

# Today could be beginning of end for libraries to give obscene materials to kids

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## Monday, Feb. 17

Good morning! Hopefully you are ready for another week!

Week 6 of the legislative session starts today at 11:30 a.m. with one of the most important subcommittees of the year. House File 274 will repeal the obscenity exemptions for public libraries and educational institutions.

Said simply, this could mark the beginning of the end of obscene materials being provided to children in Iowa libraries.

Just last week we told you about a “blind date with a book” in the Waukee Library where any child could have grabbed a book wrapped in pink paper with cute stickers on the outside but extremely graphic sexual content on the inside.

We have also told our readers about the book “Gender Queer,” which is available at a number of public libraries across Iowa. When we took pictures of 11 pages of the book and posted them into a story, far-right Christian conservative book banners Google and Facebook had quite the reaction.

Google flagged the story within 24 hours as containing adult sexual content. Facebook flagged it for violating community standards on sexual activity.

We have also highlighted the number of books that aim to cause confusion among Iowa’s youngest kids — telling them they can choose to be a boy, a girl, both, neither or something else.

We have discussed the book “Flamer,” which includes a section where a middle school boy joins other middle school boys in a tent at a summer camp and has to join in a game. The game involves individually making yourself put “bodily fluid” into a Mountain Dew bottle. And if you don’t do that, then you have to drink the bodily fluid from the bottle.

We have discussed the book “This Book Is Gay.” This book is intended for teens and has an entire chapter on the “Ins and Outs of Gay Sex.” It talks about glory holes and golden showers. It instructs on how to use gay sex apps. It gets worse.

And when it was challenged in the Britt Public Library, the library board voted unanimously to keep the book on the shelf because it didn’t feel the challenge was written well enough and the person who challenged the book hadn’t read the entire book.

But, guess what. I asked a majority of the Britt Library Board members if they read the book before voting to keep it. Not one did.

In fact, one of the Britt Library Board members said she isn’t comfortable with the book being on the library shelf, but then said she wouldn’t have voted to remove it. When asked to reconcile those two statements, she said she “didn’t have to answer that question.”

Here is the deal. Public libraries are taxpayer-funded. And while parents do carry some of the responsibility to know what materials their children bring home, the taxpayer-funded library has a responsibility not to make available to kids a book that discusses the “Ins and Outs of Gay Sex,” glory holes, sauna sex parties, golden showers and how to use a gay dating app to hook up for sex.

A parent should be able to trust that a child will not have access to obscene materials at a public library.

I remember going to the video rental store when I was younger. There was a section for “18 and over.” Children could not check out things that were Rated R — or worse.

Yet anyone can check out anything at a taxpayer-funded library. As a government institution, the government should be held to some sort of reasonable standard of NOT providing children obscene material.

The fact this is a “debate” shows how far gone we are as a society.

And for those screaming this is censorship or some book ban or an attack on parental rights — stop. Nobody is saying you can’t go buy the perverted books for yourself (or worse, your child) on Amazon or at a bookstore. We’re simply saying the government institution shouldn’t provide obscene materials to kids.

This isn’t controversial. It’s common sense. And up until five minutes ago, no person in our society would have thought the people trying to keep a book with the “Ins and Outs of Gay Sex” out of the hands of little kids are the bad guys.

In fact, we would have always been considered the sane ones.

Here is a fascinating fact. In 2019, the Iowa Senate voted 48-0 (unanimously) to prohibit a parent from disseminating obscene material to their own child. It wasn’t a book ban. It wasn’t controversial. It wasn’t debated. It just was something sane people supported.

Yet now, just a few years later, an entire political party that just six years ago said parents should be punished for providing obscene materials to their own kids are fighting so that libraries can provide obscene materials to kids.

Whiskey. Tango. Foxtrot.

***JOIN US IN THE FIGHT! The Iowa Standard NEEDS financial support!*** You can sign up [HERE](#) to be a financial supporter. We’re also on Venmo at Iowa-Standard-2018 and PayPal at [newsdesk@theiowastandard.com](mailto:newsdesk@theiowastandard.com). Checks can be sent to:

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## **Meme of the Day**

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Current scene at the White House.

No Pride flags.


No topless transvestites.

No TikTokers dressed in drag.

No twerking Easter Bunnies.

No kids being sniffed.

No cocaine scandals.

THANK YOU, AMERICA! 

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