M. Johnson

After reviewing the forms, some of which called for [burning or throwing out the contested titles](#), the library's director followed up in November, stating that "...all of the titles meet the criteria of the Library Materials Selection Policy." The group appealed this decision, and the library responded by scheduling a hearing at their February board of trustees meeting.



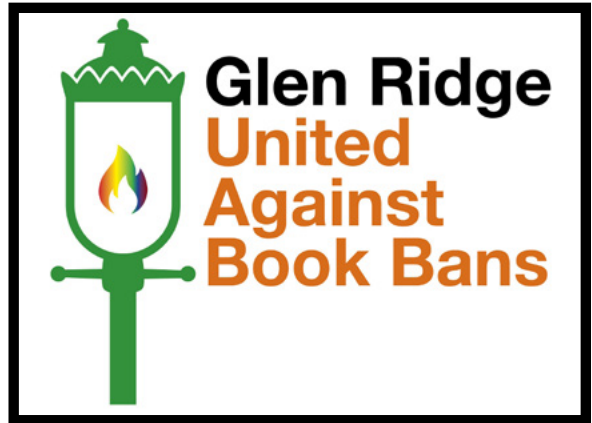
All of the titles meet the criteria of [the Library Materials Selection Policy](#).

During the interim period, a group of residents formed an opposing group, Glen Ridge United Against Book Bans, and laid the groundwork to organize support for the books and LGBTQ youth in the community. Initiatives included:

- Reading the books in their entirety to ensure members were ready to speak about them at the public hearing.
- Obtaining the support of [EveryLibrary](#), a nonprofit organization that helps libraries secure funding, and [Fight for the First](#), which seeks to protect First Amendment rights through resources that help local movements operate successfully. EveryLibrary offered pro-bono counseling, as well as financial support to help Glen Ridge United launch marketing efforts through Fight for the First.
- [Creating a petition](#) in support of keeping the books on library shelves. To date, it has collected more than 3,000 signatures.
- Building social media accounts on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to:
 - get the word out;
 - share frequent updates, a letter from the ACLU to the library director, and messages of support from local communities, medical professionals, and clergy;
 - engage with the community; and
 - correct misinformation.
- Designing and distributing lawn signs to grow awareness and T-shirts to present a unified front during the board meeting.
- Encouraging supporters to submit a written letter to be summarized by the library's board of trustees at the board meeting.
- [Obtaining a statement](#) from George M. Johnson, author of *All Boys Aren't Blue*, one of 2021's most challenged books.
- Starting a [fundraiser](#) to support the [Friends of the Glen Ridge Library](#), a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising funds and growing support and awareness for the Glen Ridge Public Library and the programs and resources they offer.

More than 750 people from Glen Ridge and surrounding communities attended the library's board of trustees meeting on February 8, 2023. Speakers included parents, students at Glen Ridge public schools, teachers, librarians, clergy, and New Jersey Assemblywoman Britnee Timberlake. Family members of challenged author George M. Johnson, who live in New Jersey, delivered a prepared statement from the author, as did Jane Clementi, another New Jersey resident who created a foundation in honor of her son Tyler, who committed suicide after his roommate targeted him with LGBTQ cyberbullying in his first semester in college in 2010.

After more than two hours of public comments, the board voted unanimously to keep the books on library shelves.





“As a Black queer person, I know what it’s like to read books that don’t tell my story. So in this hunt to “protect teens” does it ever cross your mind that banning this lifesaving story for LGBTQ students only harms them more? Or do you not care because that’s really what this fight is over? Removing LGBTQ stories and Black stories.

If you don’t want your child to read it, that’s fine. You have every right to not allow YOUR child to read it. But you don’t get to trample on the rights of parents like my mother and my aunts who have raised LGBTQ teens who needed books like these.”

-George M. Johnson,
Author, *All Boys Aren't Blue*

MORE INFORMATION

[EveryLibrary was proud to support the work of Glen Ridge United Against Book Bans:](#)

Summarizes the book challenge at Glen Ridge Public Library, as well as EveryLibrary’s role in ensuring these titles remained on library shelves.

MEDIA COVERAGE



TAKE ACTION

If you are reading this, you have likely become aware of a local book challenge and want to know how you can get involved and fight back. GLAAD has compiled a list of steps to help set up your campaign.



RESEARCH & ORGANIZATION

1

REVIEW ALA GUIDANCE to find out if your library or school district has a policy for making and reviewing book challenges.

2

ASK QUESTIONS AND GATHER FACTS:

- What book(s) are being challenged?
- On what basis are they being challenged (themes, content)?
- Who is challenging the book(s)?
- Where is the library or school district in the reconsideration process? What is the next step?
- Does the library or school board have a portal for public comment or an in-person hearing?
- If a hearing is being held that allows for public comment, when is it being held?
- When is the vote for reconsideration of the titles? Is it open to the public?

3

CREATE A TASK FORCE

 recruiting volunteers from all backgrounds:

- A diverse and inclusive coalition will include local community members of various ages, incomes, races, religions, occupations, and professions: students, parents, librarians, teachers, authors, LGBTQ groups, and advocates, clergy, and medical professionals.
- Select your leaders:
 - Task Force Leader: to organize, schedule and lead meetings, and coordinate action steps;
 - Policy Organizer: to research book-banning organizations, school board and library governance, and online resources;
 - Writer(s): to draft the task force's statement of mission, summary of the book challenge, sign-on letter or petition, messaging for spokespeople and experts, social media posts;
 - Graphic Designer: to create graphics and branding for social media, lawn signs, signs for in-person meetings, and T-shirts for in-person meetings and press events (a group dressed in the same brightly colored shirts sends a message of solidarity to the public and press);
 - Social Media: to create task force accounts, draft and share copy for social posts and graphics, connect with supporters and the public, and monitor opposition accounts; and
 - Press Manager: organize messages for media, create a list of reporters and email addresses to contact and coordinate coverage.





4

CHOOSE A GROUP NAME:

Select something direct, easy to remember and share, and that conveys the group's purpose (e.g. "Glen Ridge United Against Book Bans").

- Activate a policy organizer who is familiar with school board or library governance and online resources to:
 - Find and review information and documents from the deciding body (school board, library board), including previous meeting minutes, testimony, and important dates of upcoming hearings.
 - Learn the rules for public comment. If not publicly available, connect with school or library board leadership to inquire.
- Create a cloud-based document (e.g. using Google Docs or Microsoft 365) to share relevant information on the public comment period, when decisions about title challenges will be made, by whom and how, and how the public will be made aware.



5

DESIGNATE A RESEARCH VOLUNTEER to research organizations challenging the books.

- Note record of speaking out against critical race theory, LGBTQ people/issues/content, and diversity/equity/inclusion initiatives.
- Organize and save research in a shareable document that can serve as a resource for reporters.
 - In many cases, this will be the first time local reporters cover a book ban or challenge. They need background information and context to accurately describe the motivation of those seeking to ban books and alert to the bigger national picture on book bans.
 - Additional information: Compare local lists to lists shared by national groups, note funding of groups and how the efforts are connected to previous anti-LGBTQ advocacy.



6

DRAFT MESSAGING:

Create a document to share with your group and the public when ready to activate. Include the 5 Ws of the hearing: Who, What, When, Where, and Why, and essential values:

- We support the freedom to read.
- No one has the right to dictate what other people can read or have access to read.
- Parents have the right to decide what their children read. No one has the right to dictate what other parents' children cannot read.
- Everyone deserves to see themselves and their experiences in books.
- Reading helps us understand ourselves, our world, and each other.
- LGBTQ-inclusive books and titles about race and racism are among the most targeted books in recent challenges across the country, organized by national anti-LGBTQ groups. These are not local community-driven efforts.
- Removing books sends a dangerous message to vulnerable communities and youth about who belongs in the world and who doesn't. Every child should be able to see themselves and see a future where they continue to belong.



IDENTIFY EXPERTISE:

Find individuals who can speak up and represent the group on social media, who can write essays for media placement, and who can appear and speak at in-person public meetings:

- Challenged authors and/or their spokesperson:
 - Can appear in-person at the hearing, offer a prepared statement, or record a video to share with the media and on social media the night of the hearing. ([example of social media post from George M. Johnson](#))
 - GLAAD can help you connect with authors and representatives: press@glaad.org.
- Allies and parents of LGBTQ youth
- GSA leaders from your school and other schools
- Teachers
- Librarians from your town or neighboring areas
- School alumni
- Local LGBTQ advocates, civil rights advocates, and equality groups
- Notable figures, business and institution leaders in your community
- Affirming local elected officials
- Local faith leaders
- Mental health professionals with expertise and experience in LGBTQ and gender identity and expression



CREATE A SIGN-ON LETTER OR PETITION:

- Write messaging to introduce your campaign and establish a call to action.
- Request basic information.
- Use Google Forms or a campaign organization platform such as [Fight for the First](#) (see [Glen Ridge United Against Book Bans](#) for inspiration).
- Share on your group's social media accounts to gather signatures.



CREATE AN ORDER FORM to request T-shirts and denote size, as well as lawn signs and other materials to advance your group's mission. Use Google Forms or a similar solution.



10

ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN SOCIAL MEDIA MESSAGING:

- Create a Facebook page (select cause as type) and Instagram account:
 - Use an easy-to-remember handle and be consistent across all platforms (e.g. [@glenridge_united](#) for Glen Ridge United Against Book Bans).
 - Write and share engaging content:
 - Share opinion essays and Letters to the Editor from local educators, clergy, mental health professionals and LGBTQ leaders. [Templates: [Opinion essay](#) and [Letter to the Editor](#)]
 - Reach out to community members and challenged-book authors, asking them for quotes to share, and collaborate on posts. [[template for requests](#)]
 - Keep posts short, snappy, and positive (e.g. "Everyone deserves to see themselves reflected on library shelves.").
 - Engage with followers and ask them to share posts.
 - Include a call to action (e.g. "Join us Wednesday, March 22, for a rally at the public library and tell everyone you support the freedom to read!" or "Sign our petition! Link in bio.").
 - Create a hashtag group, research trending hashtags, or create catchy new ones (e.g. #FReadom, #FreePeopleReadFreely, #bookbans, #bannedbooks, #libraries, #censorship, #ireadbannedbooks, #stopbookbans, #booksnotbans, #uniteagainstbookbans).
 - Tag advocacy groups to cross-promote and build awareness @AmericanLibraryAssociation, @ALALibrary, @UniteAgainstBookBans, @BannedBooksWeek).
- Schedule and track content through a social media management platform. Many services offer free basic solutions (Buffer, CoSchedule, Friends+Me).

11

CREATE A LINKTREE ACCOUNT:

[Linktree](#) offers a free solution to share all of your links (social media, forms, FAQ, resources, etc.) in one convenient location.

12

KEEP SUPPORTERS INFORMED via social media accounts.

ONCE ORGANIZED

1

IDENTIFY SPEAKERS FOR PRESS INTERVIEWS:

Prior to the hearing, prepare task force members to speak with the media. Include the facts about book ban trends, values of the community and commitment to diversity and belonging, importance of the titles challenged, especially to marginalized communities, and overall support for books and the freedom to read. Examples:

- [2022 Book Ban Data \(American Library Association\)](#): Presents statistical information about attempted book bans and the number of titles being targeted.
- [How to Talk About Book Bans \(Unite Against Book Bans\)](#): Includes messaging that can be helpful in informing the press about the dangers of book bans.
- [Working with the Media \(American Library Association\)](#): Provides practical tips on how best to work with the media and deal with potential negative publicity. Geared toward library workers, but most of the advice is applicable.

2

IDENTIFY REPORTERS AND INFLUENCERS:

Look for those who are covering education and other book bans in your town/state/region.

- Reach out with information about your group, and point person for them to contact.
- Offer interviews and research.

3

DESIGNATE A MEDIA VOLUNTEER:

This person will manage press inquiries, set up interviews, and gather and submit opinion essays from local experts.

4

DISTRIBUTE LAWN SIGNS AND T-SHIRTS:

Post photos and videos of these visuals on social media.

5

MONITOR BOOK BANNERS' MEDIA PRESENCE:

Keep an eye on social media and news coverage. Share messages with the task force and note where the story may be shifting or new narratives and partners being introduced.

ONE WEEK TO DECISIVE HEARING

1

FIND OUT THE RULES OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

- How do speakers sign up?
- How many speakers are allowed?
- How long is each person allowed to speak?
- How long is the full period of public comment?

2

CREATE A SPEAKERS LIST FOR NIGHT OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

Organize responses according to topic area or expertise (e.g. librarian re: freedom to read, author of challenged work, LGBTQ youth or advocate, parent of LGBTQ youth, clergy, and medical professional). Move most important messengers and best-known speakers first; divide speakers into content areas (e.g. one per challenged title).

3

INVITE LOCAL AND RELEVANT PRESS:

This should include reporters who have covered book bans, as well as LGBTQ news sources.

4

PREPARE AND REHEARSE SPEAKER REMARKS:

- Keep messaging positive and to the point.
- Acknowledge that you have given due diligence in considering the opposing viewpoint.
- Prepare answers to difficult or unanticipated questions.
- Offer ample opportunities for speakers to rehearse.

5

PUBLISH REMINDER OF HEARING ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

Encourage supporters to attend the public meeting and bring others who support your cause.

6

CREATE A TRACKING SPREADSHEET:

Include speakers and speaker remarks, so as to ensure all angles are covered.

7

PREPARE POST-VOTE PRESS RELEASE:

Include strongest quotes from hearing, as well as quotes from challenged authors and other stakeholders. [[Template for releases](#)]

NIGHT OF PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1 INCREASE VISIBILITY:** Ask supporters to wear their group T-shirts, sit together, and make themselves easily identifiable to those in attendance, including the media.
- 2 BE MINDFUL OF SPEAKER TIME LIMITS:** Ensure representatives speaking out have prepared remarks conforming to time limits.
- 3 BE RESPECTFUL:** This goes without saying, but treat all participants, including those with differing views, with respect. This will help your group stay focused and maintain credibility.

AFTER THE DECISION

- 1 THANK GROUP VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS.**
- 2 PROVIDE SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE:** Keep non-attending supporters apprised by sharing real-time updates and a post-meeting update on group platforms.
- 3 DISTRIBUTE POST-VOTE PRESS RELEASE TO THE MEDIA.**
- 4 KEEP ORGANIZED AND STAY VIGILANT:** This is likely not the last time the opposition will attempt to impose censorship within your community, and they may employ alternate methods to gain power and exert influence (e.g. running for office, school or library board).

IF THE PUBLIC HEARING IS MET WITH A NEGATIVE OUTCOME:

- 1 DON'T BECOME DISCOURAGED:** A setback does not equate to a decisive victory for the opposition. Stay positive and continue to build your case.
- 2 WRITE/CALL YOUR LOCAL LEGISLATORS:** Your voice matters, and it is the responsibility of elected officials to listen to their constituents, and many log and track constituent contacts about policy and issues.
- 3 DRAFT AN OP-ED:** Submit an opinion piece or letter to the editor to your local newspaper.
- 4 GET INVOLVED:** Joining your library or school board will give you a voice during discussions about censorship and ensure greater success in combating future book banning efforts.

RESOURCES

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

[Banned & Challenged Books:](#)

View the most frequently challenged books and download free resources, including infographics and social media images.

[Banned Book FAQ:](#)

Answers to the most commonly asked questions about banned books, including the difference between a challenge and a ban, and why books are challenged.

[Challenge Support:](#)

Toolkit detailing how to respond to book challenges and work with the media and report censorship.

[Intellectual Freedom Blog:](#)

Publishes weekly updates about censorship efforts and current legislation aimed at banning books.

[Office for Intellectual Freedom \(OIF\):](#)

Educates librarians and community members about the importance of keeping books on library shelves. The OIF also maintains a [YouTube channel](#) with webinars discussing intellectual freedom and how to respond to book challenges.

[BANNED BOOKS WEEK](#)

Annual event centered around raising awareness and support for the freedom to read. Programming includes interviews with authors of challenged books and subject matter experts.

[BOOKS UNBANNED](#)

An initiative of the Brooklyn Public Library. Offers teens and young adults aged 13-21 nationwide a free eCard, providing access to their entire eBook collection.

[EVERYLIBRARY](#)

Nonprofit organization that employs various means to secure funding for libraries. Groups that start a campaign on [Fight for the First](#) will gain access to support and training from EveryLibrary, as well as help with gaining exposure.

[FIGHT FOR THE FIRST](#)

With the support of [EveryLibrary](#), Fight for the First provides organizers with tools to help them get started in creating a group. Platform that allows you to create a petition to gain support, create events, and communicate with campaign followers.

NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST CENSORSHIP

[Defend LGBTQ stories:](#)

Explores the reasons behind the attempted censorship of books exploring LGBTQ topics and provides practical advice about defending challenged titles.

[Kids' Right to Read Project:](#)

Learn about the organization's efforts to provide education and advocacy to help community members fight back. Resources include a toolkit to help parents and children confront book challenges.

[PEN AMERICA](#)

Provides research, reports and FAQs about book challenges in schools and their threat to First Amendment rights. Each year, PEN America publishes an Index of School Book Bans, noting which books are being censored and where.

UNITE AGAINST BOOK BANS

[Action Toolkit:](#) Features talking points, answers to commonly asked questions, and tools and resources to help you organize, work with the media, petition lawmakers, and grow awareness.

NATIONAL MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

[Banned and Challenged: Restricting access to books in the U.S. \(NPR\):](#)

Series of interviews with the authors of some of the most frequently banned books. Discussed topics include the importance of Black queer storytelling, sharing experiences that LGBTQ kids and young adults can identify with and that grow understanding, and how titles such as Maia Kobabe's *Gender Queer* can help youth broach difficult topics with their parents.

[Book ban attempts hit record high in 2022, library org says \(ALA\):](#) Summarizes the American Library Association's 2022 report about attempted book bans and the number of titles involved.

[All Boys Aren't Blue Author George M. Johnson's Mom Joins Attendees Speaking Out Against Book Banning Attempt](#)

[School library book bans are seen as targeting LGBTQ content \(AP\):](#) Discusses how book challenges are weighted heavily against the LGBTQ community.

[The Strain Of Censorship On Public Libraries \(NPR\):](#)

Podcast exploring the future of libraries and librarians in the face of increasing book challenges.

CONTACT US

Additional questions and support:
Email - press@glaad.org.



GLAAD rewrites the script for LGBTQ acceptance. As a dynamic media force, GLAAD tackles tough issues to shape the narrative and provoke dialogue that leads to cultural change. GLAAD protects all that has been accomplished and creates a world where everyone can live the life they love.

FOLLOW US!



@GLAAD