

CENSORSHIP



What is censorship?

- the suppression or prohibition of any parts of books, films, news, etc. that are considered obscene, politically unacceptable, or a threat to security.
-

Types of Censorship



POLITICAL



STATE
SECRETS



RELIGION



EDUCATION



SELF

Reasons Behind Censorship



Moral censorship occurs when a group tries to keep people from following other standards. For example, a community might seek to block a certain play from being performed or artwork from being shown. K-12 schools in Utah have filters blocking students from searching for undesirable words.

Political censorship happens when the government steps in to censor people or groups. In extreme cases, like in North Korea and Iran, governments use it to halt free expression, curb the voices of dissent, and eliminate political opponents. A smaller case would be a local government cancelling a rally because it could lead to violence.

Religious censorship involves censoring the practices of other religions. Usually this occurs when a dominant religion has a lot of political power. In Spain, largely Roman Catholic, Protestants and Jewish people were not allowed to hold public religious services until 1967. In Europe in the 1500's, people were sometimes burned at the stake for translating bibles.

Where does censorship come from?

Censorship comes from a governing body or authority. When considering political censorship, state secrets, and education, it can come from the government.

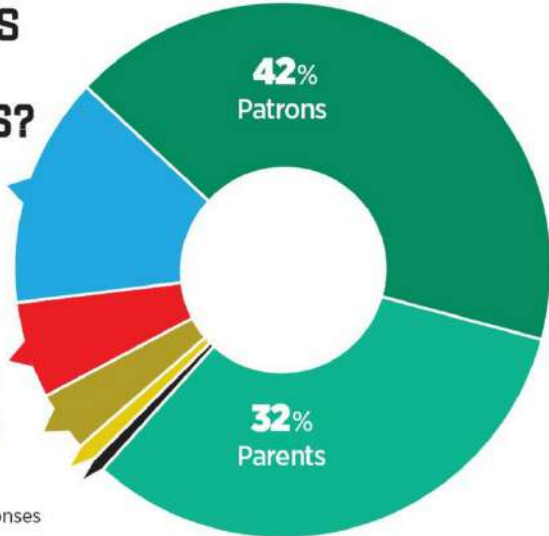


When considering religious, education, and self censorship, it often comes from specific groups.

CENSORSHIP

WHO INITIATES CHALLENGES TO MATERIALS?

- 14% Board/ administration
- 6% Librarians/ teachers
- 3% Political and religious groups
- 2% Elected officials
- 1% Students



Statistics based on 318 responses



BY THE NUMBERS

Who attempts censorship?

Censorship is most often attempted by people who sincerely believe that limiting or preventing access to certain materials will be beneficial to society and/or children. Most believe that censoring material will help prevent bad behavior/ideas ("Intellectual Freedom and Censorship Q & A").

Timeline

*HISTORY OF
CENSORSHIP*

Recent Censorship



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- In **Russia**, President Vladimir Putin is remaking the media landscape in the government's image. In 2014, multiple media outlets were blocked, shuttered, or saw their editorial line change overnight in response to government pressure. While launching its own media operations, the government approved legislation limiting foreign investment in Russian media (Bennett).
- The Chinese government today limits and blocks access to undesirable web sites in what is known as "The Great Firewall of China."

- In August, the Indian government [asked Twitter](#) to suspend over two dozen Twitter accounts and remove over 100 tweets—some belonging to journalists and activists—that talked about the conflict in Kashmir, or showed sympathy for Kashmiri independence movements. The Indian government claimed the tweets violated [Section 69A of India's Information Technology Act](#), which allows the government to block online content when it believes the content threatens the security, sovereignty, integrity, or defense of the country (Kelley and York).

BANNED



CENSORSHIP

WHERE DO
CHALLENGES
TAKE PLACE?



56%
Public
libraries



25%
School
(curriculum
and classrooms)



16%
School
libraries



2%
Academic
libraries



1%
Special
libraries/
other



OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association

BY THE NUMBERS

BANNED VS CHALLENGED

A challenge is an attempt to remove or restrict materials, based upon the objections of a person or group. A banning is the removal of those materials. Challenges do not simply involve a person expressing a point of view; rather, they are an attempt to remove material from the curriculum or library, thereby restricting the access of others ("Challenged and Banned Books").

CENSORSHIP

Books aren't the only items threatened with censorship.

Breakdown of 354 challenges tracked in 2017

67% Books

7% Programs

18% Databases,
magazines,
films, games

4% Displays

4% Other



OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association

BY THE NUMBERS

"Censorship and banning is no longer limited to the printed word. In this age of the internet and the vast amounts of information available there, this censorship in places like libraries has expanded to include the filtering and blocking of certain websites or types of content" (Lusted).

*GRAB YOUR PHONE AND GO
HERE:*

[HTTPS://PADLET.COM/WWALL
ACE5/X8UX51XQZEH](https://padlet.com/wwallace5/x8ux51xqzeh)

*OR SCAN THE
QR CODE*





Books that are banned or challenged...

Challenging or banning a book often has the opposite effect; people want to read them! In the past, challenged or banned books have topped sale charts, and many authors take pride in being among the banned.

**BEING AN AUTHOR OF
BANNED BOOKS IS COOL,
I'VE DECIDED**

LAUREN MYRACLE

PICTUREQUOTES.com

Censorship in our School District and Utah

- Ebsco, the database, was recently blocked and challenged throughout the state of Utah.
- In 1991, Grendel was challenged unsuccessfully at Viewmont High due to content, and sales of the book skyrocketed in Davis and Salt Lake counties.
In Our Mothers' House was challenged in an elementary school in 2012 because it portrays a family with two mothers. After a few hiccups, it was returned to the shelves at the library.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A BOOK IS CHALLENGED IN DAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT?

Very rarely do book challenges happen, where parents request that a book be removed from the curriculum or the library, but we have procedures to follow in case a challenge happens.

If a parent wishes to challenge a book, he or she must read the work in its entirety and fill in a Challenge of Library Materials form, listing why it should be removed from the collection.

The School Library Committee reads the book in its entirety and looks at reviews of the book. It then makes a majority-rules vote to keep it or remove it. If a parent is unhappy with the decision, it can be challenged at a district level, where the same steps are taken.

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