

Office of the City Clerk

491 East Pioneer Avenue Homer, Alaska 99603

clerk@cityofhomer-ak.gov (p) 907-235-3130 (f) 907-235-3143

Supplemental Packet

Item Type: Informational Item
Prepared For: Library Advisory Board

Meeting Date: 15 Nov 2022

Staff Contact: Rachel Tussey, Deputy City Clerk

Department: Clerks

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.C. Appeal of Library Director's Decision Regarding Children and Young Adult Materials

Petition to Follow the City of Homer's Library Collection Policy and Page 2

Support Family Choice – Submitted as of 11-14-22

Petition to Follow the City of Homer's Library Collection Policy and Page 70

Support Family Choice – Submitted as of 11-15-22

Petition to Remove LGBTQ+ Books - Website as of 11-15-22 Page 86

Written Testimony as of 11-15-22, 1:00 p.m. Page 91



This petition has collected 674 signatures using the online tools at www.ipetitions.com

Printed on 2022-11-14

Petition to Follow the City of Homer's Library Collections Policy and Support Family Choice

About this petition

We, the undersigned residents and parents of Homer and surrounding area, support the upholding of the City's Collection Development policy and petition the Library Advisory Board to uphold the Library Director's decision in full, leaving children's books in the children's library.

The Library's policy currently states: "Responsibility for the reading choices and information access by children rests with the parents and legal guardians, not the LibraryThe Library encourages parents to be involved with their children's reading and library use and will work with parents to find materials they deem appropriate for their children."

Any decision to remove the selected books from the juvenile collection undermines the Library's policy for free access to information, including for minors: "Individual or group prejudice about a particular item or type of material in the collection may not preclude its use by others." Creating a special section for select children's books is violating policy and effectively isolating both the information contained in those books and the families who identify with the characters and themes in those books.

In addition, we the undersigned actively support the inclusion of LGBTQ+ representation in our children's library as a reflection and celebration of the diverse community we live in, within a free nation.

In signing this I affirm that I meet all the following criteria:

- 1. I live in the Homer, Alaska area
- 2. I support the Library's Collection Development policy which the Director is upholding and which supports parental rights and family choice.
- 3. I believe LGBTQ+ books for children are valuable and represent our community in a safe and meaningful way.

Signatures

1.	Name: Amy Stonorov (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 04:54:58
2.	Name: Lisa Asselin Martin(Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 04:55:54
3.	Name: Mary Hayden (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, ak	on 2022-11-12 04:58:01
4.	Name: Donna Beran (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 04:58:21
5.	Name: Nicole Reynolds (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 04:59:19
6.	Name: Claudia Haines (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:07:09
7.	Name: Mandy Lehm (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:07:12
8.	Name: Eric Lehm (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:09:15
9.	Name: Michael Stegeman (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:13:53
10.	Name: Shari Daugherty (Additional Comments: Censorship is wro Where do you live? : Anchor Point	on 2022-11-12 05:18:14 ng. That is all.
11.	Name: Sarah Richardson (Additional Comments:	on 2022-11-12 05:18:37

12.	Name: Melanie Dufour(Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:19:36
13.	Name: Charlie Gibson (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:21:19
14.	Name: Emily Munns(Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:22:34
15.	Name: Katy Countiss (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:22:54
16.	Name: Erin Hollowell (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : United States	on 2022-11-12 05:23:17
17.	Name: Rachel Lord (on 2022-11-12 05:23:21 Additional Comments: Our family *loves* our library, and my children (ages 7 and 9) have grown up going to the library almost weekly for most of their lives. It is a rich resource with an incredibly diverse collection which our community should be proud of. The library's collections policy speaks directly to the responsibility of parents to be actively engaged in their children's reading. I agree 100% and fully support this petition. Where do you live? : Homer, AK	
18.	Name: Brie Drummond (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK	on 2022-11-12 05:23:40
19.	Name: Mae Remme (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK	on 2022-11-12 05:25:51
20.	Name: McKenzie McCarthy (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK	on 2022-11-12 05:29:07
21.	Name: Andrea Huyck (on 2022-11-12 05:29:21

22.	Name: Jessica Norton (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point	on 2022-11-12 05:34:04
23.	Name: Corrina Pariyar(Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:34:10
24.	Name: Angela Head (Additional Comments: Homer Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:42:50
25.	Name: Holly Dickson (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:43:18
26.	Name: Katrina Johnson (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 05:45:43
27.	Name: Melanie Reynolds (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor point	on 2022-11-12 05:47:49
28.	Name: Maura Brenin (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Alaska	on 2022-11-12 05:49:19
29.	Name: Beth Carroll (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK	on 2022-11-12 05:50:30
30.	Name: Rylie alborn (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer ak	on 2022-11-12 05:51:24
31.	Name: Mercedes Harness (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska	on 2022-11-12 05:51:42
32.	Name: Samantha Keeley(Additional Comments:	on 2022-11-12 05:54:02

33.	Name: Thorey Munro (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Kachemak City	on 2022-11-12 05:58:38
34.	Name: Rachel Allmendinger (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK	on 2022-11-12 05:58:54
35.	Name: Anna Lewald (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 06:03:58
36.	Name: Emily Kizzia (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska	on 2022-11-12 06:05:22
37.	Name: Brianna Lee (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 06:06:38
38.	Name: Kalie Rubalcava (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 06:10:15
39.	Name: Lisa Krebs (Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 40945 Dorothy Drive	on 2022-11-12 06:10:22 e Homer, AK
40.	Name: Glenn Hollowell (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek, AK	on 2022-11-12 06:12:10
41.	Name: Amanda Campbell (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 06:14:55
42.	Name: Tory Rockefeller (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek	on 2022-11-12 06:16:05
43.	Name: Ann Dixon (Additional Comments: A public library ser	on 2022-11-12 06:16:44 eves the interests of the whole community.

Where do you live?: Homer, AK 44. Name: Sallie Rediske (on 2022-11-12 06:17:18 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 45. Name: Anna McCarthy (on 2022-11-12 06:21:59 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 46. Name: Hayley Norris (on 2022-11-12 06:26:40 Additional Comments: I support keeping these books in the children's section of library. Where do you live? : Homer, AK 47. Name: Jane Dunn (on 2022-11-12 06:28:29 Additional Comments: Allowing children access to books that portray people of different cultures and identities than our own helps us gain empathy for others. Reading books that portray characters that we relate to, especially if we are part of a population targeted by society, helps children feel less alone in the world. It can help them feel comfortable being themselves. LGBTQIA+ youth frequently lose their support systems (family/friends/church) when thy reveal who they are or it is suspected/revealed for them. This leads 1/3 young queer people to consider, attempt or commit suicide. Offering these books freely to the public builds acceptance, awareness and community. This is what libraries do, especially HPL. Keep the books where they are. Where do you live? : Homer 48. Name: Jessica Stegeman (on 2022-11-12 06:32:23 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 49. Name: Rose Masui (on 2022-11-12 06:34:13 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 50. Name: Sheree Serio on 2022-11-12 06:35:06 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 51. Name: Kathryn Ault (on 2022-11-12 06:39:47 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

Parents have the right to monitor their own children's reading but do not have the right to

limit access to materials for other children and families.

52. Name: Adrienne Leffler on 2022-11-12 06:45:51 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer ak 53. Name: Angela Smith (on 2022-11-12 06:49:39 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 54. Name: Lila Johnson (on 2022-11-12 06:52:23 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Name: Karianna Ford (55. on 2022-11-12 06:53:50 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point, Alaska 56. Name: Cheyanne Lambert (on 2022-11-12 06:57:47 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 57. Name: Ben Gibson (on 2022-11-12 07:04:33 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 58. Name: Sam Bishop (on 2022-11-12 07:09:01 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 59. Name: Tia Pietsch (on 2022-11-12 07:10:02 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 60. Name: Ryan Lee on 2022-11-12 07:14:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 61. on 2022-11-12 07:19:27 Name: Dalena McKay (Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AkK 62. Name: David G Lewis on 2022-11-12 07:25:59 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

63. Name: Lindsay Olsen (on 2022-11-12 07:28:04 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 64. on 2022-11-12 07:37:00 Name: Steve Gibson (Additional Comments: Let the children develop to realize their potential, not your particular preference. Where do you live? : Homer 65. Name: Delane on 2022-11-12 07:41:20 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 66. Name: Chelsea Schmitt (on 2022-11-12 08:39:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer alaska 67. Name: David Bolt (on 2022-11-12 08:44:29 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 68. Name: Cynthia Morelli (on 2022-11-12 08:47:04 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 69. on 2022-11-12 08:57:40 Name: Daniel Perry (Additional Comments: It's okay to have different viewpoints, just don't impose them on our institutions that offer free access to information. Where do you live? : Homer 70. Name: Deb Curtis (on 2022-11-12 09:01:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Alaska 71. Name: Terri Mach (on 2022-11-12 09:24:14 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 72. Name: Alison Flack (on 2022-11-12 09:31:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : SOLDOTNA 73. Name: Brandy McGee (on 2022-11-12 10:13:41 Additional Comments:

74. Name: Rebekah Dalke on 2022-11-12 11:05:50 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer Alaska 75. Name: Michelle Borland (on 2022-11-12 12:32:42 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 76. Name: Nancy Lord (on 2022-11-12 13:02:20 Additional Comments: I strongly support the library director's decision based on the detailed, carefully considered collection policy. Library professionals, not religious groups or individual parents, should determine library collections. Where do you live?: Homer city resident 77. Name: Anna Germundson (on 2022-11-12 13:26:40 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : United States 78. Name: Jane Wiebe (on 2022-11-12 13:50:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 79. Name: Beth Van Sandt (on 2022-11-12 14:15:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 80. Name: Kurt Weichhand on 2022-11-12 14:36:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : City of Homer 81. Name: Jillian Rogers (on 2022-11-12 14:44:15 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 82. Name: Steve Glasman on 2022-11-12 14:52:26 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 83. Name: Janet Fink (on 2022-11-12 14:55:14 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Diamond Ridge

84.	Name: Marjorie Ringer (Additional Comments: Homer Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 15:13:09
85.	Name: Marcia Boone (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 15:28:00
86.	Name: Greta Mahowald (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK	on 2022-11-12 15:34:44
87.	Name: Elise Boyer (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 15:36:42
88.	Name: Liza Spencer (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 15:37:32
89.	Name: Alex Koplin (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 15:44:11
90.	Name: Kathy Robinson (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek	on 2022-11-12 15:52:05
91.	Name: Bruce Robinson (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek	on 2022-11-12 16:00:27
92.	Name: Margarida Kondak (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK	on 2022-11-12 16:01:36
93.	Name: Ginger Root (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek	on 2022-11-12 16:02:52
94.	Name: sarah brewer (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	on 2022-11-12 16:21:08

95. Name: Melissa Cloud on 2022-11-12 16:21:52 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 1065 Dewberry Ln 96. Name: Lisa Talbott (on 2022-11-12 16:26:56 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 97. Name: Michael Walsh (on 2022-11-12 16:29:51 Additional Comments: This isn't Nazi Germany. Please keep the books on the shelves. Where do you live?: 2005 Mary Allen, Homer 98. Name: Brianna Allen (on 2022-11-12 16:29:54 Additional Comments: Protect family choice. Where do you live? : Homer 99. Name: Kammi Matson on 2022-11-12 16:31:15 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 100. Name: Linda robinson (on 2022-11-12 16:33:23 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 101. Name: Katharine Bynagle (on 2022-11-12 16:35:19 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 102. Name: Daria Multz on 2022-11-12 16:37:47 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 103. Name: Heather Kallevig (on 2022-11-12 16:38:18 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 104. Name: Bobbi Cleary on 2022-11-12 16:39:34 Additional Comments: The books should remain accessible! Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 105. Name: Liz Doan on 2022-11-12 16:40:25 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

106.	Name: Alex Bird (on 2022-11-12 16:41:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer
107.	Name: Ellen Lord (on 2022-11-12 16:43:17 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer
108.	Name: Karen Murdock (on 2022-11-12 16:47:22 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK
109.	Name: julie on 2022-11-12 16:47:44 Additional Comments: really Where do you live?: homer
110.	Name: Lauren Seaton (on 2022-11-12 16:49:07 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Kachemak
111.	Name: Jody mastey on 2022-11-12 16:49:17 Additional Comments: removing language from sex and gender issues does not eliminate sex and gender issues. We need language to help our your youth develop strong self identities and foster empathy. Where do you live?: Homer, alaska
112.	Name: Pamela Baltzer (on 2022-11-12 16:49:22 Additional Comments: Thank You for promoting and acceptance of diversity in our town Where do you live? : Homer
113.	Name: Barbara McNinch (on 2022-11-12 16:51:22 Additional Comments: Let's keep the role of censorship, if needed, within individual families and not a responsibility of public libraries. Where do you live?: Homer
114.	Name: Oceana Wills (on 2022-11-12 16:51:35) Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer
115.	Name: Pat Moss (on 2022-11-12 16:52:23 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer
116.	Name: Charlene Flyum (on 2022-11-12 16:53:11

117. Name: SunRose Winslow (on 2022-11-12 16:54:30 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 118. Name: Jaime Roth (on 2022-11-12 16:55:00 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 119. Name: Katlyn Oberholtzer on 2022-11-12 16:57:50 Additional Comments: Please, let people decide what books they want to read without limiting their choices! Where do you live? : Homer 120. on 2022-11-12 16:59:15 Name: Jane Rohr (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 121. Name: Andy Kita (on 2022-11-12 16:59:54 Additional Comments: This is insanity. Where does it end? Maybe we should take all the books about spiders out just in case our kids get indoctrinated and become arachnids. Stop this madness. No censorship at this safe place. Where do you live? : Homer 122. on 2022-11-12 17:01:23 Name: Rudy Multz Additional Comments: Freedom means having choices. Public institutions such as the library allow citizens to choose to educate or entertain themselves freely without censorship of those voices or their choices within the limits of what is legally allowed. Banning books is censoring choice and that is definitely not freedom. A dangerous precedent is set when we start limiting choices. If parents are concerned about content of children's books then they need to monitor and quide their children until they turn 18 and can be legally responsible for themselves. Please do not censor and limit choices that constitute the freedoms we have in this nation. Thank you for your time and consideration. Where do you live? : Homer 123. on 2022-11-12 17:03:11 Name: Vivian Finlay (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 124. Name: Robin Tupper (on 2022-11-12 17:05:05 Additional Comments:

Additional Comments: We have the best library. Let's keep it that way.

Where do you live?: 2281 Sprucewood Dr, Homer, AK

Where do you live?: Anchor Point, Alaska

125. Name: Carolyn Maslow (on 2022-11-12 17:06:07 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 126. Name: Hillary Nash (on 2022-11-12 17:06:18 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 40560 Hancock Dr. Homer AK 99603 127. Name: Clyde (on 2022-11-12 17:09:09 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska, USA 128. Name: Marie Herdegen (on 2022-11-12 17:10:27 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska 129. Name: Susan Houlihan (on 2022-11-12 17:11:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point, AK 130. Name: Consuelo Goldman (on 2022-11-12 17:15:50 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 131. Name: Joe Pfeil (on 2022-11-12 17:16:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 132. Name: Richard Anthony Chiappone on 2022-11-12 17:18:39 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 133. Name: Misha klassen (on 2022-11-12 17:19:07 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 134. Name: Barbara Veeck (on 2022-11-12 17:21:41 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Physical: Anchor Point PO BOX: Homer 135. Name: candy rohrer (on 2022-11-12 17:24:07 Additional Comments: For LGBT youth, books about their real-life struggles and challenges is extremely important. For all people that want to learn more and think more

Where do you live? : Homer, Ak 136. Name: Brooke Andrews (on 2022-11-12 17:25:34 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 137. Name: Bill Morse (on 2022-11-12 17:26:50 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek, AK 138. Name: Rachael Doan (on 2022-11-12 17:26:56 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 139. Name: Kyle Darbonne (on 2022-11-12 17:29:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 140. Name: Janice Todd (on 2022-11-12 17:35:40 Additional Comments: Ever since I took Children's Lit and a course on Hans Christian Andersen at the UW in Seattle, I've read children's lit differently. Good writing has many levels.. Stories within stories, stories some see but others miss. Stories that deal with problems some of us face but others never will. Where do you live? : Skyline Drive 141. Name: Stacey Buckelew (on 2022-11-12 17:35:58 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 142. Name: Hope Geysbeek on 2022-11-12 17:38:40 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 143. Name: Irene Saxton on 2022-11-12 17:38:52 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 144. Name: Sonja Martin Young (on 2022-11-12 17:40:16 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 145. Name: Melody Chrsley (on 2022-11-12 17:42:46

deeply about a sense of self, place and relationship to others and their acceptance in our

community, work and family I support inclusion of a divers library collection.

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

146. Name: Andrew Haas on 2022-11-12 17:43:06 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 147. Name: Thomas Young (on 2022-11-12 17:43:16 Additional Comments: Homer Where do you live? : Homer 148. Name: David Nofziger (on 2022-11-12 17:43:45 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 4242 Calhoun St Bldg 2 Apt A 149. on 2022-11-12 17:46:08 Name: Remo Lotscher (Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 150. Name: Kristen Cook on 2022-11-12 17:49:28 Additional Comments: Please allow these harmless books to remain for those who they may help and need them. Where do you live?: Homer, AK 151. Name: sharon roufa (on 2022-11-12 17:49:28 Additional Comments: I support parental choice in the library. Books are not the enemy. Where do you live?: Homer Alaska 152. Name: Ruby Nofziger (on 2022-11-12 17:50:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 153. on 2022-11-12 17:50:28 Name: Bridget Maryott (Additional Comments: "[Book bans are] a strong message to youth who belong to marginalized communities that they don't belong," said Deborah Caldwell-Stone, the director of the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom, which has been advocating against these bans. "When you tell a student that they don't belong, that they don't have a place in the library, you're driving them away from all the resources in the library. You're discouraging them from pursuing educational achievement, from broadening their perspectives, from engaging in critical thinking, and reaching out to learn about a broad range of perspectives that address all kinds of issues"

Where do you live? : Homer

on 2022-11-12 17:52:43

154.

155. Name: Willy Dunne on 2022-11-12 17:53:19 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 156. Name: Jerilyn Wright (on 2022-11-12 17:55:32 Additional Comments: Leave them where they are and let them help the kids! Where do you live? : Homer 157. Name: Gart Curtis (on 2022-11-12 17:55:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 158. Name: Mary Huff (on 2022-11-12 17:57:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 159. Name: J Higbee (on 2022-11-12 17:57:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 160. Name: Debbie Oudiz (on 2022-11-12 17:59:04 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek Name: Nancy Jane York (161. on 2022-11-12 17:59:22 Additional Comments: Homer Where do you live? : Homer 162. Name: Leslie Whip (on 2022-11-12 18:00:32 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 163. Name: Mindy Hunter (on 2022-11-12 18:00:59 Additional Comments: Protect our library Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 164. on 2022-11-12 18:01:41 Name: Katy Rice (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 165. Name: Janet ORourke (on 2022-11-12 18:01:55 Additional Comments:

166.	Name: Detricia Hahn (on 2022-11-12 18:06:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer
167.	Name: Kathy Irwin (on 2022-11-12 18:07:13 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Alaska
168.	Name: Kathryn Crowley (on 2022-11-12 18:07:50 Additional Comments: Public Libraries are places to access information which appeal to all kinds of people no matter what their race, gender, ethnicity or class. People can choose what they would like to interact with from there. To regulate in any other way is to deny people who don't align with your particular views access to topics and material that speaks to them. It is short sighted and wrong. I sign this to protect our access to all of the books and worldviews and my advice is if you don't like it-don't check it out. Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
169.	Name: Lisa Whip (on 2022-11-12 18:07:57 Additional Comments: Please support our library board and the comprehensive library collection policy. Please support all the children of Homer. Please support our hard working library staff who are dedicated to literacy and serving the public— each and every person of our community. Where do you live?: I live in Homer.
170.	Name: Tyroan Rediske (on 2022-11-12 18:08:26 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, Ak
171.	Name: Pat Irwin (on 2022-11-12 18:09:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Alaska
172.	Name: Cameron Streidl (on 2022-11-12 18:10:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Grand Rapids, MI
173.	Name: Suzanne Haines (on 2022-11-12 18:10:59 Additional Comments: Libraries offer freedom of choice for all patrons. It's easy to pick appropriate books for individuals and families. Having a wide selection of reading material serves the wide population's interests, needs, and beliefs. Thank you. Where do you live?: Homer City Limits
 174.	Name: Chris Fischer (on 2022-11-12 18:11:04

Where do you live? : Homer Name: Karen Christopher (175. on 2022-11-12 18:12:04 Additional Comments: Children need to learn about it all, color, race, religion, gender. A library should not be biased. Knowledge is knowledge! Where do you live? : Homer 176. Name: Judy Gonsalves on 2022-11-12 18:12:20 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 177. Name: Susannah Webster (on 2022-11-12 18:13:39 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 178. Name: Joy Steward (on 2022-11-12 18:14:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 39390 Harbinson Rd, Homer, a 179. Name: Amy Russell (on 2022-11-12 18:15:52 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 180. Name: Tad Russell (on 2022-11-12 18:16:57 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 181. Name: Tim Whip (on 2022-11-12 18:17:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 182. Name: Shannon McBride-Morin (on 2022-11-12 18: Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer.p.o. box 653 Homer 183. Name: Dots Sherwood (on 2022-11-12 18:19:47 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer on 2022-11-12 18:20:19 184. Name: Barbara Wolters (

Additional Comments:

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

185. Name: Bradley Parsons (on 2022-11-12 18:20:20 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 186. Name: Shawnisty Webber on 2022-11-12 18:20:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point 187. Name: Carlin Rauch (on 2022-11-12 18:20:22 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska Name: Billy H (188. on 2022-11-12 18:23:09 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer,ak 189. Name: Sara Reinert (on 2022-11-12 18:23:25 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 190. Name: Paul Rauch (on 2022-11-12 18:24:08 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 191. Name: Beth nehus (on 2022-11-12 18:24:43 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : United states 192. Name: Terri Spigelmyer (on 2022-11-12 18:26:32 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 193. Name: Brian burns (on 2022-11-12 18:27:03 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Ak 194. Name: Kathryn Mulder (on 2022-11-12 18:28:32 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek, AK on 2022-11-12 18:29:03 195. Name: Emily Read (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Kachemak City

196.	Name: Chloe Pleznac (
197.	Name: Janice Kaye (on 2022-11-12 18:32:07 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Happy Valley
198.	Name: Elizabeth Stark (on 2022-11-12 18:32:39 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer
199.	Name: Winter Allen (on 2022-11-12 18:33:07 Additional Comments: Everyone deserves access to all types of books. Where do you live? : Homer
200.	Name: Melissa Malcolm on 2022-11-12 18:35:36 Additional Comments: While my family lives in Anchor Point, we hold library cards at the Homer Library, come to child story time frequently, and borrow books from Homer Public Library. Where do you live?: Anchor Point
201.	Name: Paula G Riley (on 2022-11-12 18:36:12 Additional Comments: Individuals and/or groups with private agendas must not be allowed to dictate what the rest of our community reads. Where do you live? : Homer
202.	Name: MeloPurcell (on 2022-11-12 18:36:30 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek
203.	Name: Courtney Dodge (on 2022-11-12 18:36:43 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK
204.	Name: Sandra Garity (on 2022-11-12 18:37:10 Additional Comments:

205. Name: Meghan Gervais (on 2022-11-12 18:37:33 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 206. Name: Jill Burnham (on 2022-11-12 18:38:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 207. Name: Stuart Schmutzler (on 2022-11-12 18:38:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer area 208. Name: Heather Renner (on 2022-11-12 18:39:23 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 209. Name: Nancy Schrag (on 2022-11-12 18:39:55 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 210. Name: Shannon Moore (on 2022-11-12 18:40:08 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 211. on 2022-11-12 18:41:06 Name: Sue Rennolds (Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 212. Name: Christine Kulcheski (on 2022-11-12 18:43:42 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 213. Name: Mindy Lewis (on 2022-11-12 18:44:31 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 214. Name: John Sheipe (on 2022-11-12 18:44:52 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 215. on 2022-11-12 18:45:34 Name: Dianne Spence-Chorman Additional Comments:

216. Name: Eric Schallock (on 2022-11-12 18:46:37 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Aspen Court, Homer AK 99603 217. Name: Kim Glaspell (on 2022-11-12 18:46:59 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 218. on 2022-11-12 18:48:49 Name: Margo Reveil (Additional Comments: Libraries should remain a place where a diverse range of material is available for both children and adults. We all have the freedom to choose what we or our children bring into our homes, let librarians do their jobs in assuring that the range of content available matches the diversity of interests in the community. Where do you live? : Homer 219. Name: Brandon Mclean on 2022-11-12 18:49:37 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 220. Name: Joseph Piper (on 2022-11-12 18:50:20 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 221. Name: Jeri McLean (on 2022-11-12 18:52:08 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 222. Name: Hannah Gustafson (on 2022-11-12 18:53:07 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 223. Name: Sarah Dailey (on 2022-11-12 18:56:50 Additional Comments: Keeping LGBTQ+ books in our library will be beneficial to LGBTQ+ youth. Representation matters, and for youth and young adults who may be struggling with their identities, having access to stories where the characters look like them and experience the world like them is vital. Removing books that feature characters and stories with these themes will only serve to further isolate and shame individuals in our community who identify with said themes and characters.

Keep representation in our library. Keep showing the LGBTQ+ members of our community that they matter, that their stories are important, and that we love and accept them.

224. Name: Marylou Burton (on 2022-11-12 18:58:43 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 225. Name: Kyla Adelle Dammann (on 2022-11-12 19:02:50 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 226. Name: Bob Shavelson (on 2022-11-12 19:02:53 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 227. Name: Kristie Kouyoumjian (on 2022-11-12 19:03:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 228. Name: Dave Lyon (on 2022-11-12 19:04:40 Additional Comments: Stop this madness. Where do you live? : Homer 229. Name: Sai (on 2022-11-12 19:09:02 Additional Comments: Lgbt children deserve dignity. Where do you live? : Homer 230. Name: Lani Raymond (on 2022-11-12 19:11:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Kachemak City 231. Name: saskia esslinger (on 2022-11-12 19:14:59 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 232. Name: Mariza Tovar (on 2022-11-12 19:15:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point, AK 233. Name: Eric S Brown (on 2022-11-12 19:16:16 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 234. on 2022-11-12 19:18:57 Name: Karl Stoltzfus (Additional Comments:

235. Name: Karen Shemet (on 2022-11-12 19:19:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 236. Name: Tracie Brown (on 2022-11-12 19:20:16 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 237. Name: Kelsey Hardy-Place (on 2022-11-12 19:20:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 238. Name: Marie Alexson (on 2022-11-12 19:21:55 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 239. Name: Abigail Ross (on 2022-11-12 19:28:09 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 240. Name: Peggy Paver (on 2022-11-12 19:31:07 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 241. Name: Kathleen Gustafson on 2022-11-12 19:34:47 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Downtown Homer 242. Name: Meghan Pollak (on 2022-11-12 19:36:04 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 243. on 2022-11-12 19:39:08 Name: Kari Odden (Additional Comments: Support family choice! Where do you live? : Homer 244. Name: Aaron Glidden on 2022-11-12 19:39:13 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 245. Name: Carrie Ann Oats on 2022-11-12 19:43:04 Additional Comments:

246. Name: Mary Lou Kelsey on 2022-11-12 19:45:49 Additional Comments: Please no judgement Where do you live? : Homer 247. Name: Cal Loomer (on 2022-11-12 19:47:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : HOMER 248. Name: Amanda Hall on 2022-11-12 19:51:31 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 249. Name: Rand Seaton on 2022-11-12 19:53:17 Additional Comments: As parents we can make individual choices on what we feel is appropriate for our kids to read. Where do you live? : Kachemak city 250. Name: Ahnie Litecky (on 2022-11-12 19:53:58 Additional Comments: We cannot abide hate and bigotry in our community by banning books. Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 251. Name: Katie Marden (on 2022-11-12 19:54:50 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Ak 252. Name: Jack Oudiz (on 2022-11-12 19:55:34 Additional Comments: Thanks for doing this Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 253. Name: Patrice Krant (on 2022-11-12 20:06:51 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 254. Name: Lisa Nordstrom on 2022-11-12 20:07:26 Additional Comments: Please do not do... why be closed minded and create a society that is so segregated?! Where do you live?: Fritz Creek Alaska on 2022-11-12 20:08:52 255. Name: Blaise Augustine Banks (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

256. Name: Rick Cline (on 2022-11-12 20:09:49 Additional Comments: Freedom rocks! Where do you live? : Homer 257. Name: Jamie Cloud (on 2022-11-12 20:12:27 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Name: Jay Bechtol (258. on 2022-11-12 20:12:53 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 259. Name: Kathleen Eagle (on 2022-11-12 20:14:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 260. Name: Beth Graber (on 2022-11-12 20:18:19 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 261. Name: Helen Armstrong (on 2022-11-12 20:18:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 262. Name: Ann Keffer (on 2022-11-12 20:21:18 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 189 Island View Court, Homer 263. Name: Elizabeth (on 2022-11-12 20:25:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 264. Name: Kappa Reutov (on 2022-11-12 20:25:32 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 265. Name: Megan on 2022-11-12 20:26:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 266. Name: Ashe on 2022-11-12 20:28:14 Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

267. Name: Karen Fine (on 2022-11-12 20:28:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : United States 268. Name: claire waxman (on 2022-11-12 20:30:18 Additional Comments: books are knowledge, they open worlds for everyone please keep the variety in our homer library Where do you live? : homer 269. Name: Lia Jacobsen (on 2022-11-12 20:31:32 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 270. Name: AMY RATTENBURY (on 2022-11-12 20:33:23 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer AK 99603 271. Name: Carly Ott (on 2022-11-12 20:34:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Alaska 272. on 2022-11-12 20:39:40 Name: Mariah (Additional Comments: keep the books Where do you live? : Homer 273. on 2022-11-12 20:42:35 Name: bree (Additional Comments: i don't read a lot but i wish i would've gotten to learn more about Igbt when i was younger Where do you live? : homer ak 274. Name: Ken Goldman (on 2022-11-12 20:43:06 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: HOMER 275. Name: Kim A Greer (on 2022-11-12 20:44:48 Additional Comments: Stop with the separatists of all people and practice support and education, kindness, jobs etc for all!! There is no two people in the world that are the same, except those who have lime opinions from fake news and fear!! Where do you live? : Homer Alaska 276. Name: Max Mitchell (on 2022-11-12 20:50:10 Additional Comments: The library should not be subject to banning books or having them singled out as controversial

277. Name: Ruthie Puckett (on 2022-11-12 20:51:14 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 278. Name: MIA BARRETT (on 2022-11-12 20:54:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 279. Name: Melissa Carlin (on 2022-11-12 20:55:56 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 280. Name: Krystal Slms (on 2022-11-12 20:59:41 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 281. Name: Mike Hawfield on 2022-11-12 20:59:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 282. Name: Annie Garay (on 2022-11-12 21:01:15 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : homer 283. Name: Deb Lowney (on 2022-11-12 21:04:00 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 284. Name: Cristine Beaudoin (on 2022-11-12 21:04:11 Additional Comments: Thank you for this! Where do you live? : Homer 285. Name: Wynn Levitt (on 2022-11-12 21:05:09 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 286. Name: Kathleen Kuhn (on 2022-11-12 21:05:22 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 287. on 2022-11-12 21:06:12 Name: Kaec Additional Comments:

288. Name: Thea Person on 2022-11-12 21:06:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 289. Name: Marilyn Sigman (on 2022-11-12 21:07:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 290. Name: Joseph Spaeder (on 2022-11-12 21:08:13 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer on 2022-11-12 21:08:39 291. Name: Sharon Gorman (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 292. Name: Zoey Thompson (on 2022-11-12 21:08:44 Additional Comments: Gay books dont make gay kids Where do you live? : Homer Alaska 293. Name: Kyllee Sleck (on 2022-11-12 21:08:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 294. Name: Shannon Zanone (on 2022-11-12 21:10:06 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 295. Name: Maggie Mae Gaylord (on 2022-11-12 21:10:10 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer Alaska 296. Name: Andrew Pollak on 2022-11-12 21:17:05 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 297. Name: Julia (on 2022-11-12 21:19:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 298. on 2022-11-12 21:19:29 Name: Adeline Gloor (Additional Comments:

299. Name: Jessica Golden (on 2022-11-12 21:20:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 300. Name: Ashley Hanson (on 2022-11-12 21:21:55 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 301. Name: Enrique (on 2022-11-12 21:23:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Texas 302. Name: Carolyn Norton (on 2022-11-12 21:26:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 303. Name: Pamela Voeller (on 2022-11-12 21:26:36 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 304. Name: casper von (on 2022-11-12 21:27:16 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 305. on 2022-11-12 21:27:48 Name: Celia Quinn (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 306. Name: Tauri Scruggs (on 2022-11-12 21:28:34 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 307. Name: Kyle Schneider (on 2022-11-12 21:30:05 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 308. Name: Joey K (on 2022-11-12 21:31:18 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 309. Name: Britta Frank on 2022-11-12 21:34:06 Additional Comments:

310. Name: Carla Klinker Cope on 2022-11-12 21:34:44 Additional Comments: Please don't remove these important books from the children's library. They matter to me and to my family. Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 311. on 2022-11-12 21:36:10 Name: Loretta Brown (Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 312. Name: Renee Veldman (on 2022-11-12 21:44:01 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Ak 313. on 2022-11-12 21:48:42 Name: Art Koeninger (Additional Comments: It ain't broke, don't fix it. Where do you live? : Homer 314. Name: elsa milne (on 2022-11-12 21:51:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 315. on 2022-11-12 21:56:17 Name: Chuck Wood (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 316. Name: Cynthia Sisson (on 2022-11-12 21:57:36 Additional Comments: Please do not sensor the books in the Homer library. Where do you live? : 2091 Horizon Ct Homer AK 317. Name: Laurie Daniel (on 2022-11-12 22:01:37 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 318. Name: Mackenzie Bindas on 2022-11-12 22:02:40 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : homer 319. Name: Clarke Stading (on 2022-11-12 22:11:30 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer ak 320. Name: Francie Roberts (on 2022-11-12 22:19:11

Where do you live? : Homer 321. Name: Ciara Lambert (on 2022-11-12 22:19:22 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 322. on 2022-11-12 22:23:57 Name: Wendy Wayne (Additional Comments: I support the Homer Library to make decisions on books! Where do you live?: Homer. 2435 Paradise Place. 323. Name: Regan (on 2022-11-12 22:33:45 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer ak 324. Name: Billeen Carlson (on 2022-11-12 22:40:27 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point 325. Name: Eric Knudtson (on 2022-11-12 22:46:05 Additional Comments: Children need access to these books. Where do you live? : Homer 326. Name: Mava Grace Rohr (on 2022-11-12 22:47:01 Additional Comments: I grew up in Homer and went to the library all the time. Now that I'm grown up, I still love the Homer Library and the vast array of resources it offers. I am queer and growing up, I found that many things in the world were confusing—death, divorce, war, racism. It's wonderful to have children's literature that addresses each of these issues, which, while they are confusing, affect the lives of children around the world *and* in our community. The thing that makes LGBTQIA+ children's books different from those other "confusing" topics is that queerness is something that can be full of joy. something that eases anxieties rather than reinforcing them. If patrons of the library don't understand the need for these kinds of books, that's an indication of their lack of interest into the lives of queer people—including queer children. Just because something is "confusing" doesn't mean that it's dangerous—that's what libraries are for. Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 327. on 2022-11-12 22:48:44 Name: Matthew Steffy (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 328. Name: Abigail Reid (on 2022-11-12 22:49:16 Additional Comments:

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

329. Name: Carol G Harding (on 2022-11-12 22:52:23 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 330. Name: Jeanne Walker (on 2022-11-12 22:53:07 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 331. Name: Gwyn Hansen (on 2022-11-12 22:53:41 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer ak 332. Name: Jaime Gable (on 2022-11-12 22:56:36 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 333. Name: Janet Bowen (on 2022-11-12 22:57:20 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 334. Name: Josh Alexander (on 2022-11-12 22:57:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Georgia 335. Name: Sierra N Moskios (on 2022-11-12 23:01:20 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 336. Name: Pauli (on 2022-11-12 23:20:04 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Ak 337. Name: Vikki Deadrick (on 2022-11-12 23:22:47 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 338. Name: Donald Deadrick (on 2022-11-12 23:23:53 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 339. Name: Garrett Hall (on 2022-11-12 23:27:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

340. Name: Sharon (on 2022-11-12 23:28:31 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 341. Name: Tom Bursch (on 2022-11-12 23:38:26 Additional Comments: As a parent and a former LAB member I support the collection development policy. Where do you live? : Inside Homer city limits 342. Name: jeanne parker (on 2022-11-12 23:42:10 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 343. Name: Kevin Walker (on 2022-11-12 23:44:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : United States 344. Name: Dale Banks (on 2022-11-12 23:48:36 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 345. Name: Brandon Morris on 2022-11-12 23:50:47 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 4179 Svedlund St #3 Homer, AK 99603 346. on 2022-11-12 23:55:08 Name: Anna Raupp (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 347. Name: Sue Mauger (on 2022-11-13 00:01:56 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 348. Name: Charlene Jump (on 2022-11-13 00:02:05 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Alaska 349. Name: Katherine Regnier (on 2022-11-13 00:03:41 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 1102 Race Road Homer AK on 2022-11-13 00:03:51 350. Name: Mike Byerly (Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK

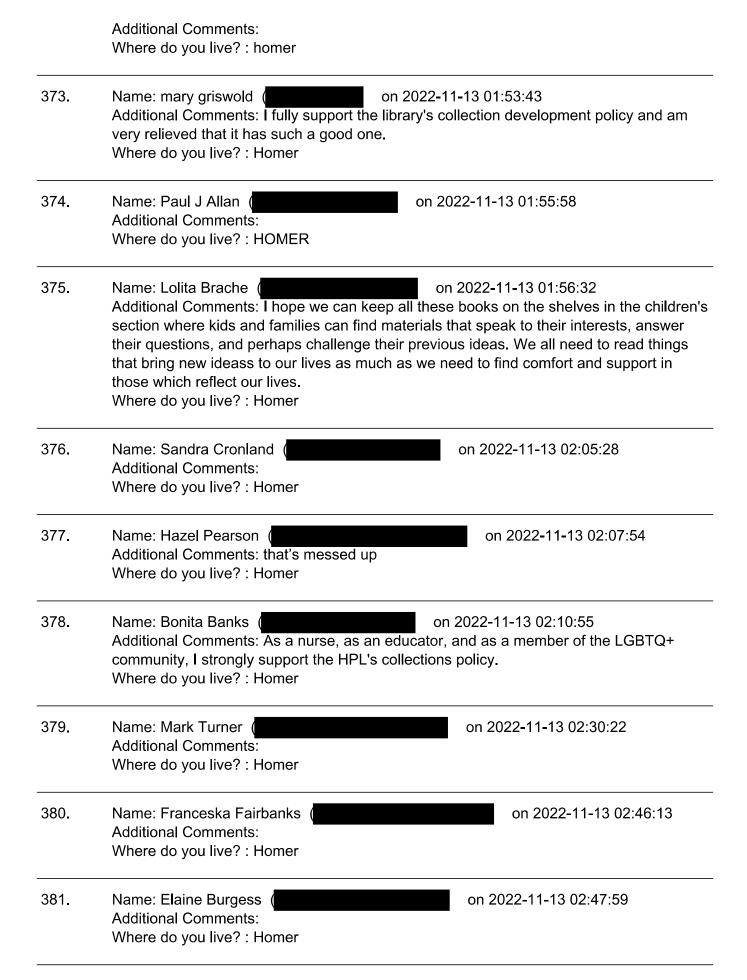
351. Name: Tammy Taylor (on 2022-11-13 00:06:00 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor point 352. Name: Ron Keffer (on 2022-11-13 00:07:53 Additional Comments: It is critically important to follow the well-established and carefully crafted library policy so as to avoid censorship by those with extreme views about limiting free access to information. Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska, United States 353. Name: Wisner (on 2022-11-13 00:13:55 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point 354. Name: Rachel Barton (on 2022-11-13 00:21:01 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point 355. Name: Jenny Stroyeck (on 2022-11-13 00:29:42 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Alaska 356. on 2022-11-13 00:29:54 Name: Jennifer Sanders (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Clam Gulch 357. Name: Jackie DeLaCruz (on 2022-11-13 00:35:14 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK Name: Chris Brasfield (358. on 2022-11-13 00:40:22 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 359. Name: Martha Richardson on 2022-11-13 00:43:01 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 360. Name: Ann Oberlitner (on 2022-11-13 00:44:00 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 361. Name: Kathryn Carssow on 2022-11-13 00:50:09

Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 362. Name: Debbie Gazsy (on 2022-11-13 00:50:31 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer Alaska 363. on 2022-11-13 00:52:58 Name: Nina Faust (Additional Comments: I fully support the library's collections policy. Where do you live?: Homer, AK 364. Name: Elizabeth Mueller (on 2022-11-13 00:54:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Kachemak City. 365. on 2022-11-13 01:02:26 Name: Patricia Jay (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : City of Homer 366. Name: Anna Meredith (on 2022-11-13 01:04:03 Additional Comments: I feel strongly reading options are freedom and choice. Where do you live?: Homer alaska 367. Name: Poppy on 2022-11-13 01:07:02 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 368. Name: Mark Dickson (on 2022-11-13 01:11:13 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 369. Name: Rona Haberman on 2022-11-13 01:21:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 53085 Greenwood Rd Homer AK 370. Name: Julia Clymer (on 2022-11-13 01:41:50 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 371. Name: Hanna Young on 2022-11-13 01:50:27

372. Name: Jeanne Anderson (on 2022-11-13 01:53:20

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer/kachemak city



382. Name: Laura patty (on 2022-11-13 02:48:44 Additional Comments: It is so important to have inclusive materials in all the sections of our public library Where do you live?: Homer city limits 383. Name: Vicki Albert (on 2022-11-13 02:58:36 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Ak 384. Name: Hal Smith MD (on 2022-11-13 03:00:15 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 385. Name: Bill Bell (on 2022-11-13 03:01:40 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 386. Name: Annie P Williams (on 2022-11-13 03:01:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 387. Name: Jane Miles (on 2022-11-13 03:06:15 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 388. Name: Susan McLane (on 2022-11-13 03:06:55 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 389. Name: Allyse Bettinger (on 2022-11-13 03:19:56 Additional Comments: Been going to this library since 2017, when we moved here. Love all the staff Where do you live?: Homer, Fritz Creek ... we live offgrid on top of a mountain! 390. Name: Michaela Holthaus on 2022-11-13 03:25:07 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 391. Name: Elizabeth Trowbridge on 2022-11-13 03:26:02 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 40710 China Poot St Homer AK 392. Name: Michael A LeMay on 2022-11-13 03:28:40 Additional Comments:

393. Name: Emily on 2022-11-13 03:28:47 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 394. Name: Summer Pastro (on 2022-11-13 03:31:36 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 395. Name: Anthony Pastro (on 2022-11-13 03:34:31 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer Alaska 396. Name: Brandi Scott (on 2022-11-13 03:35:24 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 397. Name: Nicole Szarzi on 2022-11-13 03:42:58 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : McNeil Canyon area 398. Name: G Fries (on 2022-11-13 03:43:58 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Outside Homer 399. Name: Jeff Szarzi (on 2022-11-13 03:45:27 Additional Comments: Homer Where do you live? : Homer 400. Name: John Wiles (on 2022-11-13 03:45:56 Additional Comments: Drop the censorship and hate mongering Where do you live? : Homer 401. Name: Krista Etzwiler on 2022-11-13 03:50:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 402. Name: Michelle Michaud on 2022-11-13 03:52:51 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer area 403. on 2022-11-13 03:58:01 Name: Suzanne Bishop

Additional Comments: I support the library's position.

404. Name: Eve S Kilcher (on 2022-11-13 04:03:05 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : fritz creek 405. Name: Evan Blankenship (on 2022-11-13 04:14:16 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 406. Name: Jenny Fonkert (on 2022-11-13 04:21:43 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 407. Name: Phil Gordon (on 2022-11-13 04:30:25 Additional Comments: Censorship is not freedom, not democratic and a totalitarian behavior. We can do better here in Homer. If parents don't wish their children to read something, that is their family issue. Decreeing nobody can read it is not democracy in action. Where do you live? : Homer 408. Name: Josef Kallevig (on 2022-11-13 04:31:22 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 409. Name: Eivin Kilcher (on 2022-11-13 04:33:07 Additional Comments: I support free and open access to information. Where do you live?: HOMER 410. Name: Spencer Co (on 2022-11-13 04:49:15 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 411. Name: Kathleen Kiefer (on 2022-11-13 04:50:15 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 412. Name: Jennifer R Baker (on 2022-11-13 04:53:15 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchorage 413. on 2022-11-13 04:57:20 Name: Storm Hansen (Additional Comments: This has my full support Where do you live? : Homer

on 2022-11-13 04:57:49 414. Name: Kayley Kiefer (Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 415. Name: Marian Ford (on 2022-11-13 04:59:59 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 416. Name: Jasmine Maurer on 2022-11-13 05:03:54 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Kachemak city on 2022-11-13 05:09:28 417. Name: Ted Spencer (Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer Alaska 418. Name: Amber Fleenor (on 2022-11-13 05:27:59 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 419. Name: Carol Comfort (on 2022-11-13 05:31:17 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point Alaska 420. Name: Bonnie Sue Powell (on 2022-11-13 05:48:53 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 64580 Shelton Drive 421. Name: Steven Horn (on 2022-11-13 06:00:11 Additional Comments: Descent into totalitarianism begins with the banning of books. The Homer Library's independence is very important to me which is why you'll see my name etched on the entryway glass panel listing major donors' to its construction. Just saying. Where do you live? : Homer 422. Name: Douglas Westphal (on 2022-11-13 06:06:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 423. Name: Alexandra (on 2022-11-13 06:06:38 Additional Comments: I believe everyone should have the right to knowledge. Where do you live? : Homer Alaska 424. Name: Jacquelyn Forster (on 2022-11-13 06:06:39

Additional Comments: Where do you live? : City of Homer 425. Name: Nicole McKenney on 2022-11-13 06:07:00 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 426. on 2022-11-13 06:08:53 Name: Ann Yadon (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Old East End Rd, Fitz Creek 427. Name: MK (on 2022-11-13 06:12:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 428. on 2022-11-13 06:18:15 Name: Mike IIIq (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 429. Name: Steve Delehanty (on 2022-11-13 06:20:20 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 430. Name: Ethan Ford (on 2022-11-13 06:24:20 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 431. Name: Patty Forquer (on 2022-11-13 06:31:31 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 432. Name: Carol Swartz (on 2022-11-13 06:34:53 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer area: Diamond Ridge 433. Name: Maggie Goedeke (on 2022-11-13 06:38:16 Additional Comments: Access to education and knowledge is a great asset and limiting this access would be detrimental to the growth of society. Controlling knowledge to attempt to control other peoples views and beliefs breeds racism, homophobia, transphobia, hate and violence.

434. Name: Evelyn Waltenbaugh (on 2022-11-13 06:44:49 Additional Comments: Homer

Where do you live? : Homer AK

435. Name: Kim Smith on 2022-11-13 07:04:27 Additional Comments: L Where do you live? : Homer 436. Name: Nadia sethi on 2022-11-13 07:08:18 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, ak 437. Name: Jackie Kondak on 2022-11-13 07:09:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 438. Name: Paul Seaton (on 2022-11-13 07:18:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Kachemak City 439. Name: Winter Westpal (on 2022-11-13 07:19:18 Additional Comments: Of course we should keep the books in the library diverse. We have an obligation to treat all humans equally. If somebody doesn't like the book don't check it out. Where do you live? : Anchor Point , AK 440. Name: Julie McCarron (on 2022-11-13 07:22:52 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 41722 Charlie Dr. Homer 441. Name: Judy Rozzell-Flora (on 2022-11-13 07:26:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer area 442. Name: Jayme B (on 2022-11-13 07:49:14 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 443. Name: Steve Hughes (on 2022-11-13 08:07:02 Additional Comments: Libraries should not become zones of exclusion. Their highest good is to be inclusive of all by allowing individual's the choice to read and learn about what they see fit, and maybe even gain some knowledge of things they don't understand. Where do you live? : Homer 444. Name: Brandi Heath (on 2022-11-13 08:15:12 Additional Comments:

445. Name: Mckibben jackinsky on 2022-11-13 08:31:52 Additional Comments: While I don't live in Homer, I do have a ZHomer library card and z appreciate being able to use this wonderful facility. Where do you live? : Ninilchik, AK 446. on 2022-11-13 09:23:14 Name: Nichole Smith (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer area 447. Name: Jacob Chrisman (on 2022-11-13 09:59:14 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 448. Name: Theresa Keane on 2022-11-13 10:06:25 Additional Comments: Praise be Where do you live? : Homer 449. Name: naomi petrosius (on 2022-11-13 10:18:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : homer alaska 450. Name: Carole Adams (on 2022-11-13 13:27:43 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Kachemak City 451. Name: Lora Wilke (on 2022-11-13 14:29:39 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 452. on 2022-11-13 14:50:32 Name: Shirley Fedora (Additional Comments: All books are welcome and an individual choice. How are we to be open, emphatic and accepting of others? Where do you live? : Homer, Ak 453. Name: William Palmer (on 2022-11-13 14:52:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 454. Name: Linda Chamberlain (on 2022-11-13 15:06:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: HOMER

455. Name: PAUL T KNIGHT (on 2022-11-13 15:09:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 456. Name: Olivia (on 2022-11-13 15:45:37 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Burlington, VT 457. Name: Owen (on 2022-11-13 16:04:05 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 458. Name: Mandy Bernard (on 2022-11-13 16:05:18 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 459. Name: Margaret Downey (on 2022-11-13 16:17:19 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 460. Name: Julia A Person (on 2022-11-13 16:21:57 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 461. Name: Dorothy H Fry (on 2022-11-13 16:23:54 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 462. Name: McKenzie Daigle (on 2022-11-13 16:25:36 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 463. Name: Madeleine Lightsey (on 2022-11-13 16:39:31 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 464. Name: Linda Gorman (on 2022-11-13 16:41:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 465. Name: Read Dunn (on 2022-11-13 16:51:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

466. Name: Alisa Mooy (on 2022-11-13 16:53:04 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer Alaska 467. Name: Tyler Langham (on 2022-11-13 16:56:55 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : homer 468. Name: Tammy Hoem (on 2022-11-13 16:57:34 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Happy Valley 469. Name: Pam Lightsey (on 2022-11-13 16:57:36 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 470. Name: Lori Zitzmann (on 2022-11-13 17:05:40 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 471. Name: Elaine Chalup (on 2022-11-13 17:20:09 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 472. Name: Donald J Reed (on 2022-11-13 17:23:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 473. Name: Michelle Hoyt (on 2022-11-13 17:27:00 Additional Comments: Thank you. No one should be excluded, and I really appreciate this effort. ♥□ Where do you live? : Homer 474. Name: Janie Leask (on 2022-11-13 17:28:43 Additional Comments: Homer Where do you live? : Homer 475. Name: Mary Samuel (on 2022-11-13 17:30:36 **Additional Comments:** Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 476. Name: Barbara Kaun (on 2022-11-13 17:33:50 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

on 2022-11-13 17:47:58 477. Name: Carly Garay (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 478. Name: Louis Dupree (on 2022-11-13 17:56:11 Additional Comments: We are all human and bleed red blood. Where do you live? : Homer, AK 479. Name: Sarah Banks (on 2022-11-13 17:56:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, ak 480. Name: Paul Vanderbrink (on 2022-11-13 17:58:13 Additional Comments: There is no place in our democracy for the banning of any book. Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 481. Name: Julie Vanwezenbeeck (on 2022-11-13 18:00:10 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 57618 Reinhart Ln 482. Name: Jan Spurkland (on 2022-11-13 18:02:47 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Ak 483. Name: Rika Mouw (on 2022-11-13 18:05:13 Additional Comments: I fully support the Homer Public Library's policy for free access to information. I honor that with all my heart. Where do you live? : Homer city resident 484. Name: Becky Pfeil (on 2022-11-13 18:06:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 485. Name: Mark Schrag (on 2022-11-13 18:13:05 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 486. Name: Molly Bowen (on 2022-11-13 18:13:14 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 487. Name: Amy Komar-LaPlant (on 2022-11-13 18:14:50 Additional Comments:

488. Name: Richard L Gustafson (on 2022-11-13 18:15:20 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: HOMER 489. Name: Christine on 2022-11-13 18:15:31 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 490. Name: Kyra Harty (on 2022-11-13 18:15:52 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 491. Name: Lily Westphal on 2022-11-13 18:17:15 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK Name: Nell Gustafson (492. on 2022-11-13 18:17:19 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 493. Name: Delaney Winslow (on 2022-11-13 18:25:25 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 55441 saber ave w, homer, ak 99603 494. Name: Mollie McFarland (on 2022-11-13 18:29:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homewood Name: Sharon McKemie Bauer (495. on 2022-11-13 18:31:53 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 496. Name: Sarah Allan (on 2022-11-13 18:32:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 497. Name: Judith Miller (on 2022-11-13 18:32:29 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Bald Mountain 498. Name: Naomi Scheffel (on 2022-11-13 18:41:25 Additional Comments:

499. Name: Milli Martin on 2022-11-13 18:49:53 Additional Comments: Totally agree wiht the petition. Parents have the resonsiblity to monitor what thier children are reading. Where do you live?: outside city of Homer. 500. on 2022-11-13 18:50:25 Name: Frani Scheffel (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 501. Name: Emmy Lou Pearl Olsen-Drye (on 2022-11-13 18:52:31 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 502. on 2022-11-13 18:53:20 Name: Ken Landfield Additional Comments: Leave the library alone! Where do you live? : Homer 503. Name: Ella Gustafson on 2022-11-13 18:59:47 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 504. Name: Ashley Brasfield on 2022-11-13 19:01:01 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 505. Name: Meaghan McCallum (on 2022-11-13 19:02:43 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 506. Name: Jim Van Oss (on 2022-11-13 19:03:19 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 507. Name: Mallory Primm (on 2022-11-13 19:06:10 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek/Homer 508. Name: Monica Davis on 2022-11-13 19:07:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : homer, Alaska 509. Name: Aaron Ford (on 2022-11-13 19:12:17

Where do you live? : Anchor Point, AK 510. Name: Chris Russ (on 2022-11-13 19:18:45 Additional Comments: I wholly reject any attempt to erode our freedoms, and this includes freedom to read whatever books we choose for ourselves or our children. Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 511. Name: Sarah Knapp (on 2022-11-13 19:20:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 512. Name: Angie Newby (on 2022-11-13 19:21:40 Additional Comments: Continue to allow Library staff to choose collection. Reading opens our minds and imaginations and needs no restrictions Where do you live? : Homer 513. on 2022-11-13 19:24:15 Name: Chris Newby Additional Comments: Literacy is open and inclusive. I don't want someone telling me what not to read Where do you live? : Homer 514. Name: KATHY BRENNAN (on 2022-11-13 19:25:40 Additional Comments: Don't ban books. Where do you live? : Homer 515. Name: Kristin Moretz on 2022-11-13 19:28:55 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 516. Name: Mary and Greg Fries on 2022-11-13 19:41:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 517. on 2022-11-13 19:42:20 Name: Annamaria DiCola Additional Comments: I grew up in Homer and often visit with my 6 year old son and extended family. Where do you live? : Anchorage 518. Name: Holly Brennan (on 2022-11-13 19:46:44 Additional Comments: I agree with the current policies of Homer Public Library and support the staff in their efforts to provide the same access to all resources, to everyone. Where do you live? : Homer, AK

Additional Comments: Please support the Homer Public Library and the local community

as a whole. We are lucky to have such an excellent facility and caring staff!

519. Name: Tim Scheffel (on 2022-11-13 19:53:04 Additional Comments: I fully support Where do you live? : Homer 520. Name: Ashton Poole (on 2022-11-13 19:57:29 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 521. Name: Peggy O (on 2022-11-13 19:59:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 522. Name: Haily Ricciardi (on 2022-11-13 20:00:20 Additional Comments: Keep the books available and not separated Where do you live? : Homer 523. Name: Carol Ford (on 2022-11-13 20:00:26 Additional Comments: It is more important to me that children learn the beauty of natural diversity than that they learn to hate, fear, or mock it. Let them think! Let them love themselves and others! The time for ignorance and hatred needs to end. Even in Homer. Where do you live? : Homer 524. Name: Caitlin Hunter (on 2022-11-13 20:01:00 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 525. Name: Mark Massion (on 2022-11-13 20:08:34 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 526. Name: Holly Atkins (on 2022-11-13 20:09:28 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 527. on 2022-11-13 20:17:56 Name: John Mouw (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 528. Name: Prairie Sievers (on 2022-11-13 20:21:30 Additional Comments: These books represent a wholistic look at our population and are extremely important for continuing the feeling of acceptance, understanding and "normalcy" for children that may think or feel different from the majority. Our uniquenesses need to be nurtured and seen as strengths not something to feel shame for, separating books and relegating certain topics to distant shelves would continue to

perpetuate a feeling that those topics are bad or taboo and the person seeking them out

is somehow lesser. "Stumbling upon" these books is what makes them feel like ordinary parts of the human experience and builds understanding and acceptance that the younger generations can use to create a more equitable society.

Where do you live? : Homer, AK

529. Name: Steven Albert (on 2022-11-13 20:22:52 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 530. Name: Derek Reynolds on 2022-11-13 20:23:54 Additional Comments: Freedom of speech = freedom to choose what to read. Don't like it, don't read it, but don't deny others the opportunity. Where do you live? : Homer 531. Name: Tina Seaton (on 2022-11-13 20:27:04 Additional Comments: Our library must be a reflection of our community. Banning or restricting books for/about certain people does not make them disappear and does hurt them in so many ways. We must support all Alaskan minorities, they are our friends, neighbors and family. Where do you live? : HOMER 532. on 2022-11-13 20:32:16 Name: William Day (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Diamond Ridge 533. Name: Thomas Morgen-Burke (on 2022-11-13 20:49:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 534. Name: Rylee Middleton on 2022-11-13 20:57:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 535. Name: Olivia Davis (on 2022-11-13 21:17:27 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Soldotna, Alaska 536. Name: Kathryn klann on 2022-11-13 21:22:18 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 537. Name: Judah magnolia on 2022-11-13 21:23:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

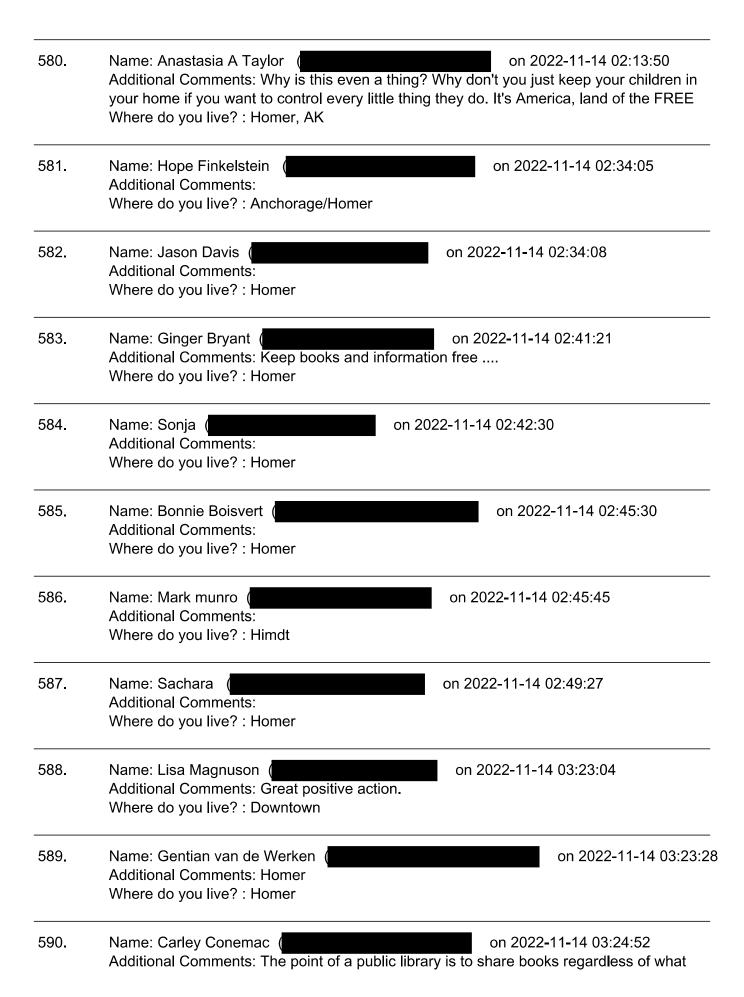
538. Name: Jill Scalzi (on 2022-11-13 22:07:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 539. Name: Sara L Jackinsky (on 2022-11-13 22:11:14 Additional Comments: Please uphold the Library Director's decision. Where do you live? : Homer 540. Name: Patrick Richard (on 2022-11-13 22:14:24 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 541. Name: Asia Freeman on 2022-11-13 22:14:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 542. Name: elaine m grabowski (on 2022-11-13 22:18:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 543. Name: Emily Garrity (on 2022-11-13 22:18:39 Additional Comments: Celebrating diversity and inclusion is an absolute necessity in the growth of healthy children and community. Our public library needs to offer access to these core values. Where do you live? : Homer 544. Name: Kerry Mooney (on 2022-11-13 22:26:28 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 545. Name: Heather McHenry (on 2022-11-13 22:26:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fox River district 546. Name: Katherine hanson (on 2022-11-13 22:27:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Kestrel circle, homer Alaska 547. Name: Suzanne Singer (on 2022-11-13 22:34:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 548. Name: Nancy Lee-Evans on 2022-11-13 22:46:50 Additional Comments:

549.	Name: Eva Mullineaux (on 2022-11-13 22:51:57 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK
550.	Name: Sarah Bollwitt (on 2022-11-13 22:56:58 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer
551.	Name: De Patch (on 2022-11-13 23:02:00 Additional Comments: Nobody's is forced to take out a book or read it. Everyone should have the right to take out a book and read it. Parents have the responsibility to know what their own children are reading and discuss with them. Where do you live?: Fritz Creek
552.	Name: Hayley Walters (on 2022-11-13 23:11:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer
553.	Name: Therese Lewandowski (on 2022-11-13 23:30:43 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer
554.	Name: Jordan Dyer on 2022-11-13 23:35:20 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Kachemak City, Homer, AK
555.	Name: Susan Amundson (on 2022-11-13 23:36:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK
556.	Name: Michael Tupper (on 2022-11-13 23:38:22 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point
557.	Name: Dr David C Raskin (on 2022-11-13 23:39:16 Additional Comments: It is time that ignorant people accept the need for education and embrace all of our neighbors, not just those who look like us and think like us. Where do you live?: Kachemak City
558.	Name: Laura Norton (on 2022-11-13 23:41:24 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, Ak

559. Name: Kathy Hill (on 2022-11-13 23:45:45 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer 560. Name: Taro Sasakura on 2022-11-13 23:45:59 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Name: Diana Sedor (561. on 2022-11-13 23:57:09 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 562. Name: Darlene Hilderbrand (on 2022-11-14 00:10:32 Additional Comments: I support that parents can, on their own, decide what books their children read. I do not support that someone or an organization is responsible for that determination. Where do you live? : Kachemak City 563. Name: Beatrix Strobel (on 2022-11-14 00:14:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 564. on 2022-11-14 00:16:57 Name: Elizabeth Seaman (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 565. Name: Darius Kleine (on 2022-11-14 00:21:04 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek, AK 566. Name: Matthew Drumm (on 2022-11-14 00:28:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Salcha, Alaska 567. Name: Robin McAllistar (on 2022-11-14 00:44:27 Additional Comments: Homer Alaska is a town of diverse individuals who support tolerance and love. Fear and hate mongering will never be supported Where do you live? : Homer 568. Name: Miranda Weiss (on 2022-11-14 00:56:42 Additional Comments: I support the library director's decision! Where do you live? : Homer

569. Name: Doug Meeker (on 2022-11-14 01:07:09 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 570. Name: Max doyle (on 2022-11-14 01:14:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz creek 571. Name: David Lawrence on 2022-11-14 01:15:41 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Lawrence 572. Name: Devony Lehner (on 2022-11-14 01:15:59 Additional Comments: I believe it's critically important to try to understand the world we live in. That means trying to become fully informed. Where do you live? : Homer, AK 573. Name: Kai (on 2022-11-14 01:29:03 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Anchor Point Area 574. Name: Devry Garity (on 2022-11-14 01:36:47 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 575. Name: David Downey (on 2022-11-14 01:38:24 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 576. Name: Marin Lee (on 2022-11-14 01:42:01 Additional Comments: Book bans are obsolete and archaic. Where do you live?: Diamond Ridge, Homer 577. Name: Jean Brandenburg on 2022-11-14 01:56:38 Additional Comments: Promote Diversity in Homer Where do you live? : Homer 578. Name: Lorne Carroll (on 2022-11-14 02:07:33 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Fritz Creek, Alaska 579. on 2022-11-14 02:09:03 Name: George Overpeck Additional Comments:

Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska



you believe, just don't read the book. So sad this community wastes so much time trying to move books around a library. Where do you live? : Homer alaska

591. Name: Luana Stovel (on 2022-11-14 03:25:21

Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

592. Name: Eliza Mills (on 2022-11-14 03:43:52

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer AK

593. Name: Cori Szynskie (on 2022-11-14 04:25:23

Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

594. Name: Dave Szynskie (on 2022-11-14 04:28:35

Additional Comments:

Where do you live?: Homer, AK

595. Name: Kelly (on 2022-11-14 04:38:45

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Fairbanks

596. Name: Martin Zeller (on 2022-11-14 04:44:09

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer Ak

597. Name: Janelle Spurkland (on 2022-11-14 04:50:39

Additional Comments: I fully support the library in their decisions to leave book choices up to the parents, keep children's book in the children's section, and be inclusive in race,

socioeconomic status, gender, and lifestyle choice

Where do you live?: 4395 Teddy Lee pl, Homer, AK 99603

598. Name: Frank Taylor (on 2022-11-14 05:01:50

Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

599. Name: Christine Fontaine (on 2022-11-14 05:17:38

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer AK

600. Name: Jane Beck (on 2022-11-14 05:21:45 Additional Comments: This is ridiculous. What century are we living in?

601. Name: Kara Clemens (on 2022-11-14 05:40:06 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 602. Name: Campbell Longworth (on 2022-11-14 05:49:17 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fairbanks 603. Name: Chris Little (on 2022-11-14 06:34:58 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 604. Name: Analise Goedeke (on 2022-11-14 06:35:54 Additional Comments: Homer Where do you live?: Homer, AK 99603 605. Name: Jennifer Norton (on 2022-11-14 07:11:00 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 606. Name: Josephine Ryan (on 2022-11-14 07:27:06 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 607. Name: Deborah Couzzo (on 2022-11-14 07:30:23 Additional Comments: A Library should carry ALL books of ALL age. WE must encourage people to read. Where do you live? : Scottsville 608. Name: Kevin rowan (on 2022-11-14 07:37:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer ak 609. Name: Elysha Chapple on 2022-11-14 07:46:14 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska 610. Name: Bill Marshall (on 2022-11-14 08:13:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 611. Name: Rebecca McClure (on 2022-11-14 10:11:49

Where do you live? : Homer 612. Name: RAMA Flyum (on 2022-11-14 13:13:34 **Additional Comments:** Where do you live? : Homer 613. on 2022-11-14 13:21:51 Name: Paula Cullenberg (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 614. Name: Peter Crimp (on 2022-11-14 13:24:25 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer on 2022-11-14 14:15:33 615. Name: Mallory Revell (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Parsons 616. Name: Amanda johnston on 2022-11-14 14:49:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, ak 617. Name: David Brame on 2022-11-14 15:04:42 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Cohoe 618. Name: Jinky Handy (on 2022-11-14 15:37:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 619. Name: Jessica Williams (on 2022-11-14 15:44:58 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 620. Name: Shiloh Wilson (on 2022-11-14 15:50:37 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 621. Name: Jennifer Hakala (on 2022-11-14 15:56:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK

Additional Comments:

on 2022-11-14 16:13:33

622.

Name: Donna Rae Faulkner (

Where do you live?: 58508 East End Road, Homer 623. Name: Don McNamara (on 2022-11-14 16:18:25 Additional Comments: I support the HPL and everything in this petition, Where do you live?: 58508 East End Road, Homer 624. Name: Alicia Forbes (on 2022-11-14 16:24:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK on 2022-11-14 16:27:00 625. Name: Sherry Pederson Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 626. Name: Ole Andersson (on 2022-11-14 16:28:05 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 627. Name: Cruz Edwin Santos on 2022-11-14 16:36:23 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Seattle, WA 628. Name: Angie Balsarini (on 2022-11-14 17:00:58 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 629. Name: Debbie Speakman (on 2022-11-14 17:11:47 Additional Comments: As a parent it's important to me to have access to the tools that help my child navigate the world. Our library offering those tools to help us understand the world around us, see how people and families if different color, religion and family dynamics teach both children and families to have empathy. Where do you live? : Homer, AK 630. Name: Tamara Branson on 2022-11-14 17:16:18 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 631. Name: Konrad Schaad (on 2022-11-14 17:16:57 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 11.5 miles East Rd, Homer 632. Name: Bridget Clark (on 2022-11-14 17:36:49

Additional Comments: I wholeheartedly support the Homer Public Library and this

petition.

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Anchor Point

633. Name: Dana Gregoire (on 2022-11-14 17:37:23 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 634. Name: Damara Burnett (on 2022-11-14 18:07:37 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 635. Name: Robert Glen (on 2022-11-14 18:13:22 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 636. Name: Wood Turner (on 2022-11-14 18:16:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 637. Name: Molly Mitchell (on 2022-11-14 18:25:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 638. on 2022-11-14 18:26:00 Name: Taylor Kendal Smith (Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 639. Name: Amanda Kelly (on 2022-11-14 19:04:02 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 640. Name: Andrea Van Dinther (on 2022-11-14 19:22:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 641. Name: Cheryl Green (on 2022-11-14 19:22:51 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK. 99603 642. Name: Virginia A VanWagoner on 2022-11-14 19:23:17 **Additional Comments:** Where do you live? : Homer 643. Name: Michelle Waclawski (on 2022-11-14 19:30:50

Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 644. Name: Ali Williams (on 2022-11-14 19:39:13 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : New Mexico on 2022-11-14 20:03:58 645. Name: Haven Multz (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Portland 646. Name: Tessa Sullivan (on 2022-11-14 20:10:53 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 647. Name: Louise E Ashmun (on 2022-11-14 20:14:19 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 648. Name: Arlene Ronda on 2022-11-14 20:26:52 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 649. Name: Sue Post (on 2022-11-14 20:27:59 Additional Comments: I can't be there tomorrow night but I would really like books left in the sections they should be in. The fear of the people trying to remove these is nuts. Welcome to 2022- people have a right to check out children's books from the children's library!!! Where do you live? : Homer 650. Name: Avram Salzmann (on 2022-11-14 20:35:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 651. Name: Sophie Morin (on 2022-11-14 20:37:05 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 652. Name: Valerie McBride (on 2022-11-14 20:41:21 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

Name: Katherine George (on 2022-11-14 20:46:28)
Additional Comments:

654. Name: Sage Wright (on 2022-11-14 20:48:17 Additional Comments: Queer representation is important! Where do you live?: Homer, AK 655. on 2022-11-14 20:53:22 Name: Jules Joy (Additional Comments: I support this initiative wholeheartedly! Libraries and books should never be censored. Where do you live? : Homer 656. Name: Bill Fry (on 2022-11-14 21:03:32 Additional Comments: Please don't ban learning Where do you live? : Kachemak City on 2022-11-14 21:08:46 657. Name: Elizabeth Hanson (Additional Comments: As a parent of 4 grown children, 7 grandchildren, and a career as a school psychologist and school counselor, I strongly support reading material for children that is inclusive, sensitive, and accepting of all people! Parents may guide children's choices as they see fit. Where do you live?: Homer 658. Name: Joe Ravin (on 2022-11-14 21:16:26 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 659. Name: Charlie Menke on 2022-11-14 21:24:13 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Alaska 660. Name: Robert E Archibald Roberta Highland (on 2022-11-14 2 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 661. Name: Andrea Kosto on 2022-11-14 21:46:33 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 662. Name: Mike Bianchi (on 2022-11-14 21:49:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : E Skyline 663. on 2022-11-14 21:54:14 Name: Kelly Cooper (Additional Comments: Please follow the existing policies regarding placement of books in

our public library. We're a diverse community and our families should have access to these books. If parents have concerns on available reading materials they should be supervising their children while at the library just as I did when my kids were young. Where do you live? : Kachemak City

664. on 2022-11-14 21:54:49 Name: Beth Schneider (Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 665. Name: Pavel Mikhail on 2022-11-14 22:00:57 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 666. Name: Paul A Medenciy (on 2022-11-14 22:02:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 667. Name: Noreen O'Brien-Duggan on 2022-11-14 22:05:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 668. Name: Jennifer Poss on 2022-11-14 22:07:23 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, ak 669. Name: Molly Montgomery on 2022-11-14 22:12:14 **Additional Comments:** Where do you live?: Homer, AK 670. Name: Lorraina Liss on 2022-11-14 22:32:49 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 671. Name: Gareth Chesley (on 2022-11-14 22:34:07 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Alaska 672. Name: kathy smith (on 2022-11-14 22:47:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 673. Name: Dana Nelson (on 2022-11-14 22:48:30 Additional Comments: Former Homer resident of 5+ years and loved having a variety of books in Homer.

674. Name: Loren Barrett (on 2022-11-14 22:54:44

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer, AK



This petition has collected 812 signatures using the online tools at <u>www.ipetitions.com</u>

Printed on 2022-11-15

11/14/2022: Sent signatures 1 through 674

11/15/2022: Additional signatures since yesterday are included

in this PDF document

Petition to Follow the City of Homer's Library Collections Policy and Support Family Choice

About this petition

We, the undersigned residents and parents of Homer and surrounding area, support the upholding of the City's Collection Development policy and petition the Library Advisory Board to uphold the Library Director's decision in full, leaving children's books in the children's library.

The Library's policy currently states: "Responsibility for the reading choices and information access by children rests with the parents and legal guardians, not the LibraryThe Library encourages parents to be involved with their children's reading and library use and will work with parents to find materials they deem appropriate for their children."

Any decision to remove the selected books from the juvenile collection undermines the Library's policy for free access to information, including for minors: "Individual or group prejudice about a particular item or type of material in the collection may not preclude its use by others." Creating a special section for select children's books is violating policy and effectively isolating both the information contained in those books and the families who identify with the characters and themes in those books.

In addition, we the undersigned actively support the inclusion of LGBTQ+ representation in our children's library as a reflection and celebration of the diverse community we live in, within a free nation.

In signing this I affirm that I meet all the following criteria:

- 1. I live in the Homer, Alaska area
- 2. I support the Library's Collection Development policy which the Director is upholding and which supports parental rights and family choice.
- 3. I believe LGBTQ+ books for children are valuable and represent our community in a safe and meaningful way.

674.	Name: Loren Barrett (on 2022-11-14 22:54:44 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK
675.	Name: Nadya Klingel (on 2022-11-14 23:02:45 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer
676.	Name: Doug Dodd (on 2022-11-14 23:08:34 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer
677.	Name: Tyson Walker (on 2022-11-14 23:12:36 Additional Comments: Homer Where do you live? : Homer
678.	Name: Shelby Sinn (on 2022-11-14 23:13:48 Additional Comments: Thank you to everyone involved in keeping our public library going and making it a safe space for our kids ♥□ Where do you live? : Homer
679.	Name: Cindy Koplin (on 2022-11-14 23:18:19 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK
680.	Name: Alex Koplin (on 2022-11-14 23:19:13 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK
681.	Name: Sara Faris (on 2022-11-14 23:25:10 Additional Comments: Thank you for supporting our library as a safe space that exists for people of ALL backgrounds. Where do you live? : Homer
682.	Name: Tricia Caron (on 2022-11-14 23:32:18 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer
683.	Name: Scott Burbank (on 2022-11-14 23:48:10 Additional Comments: Reading has made my life grand! Where do you live? : Homer

684. Name: Britt Milne (on 2022-11-14 23:48:59 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Kachemak City 685. Name: Bjorn D Olson (on 2022-11-14 23:52:06 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 686. Name: Judy Dean on 2022-11-14 23:55:11 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 687. Name: John Kelly (on 2022-11-14 23:55:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Area 688. Name: Susan Aramovich (on 2022-11-14 23:59:37 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 689. Name: Kay Sturm (on 2022-11-15 00:00:17 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point 690. Name: Indigo Sonneborn (on 2022-11-15 00:09:07 Additional Comments: Withholding information like this can only cause suffering Where do you live? : Homer, AK 691. Name: Jennifer Bernard (on 2022-11-15 00:12:16 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 692. Name: Marketa Beck on 2022-11-15 00:12:40 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 693. Name: Deborah Smith on 2022-11-15 00:15:31 Additional Comments: I support the inclusion of books that represent the diversity of the community we live in Where do you live? : Homer AK 694. on 2022-11-15 00:16:02 Name: Val Sheppard Additional Comments:

Where do you live?: Homer, AK

695. Name: Joyanna Geisler (on 2022-11-15 00:16:26 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 696. Name: John Munns (on 2022-11-15 00:24:14 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: HOMER 697. Name: Hartley Miller (on 2022-11-15 00:46:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK on 2022-11-15 00:50:07 698. Name: Denise Pitzman (Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 990 Bell Ave, Homer 699. Name: Katie Gavenus (on 2022-11-15 00:51:27 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 700. Name: Gordon Pitzman (on 2022-11-15 01:00:28 Additional Comments: Please don't remove any of the selected books. Where do you live? : Homer 701. Name: Karen West (on 2022-11-15 01:03:13 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: HOMER 702. Name: Lindsay Wolter (on 2022-11-15 01:05:35 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 703. Name: Brittany Huffman (on 2022-11-15 01:11:29 Additional Comments: Libraries are for EVERYBODY. Where do you live? : Homer 704. Name: Casey Moss (on 2022-11-15 01:12:00 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Name: Rosemary Fitzpatrick (705. on 2022-11-15 01:13:39 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

706. Name: LuAnne Nelson (on 2022-11-15 01:20:03 Additional Comments: All groups need representation. Where do you live? : Anchor Point 707. Name: Mikela Aramburu (on 2022-11-15 01:27:04 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Alaska 708. on 2022-11-15 01:29:27 Name: Rhonda Ecker (Additional Comments: Library books are a priveledge- not required reading. If you dislike a book, don't check it out. Your views should not prevent someone else fron enjoying the priveledge. Where do you live? : Homer 709. on 2022-11-15 01:31:16 Name: Darren Fitzpatrick (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Hi 710. Name: Sue Christiansen on 2022-11-15 01:31:48 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Cranberry Place, Homer 711. on 2022-11-15 01:36:46 Name: Erica Fitzpatrick (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : City resident 712. Name: Laura Ground (on 2022-11-15 01:37:06 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 713. Name: David Sanderson (on 2022-11-15 01:38:41 Additional Comments: If you wish not to read a book, DONT! But, let others choose -Don't ban the books Where do you live? : Homer 714. Name: Jessie Skalisky (on 2022-11-15 01:46:37 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 715. Name: Lauren Jerew on 2022-11-15 01:48:06 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer

716. Name: Annelisa neelv (on 2022-11-15 01:49:38 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 717. Name: Mary A Cooper (on 2022-11-15 01:55:28 **Additional Comments:** Where do you live? : Homer AK 718. Name: Karen Strid-Chadwick (on 2022-11-15 01:57:00 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 719. Name: David Seaman (on 2022-11-15 01:59:36 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Little Tutka Bay 720. Name: Lynne Burt (on 2022-11-15 02:13:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 721. Name: Lynn temple (on 2022-11-15 02:20:59 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: 488elderberry drive 722. Name: Mei Mei Evans (on 2022-11-15 02:24:39 Additional Comments: Not a fan of censorship. Where do you live?: Homer and Anchorage, Alaska 723. Name: Megan Connell (on 2022-11-15 02:26:07 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 724. Name: Mark Connell (on 2022-11-15 02:27:50 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 725. Name: Susanne Ratcliffe Wilson on 2022-11-15 02:37:24 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 726. Name: Patrick Farnell (on 2022-11-15 02:39:51 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fairview Ave.

727.	Name: Skye Bookless (on 2022-11-15 02:41:03 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : bayview ave homer ak	
728.	Name: Landa Baily (on 2022-11-15 02:41:05 Additional Comments: This proposed ban harms constitutional rights of Homer residents. I have every confidence in the library director's decision and the Homer Library's Collection Development policy. Please do not take a right away from one parent because another parent thinks it's OK to take away that right. Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska	
729.	Name: Kyra Wagner (on 2022-11-15 02:42:14 Additional Comments: I used to be on the Library Advisory Board and there were often those who would try to tear down the main tenets of the Library. The Collections Policy is one. Libraries = Free Access and Free Speech. Always. Don't mess with that. Where do you live?: Homer	
730.	Name: Emma Sulczynski (on 2022-11-15 02:49:27 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	
731.	Name: Linda Stearns (on 2022-11-15 03:05:39 Additional Comments: Let's give the homer residents the right to choose what books their children read. It's a lot less than what they can access online!!! Parents should curb their device access- not books- where are we headed? Fahrenheit 451? Where do you live?: Fritz Creek but use the library weekly and support it financially	
732.	Name: Kaya Morelli (on 2022-11-15 03:08:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	
733.	Name: Deborah Limacher (on 2022-11-15 03:13:02 Additional Comments: It is absurd to think that these books are being censored and kept away from our youth. Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska	
734.	Name: Ginger Drais (on 2022-11-15 03:13:25 Additional Comments: I am 100% for keeping these books where they belong in the children's section. A primary purpose of libraries is to educate ALL people, not just the people who think like I do! Thanks to the wonderful Homer Library for doing just this!!! Where do you live?: Homer	
735.	Name: Michael Limacher (on 2022-11-15 03:15:14	

736. Name: Reba seneff on 2022-11-15 03:43:10 Additional Comments: Crazy we have to be doing this Where do you live? : Homer 737. Name: Kellie Kekich (on 2022-11-15 03:45:42 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska 738. Name: Betsy Webb on 2022-11-15 04:01:30 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 739. Name: Jeff Choinski (on 2022-11-15 04:03:52 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 740. Name: Seamus (on 2022-11-15 04:08:10 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Nashville 741. Name: Jen Chauvet (on 2022-11-15 04:10:24 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek, AK 742. Name: Maggie Larue (on 2022-11-15 04:11:56 **Additional Comments:** Where do you live? : Homer 743. Name: Brittany Stallings (on 2022-11-15 04:16:05 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Seward 744. Name: Cameale Johnson on 2022-11-15 04:20:33 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 745. on 2022-11-15 04:25:46 Name: Melisse A Reichman (Additional Comments: Love is love, where ever you find and cultivate it. The more the better. Where do you live? : Homer 746. Name: Molly Duggan (on 2022-11-15 04:27:49

Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 747. Name: Anne V Richards (on 2022-11-15 04:34:57 Additional Comments: This is really important, Homer, thanks for being there! Where do you live?: Ashland. OR 748. on 2022-11-15 04:40:38 Name: Sarah (Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 749. Name: Andrew (on 2022-11-15 04:42:15 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Name: Cecelia Quinn (750. on 2022-11-15 04:44:19 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 751. Name: Emilie Otis on 2022-11-15 04:58:41 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 752. on 2022-11-15 05:03:54 Name: Trisha Additional Comments: Albuquerque Where do you live? : Albuquerque 753. Name: Syd Rosslyn (on 2022-11-15 05:06:58 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 754. Name: Gerald shav on 2022-11-15 05:11:24 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer Alaska 755. Name: Jess Jurries (on 2022-11-15 05:26:03 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Portland Oregon

756. on 2022-11-15 05:42:59 Name: Oceana kerr (Additional Comments: Do not withhold knowledge of any kind from the young. Information should be provided no matter what the topic. Where do you live?: Homer, AK

757. Name: Jill Gunnerson on 2022-11-15 05:51:53 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Anchor Point 758. Name: Cristen San Roman (on 2022-11-15 05:58:54 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 759. Name: Caitlin Winters on 2022-11-15 06:10:39 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 760. Name: Rob Olsen-Drye on 2022-11-15 06:13:24 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 761. Name: Dick H Sanders (on 2022-11-15 06:16:24 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 762. Name: Patrick Ahern on 2022-11-15 06:20:15 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 763. Name: Rachael Raderman on 2022-11-15 06:20:36 Additional Comments: Why is this even a petition?! More queer kid books please! We're a LGBTQI2 supporting family and would rather ban bigots not books from our library! Where do you live?: Mission Rd, Homer Alaska 764. Name: Lindsey Baird (on 2022-11-15 06:27:04 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 765. Name: David Baird (on 2022-11-15 06:30:17 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 766. Name: Heidi H (on 2022-11-15 06:33:16 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Alaska 767. Name: Amanda Smith (on 2022-11-15 06:34:27 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK

768.	Name: Jessica Matthews (on 2022-11-15 06:45:16 Additional Comments: Whenever we are in Homer to visit family and friends the library is a favorite place for my kids! Let's let them read & give our support to all the people in town! Where do you live?: Oregon	
769.	Name: Jenna Gerrety (on 2022-11-15 06:57:35 Additional Comments: It would have been helpful for me to find lgbtq+ positive content in a library growing up, and not have to search for it myself on the internet in random unmoderated places. Where do you live?: Homer Alaska	
770.	Name: Sonja Lotscher (on 2022-11-15 07:05:37 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	
771.	Name: Lauren Wolford (Market Lauren Wolford on 2022-11-15 07:06:26 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer	
772.	Name: Rachael Brennan (on 2022-11-15 07:16:40 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska	
773.	Name: Jim Levine (on 2022-11-15 07:17:53 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer	
774.	Name: Jennifer Edwards (on 2022-11-15 07:47:17 Additional Comments: Respect and non judgementalness should prevail over fear and supposed righteousness. Where do you live?: Diamond Ridge	
775.	Name: Natalie Hoffert (on 2022-11-15 07:55:00 Additional Comments: Like Hawaii, Alaska is also isolated. Please keep the option open for kids and families. I recommend families that do not want LGBTQ exposure to make that decision on their own. Where do you live?: Hawaii	
776.	Name: Michael Romanovsky (on 2022-11-15 08:02:50 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : 4179 Svedlund Street	

777. Name: Sean Lowe on 2022-11-15 08:03:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Alaska 778. Name: Aimee Sulczynski (on 2022-11-15 08:05:05 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, Alaska 779. Name: Matthew M (on 2022-11-15 08:08:01 Additional Comments: The Trevor Project found that 45% of LGBT+ Youth have seriously considered suicide in the past year. Let's ensure that, as a community, we don't make that rate go up in Homer by taking away positive portrayals of queer culture. The books suggested for removal aren't forms of indoctrination, the suggestion to remove them because they go against your personal beliefs *is*. Where do you live? : Homer 780. Name: Maygen Lotscher (on 2022-11-15 08:11:35 **Additional Comments:** Where do you live?: Homer, alaska on 2022-11-15 08:23:57 781. Name: Molly Stonorov (Additional Comments: A healthy community is one where all individuals are valued and support for diversity is a given. Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 782. Name: Margaret Shalit (on 2022-11-15 08:27:04 Additional Comments: Books are what you make them. Don't be pressured by those who are basically anti-libraries anyway. Where do you live? : Kenai 783. Name: David Eckwert on 2022-11-15 08:31:56 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Fritz Creek 784. Name: Carla Baird on 2022-11-15 08:33:46 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 785. Name: Sally Wills (on 2022-11-15 08:54:08 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer Ak. 786. on 2022-11-15 09:30:35 Name: Leah Moraes (Additional Comments:

787. Name: derek bynagle (on 2022-11-15 11:39:12 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : East End 788. on 2022-11-15 14:47:14 Name: John Bushell (Additional Comments: Being with my grandkids, presently, I am so glad they know that the world is made of different people, cultures, life styles and opinions. We grow by learning about those things outside our front door. Where do you live? : Homer 789. Name: Marilyn Shroyer (on 2022-11-15 14:48:13 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 790. Name: Elana Selinger (on 2022-11-15 14:53:01 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : SLC 791. Name: Angela Giesker (on 2022-11-15 14:56:09 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 792. Name: McKenzie Morey (on 2022-11-15 15:03:02 Additional Comments: Allowing for freedom of knowledge, information, and expression all within the safety and security of local public spaces like our library is key in fostering a community of true compassion. Where do you live?: Homer, AK 793. Name: Alahni Wright (on 2022-11-15 15:25:37 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer AK 794. Name: Caitlin San Roman (on 2022-11-15 15:29:01 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska 795. Name: Cheryl Taylor (on 2022-11-15 15:34:34 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 796. Name: Barbara Angaiak on 2022-11-15 15:45:17 Additional Comments:

797. Name: Rachel lannelli on 2022-11-15 15:51:22 Additional Comments: Where do you live?: Homer, AK 798. Name: Roberta Copeland-McKinney (on 2022-11-15 15:55:00 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 799. on 2022-11-15 16:00:50 Name: David Lefton (Additional Comments: Let people make choices for themselves and families. If you have a problem with the literature don't read it. Simple. Where do you live? : Homer 800. Name: Katie Buttermore on 2022-11-15 16:01:36 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Jacksonville 801. Name: Dean Sundmark (on 2022-11-15 16:02:56 Additional Comments: Banning materials from the library is a violation of free speech. It is the responsibility of parents to monitor and supervise their children with regard to the content they view. The library has the responsibility to provide age appropriate materials in the children's section. Where do you live?: 13 mile East End Rd. 802. Name: Dawn Schneider (on 2022-11-15 16:39:33 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 803. Name: Allison Gaylord (on 2022-11-15 16:48:22 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 804. Name: Laurie Benson (on 2022-11-15 16:54:13 Additional Comments: I trust librarians. Where do you live? : Homer 805. Name: Kristy Stevenson (on 2022-11-15 17:11:10 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer, AK 806. on 2022-11-15 17:24:05 Name: Paula Martin (Additional Comments: Please maintain a quality library collection, curated by professional 807. Name: Ivan Stonorov (on 2022-11-15 17:28:26 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 808. Name: Shirley Forquer (on 2022-11-15 17:31:18 Additional Comments: We must keep our library selections open to all people. Where do you live? : Kachemak City 809. Name: Deborah Tobin (on 2022-11-15 17:33:09 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 810. Name: Chris perry (on 2022-11-15 17:38:59 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Ohlson mtn rd 811. Name: Lisa Schallock (on 2022-11-15 17:46:42 Additional Comments: Where do you live? : Homer 812. Name: Steven panarelli on 2022-11-15 17:59:31 Additional Comments: Please keep the library uncensored. Where do you live? : Homer city

librarians. People can choose what they read or what they have their children read.

Where do you live? : Homer

Greater Parental Discretion in the Homer Public Library

https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/relocate-lgbtq-books#comments

283 people have signed this petition.

Madeline Veldstra

70 Comments Submitted 11/9/2022 27 Comments Submitted 11/15/2022



We, the undersigned residents and parents of Homer and surrounding areas, do hereby petition that the Homer Public Library remove all books promoting transgender ideology, drag queens, homosexuality, and all other books which are intended to indoctrinate children in LGBTQ+ ideologies from the children's and juvenile sections of the library. If the library must have them, we petition that a section outside of the children's area be designated for such books so that parents who do not wish for their children to stumble across these confusing ideas may allow their children to browse freely.

Comment

• **Jennifer Peterson** Nov 15, 2022

*I am in full support of banning these books in the library especially in the children's section! It is outrageous that this is even a controversy.

• Brooke Sanford Nov 15, 2022

These books should be put in their own section where parents can choose wether or not to expose their children to these things.

• Barb Jackson Nov 15, 2022

I absolutely agree to remove these books. This is not appropriate for a children's section of the library. Please remove or make a separate section.

• FTFY Nov 15, 2022

We, the undersigned residents and parents of Homer and surrounding areas, do hereby petition that the Homer Public Library remove all books promoting [ignorance, hate, intolerance] and all other books which are intended to indoctrinate children in [bigoted] ideologies from the children's and juvenile sections of the library. If the library must have them, we petition that a section outside of the children's area be designated for such books so that parents who do not wish for their children to stumble across these confusing ideas may allow their children to browse freely.

Fixed that for you.

• **Voldemort** Nov 14, 2022

I agree! But i would like to also add, please also ban all Harry Potter books! He is weak with his COMPASSION, and LOVE.

Oh, those books about hobbits can go too. Don't want kids to get the idea they can run around barefoot and be friends with wizards.

HATRED MUST PREVAIL!!!

ALL HAIL THE DARK LORD!!!

• **God** Nov 14, 2022

Unimpressed is an understatement. I'm offended. What ever happended to "Love one another as i have loved you"

• **Satan** Nov 14, 2022

God called me and said even he is unimpressed by this petition. Ya'll have some forgiveness to ask for.

• Kim Gear Nov 14, 2022

Absolutely object to these materials being available to children!

• **Anonymous** Nov 14, 2022

I oppose books promoting LGBTQ to children.

• **Anonymous** Nov 14, 2022

These books do not belong in the childrens section of the library. Shame on those librarians for doing this.

• **Ralph Crane** Nov 13, 2022

Rather telling that the large majority of hateful and bullying comments on this petition are from those supporting this grooming of this age group..appears that they want to influence these young children to decide what gender they are when they can't even decide yet whether they want a peanut butter or grilled cheese sandwich for lunch.

The book they should introduce to this library section and maybe have drag queens read is Tammy Bruce's 'The Death of Right and Wrong', which exposed, from the inside, this indoctrination agenda clear back in 2004.

To paraphrase that famous philosophical musical group, Pink Floyd, "Hey, librarians, leave those kids alone!" Let them be kids and let parents decide..

• Shellie Worsfold Nov 13, 2022

To be clear, I support the HPL and its policies to keep the library diverse.

I mistakingly thought I needed to sign the doc before making a comment. Please know that if my name appears, it was purely by mistake

These books on the list are not "disgusting" (as I've read some comments), they are beautiful stories that may show a different perspective than yours, but remember- you don't HAVE to check them out and read them, although I wish you would.

I support HPL!

• Shellie Worsfold Nov 12, 2022

Keep our library diverse.

• **Aaron Ford** Nov 12, 2022

I'm curious how your kids will make an "informed decision" without being informed? Kids will be kids, and some kids won't be hetero-normative. Will you teach them to hate themselves and others? Who would Jesus hate? Suggesting that we burn books is a MAJOR red flag folks.

• Literally TheDevil Nov 12, 2022

Teach your kids to hate, not discuss. Burn books. Judge thy neighbor. Thank you for your help.

• Ezekiel Nov 12, 2022

Ezekiel 12:7-8 If it's not white, it's not right. If it's a bit gay, it sure ain't OK

• **Anonymous** Nov 12, 2022

Please get these garbage books out of children's reach

• Vasilisa Sanarov Nov 12, 2022

This is not something that should be shoved in children's faces before they're old enough to even make informed decisions.

• Mariamia basargin Nov 12, 2022

So disgusting. These books should be burned

• Polagia Kuzmin Nov 12, 2022

We should not have to worry what our children read

• lydiya gostevskyh Nov 12, 2022

This is so sad

• Valentina Basargin Nov 12, 2022

Get these books out!!

• Ivan F Basargin Nov 12, 2022

Please keep this garbage away from our grandkids!

• **Domnika I martishev** Nov 12, 2022

Take those books out of the library! Let kids be kids!

• Adolf Eichmann Nov 10, 2022

Ja! Das final solution to der gays. Ich supports this petition to round up all ze gays unt send zem to a nice zummer campen met der big group showers.

• **Aaron Ford** Nov 10, 2022

Since you asked,

Drag queens are not strippers.

Gender identity is not salacious or inherently sexual.

The only people turning gender into a fetish or a conversation about sex acts, are you people. The only people grooming or indoctrinating your children are yourselves. Everyone else is just trying to exist as they are.

Get your minds out of the gutter, you bunch of freaks. This petition has been denied by the library several times, and it's about to be denied again.

Stop fetishizing people who want nothing to do with you or your hateful ideology.

Ban the bigots so we can live in peace.

Lynsey Stow Nov 10, 2022

This is so sad. Aren't we all flesh and blood human beings? What happened to 'love thy neighbor' or whatever the Bible states. You can't cherry pick what you want to believe. I hope your hearts becomes less cold and hard, and you can learn to love and accept everyone for who they are, including the children who are questioning their identities, because the world is a confusing place but ultimately beautiful when we can proudly be exactly who we are.

Signatures

- Jennifer Peterson United States
- Jody Fetterhoff United States
- Brooke Sanford United States
- Barb Jackson United States
- Stephanie Carroll United States
- Buncha Biggots United States
- FTFY United States
- Voldemort United States
- God United States
- Satan United States
- Kim Gear United States
- Dave Syren United States
- Ticee Graham United States
- Tina United States
- Ralph Crane United States
- Amanda United States
- Kaycee Edens United States
- Debi Clark United States
- Sarah Vance United States
- Brianna Ricketts United States
- Zoya kalugin United States
- Shellie Worsfold United States
- Literally TheDevil United States
- Ezekiel United States
- Lubava Martushoff United States
- Abby Shealy United States
- Tatiana Martushev United States
- Alexandra Kuzmin United States
- Ksenia reutov United States
- Varnava basargin United States
- Raisa I Kalugin United States
- Neanila United States
- Ulea United States
- Vasilisa Sanarov United States
- Mariamia basargin United States
- Elena United States
- Polagia Kuzmin United States
- Varvara Martishev United States
- Hionia kalugin United States
- Haretina reutov United States
- Alla Basargin United States
- Hristeena Kuzmin United States
- lydiya gostevskyh United States
- Valentina Basargin United States
- Apolinarya Basargin United States

- Ivan F Basargin United States
- Domnika I martishev United States
- Emily Larson United States
- Jon Ralph United States
- Brandi Hesse United States
- Joy Marchbanks United States
- Daryl Bryant United States
- Kasandra stanislaw United States
- Jaclyn Arndt United States
- Adolf Eichmann United States

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #21

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Thu, 11/10/2022 - 6:14pm

50.216.225.148

First Name Caitlin

Last Name Walls

Email caitlinkwalls@gmail.com

Phone Number 303-919-1180

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts; it is a pleasure to comment on Agenda Item 10.C. My name is Caitlin Walls and I have been a resident of this area for 7 years—I like on East Skyline. I am both a frequent user of the library and the mother of a four year old—so I have a vested interest in the issue brought before the council today.

I would officially discourage the advisory board, council, and/or library from banning or removing books from any section in the library, especially LGBTQ+ books. I encourage the board to keep LGBTQ+ books in the children's and YA section. One of the most glorious things about the library is that it offers a window into the vast spectrum of humanity—the differences between us that make each of us unique, from personalities to individual interests to the way we grow up, to sexuality. As a mother, I want my daughter to be exposed to all kinds of people, places, and worlds. It is my responsibility to facilitate wonder in her and to guide her socio-emotional and ethical development. Books are a wonderful vehicle to do these things. They allow me to teach her about different places, people, and circumstances in the world.

The responsibility I have as a mother is a point I would encourage everyone to remember, but especially those concerned individuals who would seek to ban any material from the library. As a parent or guardian, you have the freedom to control what your child reads and absorbs when they are young. There is no sense—or rightness—in trying to apply that control to everyone else in the community. Not everyone thinks the way you do, and trying to implement a homogeneous small-mindedness makes us poorer as a community. Homer is not a place for small-mindedness, and it is not a place for needless strictures. These books also exist for those children who are seeking to know that there are others like them in the world—including people who identify as LGBTQ—so they can see themselves reflected in what they read. We all want to see ourselves in the world, and it is unethical to remove such wonderful books as Julian Is a Mermaid just because a few community members find (erroneous) offense.

Therefore, I ask that you do not ban or remove any books from the library. My daughter and I have read many of the books on the list, and most are a great window to joy, acceptance, and fun. For books I don't like, whether because they are poorly written or showcase a viewpoint I don't admire—guess what?—I can choose not to read them with my daughter again. It's as easy as that.

Thank you for your time today.

Electronic Signature

Caitlin Walls

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50020

Links

 $\hbox{[1] https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings}$

November 11, 2022

Dear Library Advisory Board,

I am here to testify against any banning of any books or relocating of books in the Homer Public Library. PUBLIC is the key word here. It is a public library for use by all the people of the city of Homer and the surrounding area. Its contents should not be dictated by one group of people.

Children books are not written just for pure enjoyment. They are also written to help young people understand complicated topics at their level of understanding. The books also build understanding of those around them at a young age and hopefully this will develop empathy towards others.

Children books cover a variety of topics from divorce, autism, having a new sibling, to the variety of families that are in the world today and of course, the topic of concern of this petition LGTBQ. The books are written at a level that can be comprehended by the age of the reader they were written for. Through these books a young reader gains a better understanding of the world.

If a family wants to limit the exposure of their child, they can do so by reviewing the books that their child has chosen to bring home. In the same way that I would not tell them what books their child should be reading, I do not want anyone telling others what their own child should or should not be reading.

On a practical note. If the petition was accepted who is going to judge what is a LGBTQ book and what is not? Who is going to decide what is appropriate or not for each child? That needs to be left up to the parent or guardian.

All books in the library need to be made available to all patrons. All children books need to remain the in the children's' library.

Sincei	reiy,
Janet	Fink

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:53 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: FW: Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

----Original Message-----

From: Amanda Lehm <amandalehm623@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, November 11, 2022 9:32 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

As a member of the Homer community I am submitting a written testimony in full support of the Library Director's decision to keep children's books in the children's library. Having a diverse library selection is imperative in order to be supportive and inclusive of our diverse community members. If certain books do not appeal to you as a parent/caregiver than monitor what your children are reading - this is not the responsibility of the library nor should the rest of the library goers suffer the loss of wonderful and enjoyable children's books. Thank you for your time,

Mandy Lehm

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Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Fri, 11/11/2022 - 2:00pm

146.71.68.250

First Name Karen

Last Name Nogle

Email Karenenogle@gmail.com

Phone Number 907-299-0964

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I just read the Homer News article regarding placement of books in our library. I agree with all the statements made by library director, Dave Barry. He has my full support. Books should not be hidden or stigmatized. I'm more concerned about the confused child that needs to read one of these books. Who can say their life hasn't been changed, by a book they just happened across? Maybe a non reader.

My husband wants to add his voice in agreement: Lloyd "Wendall" Cummings

Electronic Signature

Karen Nogle

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50025

Links

[1] https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #22

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Fri, 11/11/2022 - 11:54am

146.71.68.18

First Name Sara

Last Name Reinert

Email saralreinert@gmail.com

Phone Number 9073998736

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I am writing today to address the petition requesting segregation of certain books away from the children's section of the Homer Public Library and their placement in a separate area. I think that would be inappropriate and an action with a narrowed viewpoint.

There a couple of points I would like to discuss before tackling the notions of segregation and accessibility;

First would be the notion that gender issues are concerned with, or equated with, sexual conduct. Questions about how one fits into society in general, or how one attempts to find a place for oneself in our world, are questions for every human, regardless of gender and of every age. And harder with each passing year.

Gender is not a minor issue. Nor is skin color, body type, body size, religious background, place of birth, citizenship, disability, on and on...

(Particularly offensive is the association, in the petition, of gender identity information with "grooming" by sexual predators.)

Second. The inference (assumptive language in the petition) that availability of information is tantamount to "promotion" or "indoctrination" is misguided and misleading, and implies the library personnel have a hidden agenda.

Availability, freedom of, and access to information is a hallmark of our first amendment rights, and there is little to hide in that statement.

The segregation of selected topic books from the children's section is equivalent to suppression of information. Relocating children's books away from the children's room denies accessibility to those books.

Moving specific books physically out of the way of their intended audience (children) is a form of censorship.

In the petition, the author expresses a desire for children to be able to "browse freely", and I wholeheartedly agree with that sentiment! But what is "free" about a segregated library section? All those books need to be accessible to be able to browse them.

Censorship and and suppression run counter to the main mission of a library—being a public entity for all, where everyone has equal access and rights.

The prejudices of an individual group should not be allowed to dictate access to books.

I am old enough to remember a censorship attempt in the 1970's, over John Lennon's song "Imagine". He asks the the

listeners to imagine a world with no religion, which caused quite a kerfuffle in some quarters, and requests are made to ban the song from the radio. The key word, of course is "Imagine"...a thought, an idea.

Suppression of thoughts, ideas and experiences is what censorship of books aims to do.

Thank you for your time, your service, and for reading through all of this material.

Electronic Signature

Sara L Reinert

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50024

Links

 $\hbox{[1] https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings}$

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:52 AM

To: Rachel Tussey **Subject:** FW: Childrens Books

From: Valentina Ivanov <valentinaivanov@yahoo.com>

Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 10:17 AM **To:** Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Childrens Books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I stand with Maddy Velstra and agree that these books need to be taken out of the childrens section. The board is chosing to desensitize these kinds of books for children which causes confusion and steals their innocence. These kinds of books are too over sexualized for young children. Its disgusting. I want my young boys to be able to browse through book freely without coming across some nonsense where they start to question why a dad is dressed like a woman. TAKE THEM OUT! Thank you.

Valentina Basargin

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #25

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Sat. 11/12/2022 - 8:57am

66.91.27.51

First Name Catherine

Last Name Bursch

Email tcbursch@gmail.com

Phone Number 907-235-5111

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I would like to comment about the appeal to have dozens of books removed from the childrens section og the library and moved to the adult section because they do not allign with some peoples family values.

First of all, I support and trust our library staff and believe they are running the library as library's in the USA should be run. I would think most librarys in the USA have a variety of family values represented in their children's sections.

I have traveled to many other countries, some that do not have the freedoms that the USA has. I know what that can look like, and I am afraid that once we start curtailing our freedoms....where do we stop? Who draws the lines? I am not comfortable with beginning down that slippery slope and going against our patriotic duty of upholding our constitution.

I would suggest that the underlying problem here is fear. Fear of ones child being influenced by sources outside the family and thus turning out differently than a family or parent would like.

We can all understand fear as we have all felt it. At times its scary watching our kids grow and step into their own lives . However, we cannot control the whole world and it is constantly changing.

My belief, and I know it is not shared with everyone, is to be there when children are exposed to new things and discuss them. THIS is the time to impart family values.

Hoping we can work through this and understand each other better in a kind way.

Electronic Signature

Catherine Bursch

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50029

Links

[1] https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #27

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Sat, 11/12/2022 - 10:23am

24.237.134.171

First Name Marylou

Last Name Burton

Email burtons1967@gmail.com

Phone Number 9072996318

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: LGBTQ book relocation

Written Testimony

We live in a diverse world that includes people of different races, ethnicities, politics, religions - and yes, sexuality. That diversity is something to be celebrated, not feared. Moreover, giving children the opportunity to learn about diversity is not indoctrination, it is education. Children are born with open minds - it is adults that close them. I support the library's judgment of books to be included in the children's room as well as the other sections of the library.

Electronic Signature

Marylou Burton

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50031

Links

[1] https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:53 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: FW: Library Advisory Board MEeting

From: rchia@horizonsatellite.com <rchia@horizonsatellite.com>

Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 6:02 AM **To:** Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us> **Subject:** Library Advisory Board MEeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Library Advisory Board,

As a teacher of creative writing for the past twenty-five years, I find the petition to eliminate books featuring LGBTQ+ characters from the children's library frankly absurd. The argument that these books promote an ideology assumes that stories advocate the way of life of the fictitious characters within them.

Following this logic, westerns must intend for readers to strap on six guns and ride off into the sunset, detective novels apparently are recruitment tools for law enforcement, and books about ballet dancers, firefighters, or astronauts are similarly designed to sway readers to embrace the lifestyles of those characters—each of which could presumably offend certain members of the community who might dislike the idea of their children becoming cowboys, police officers, and so forth.

Fictions are depictions of other people's lives, not advertisements for them. Stories offer us an awareness of others, promoting the development of empathy toward people who may be different than each of us. Before we can learn to respect others, we have to discover that they exist. That's one of the many good things a diverse and eclectic collection of library books does for a community. Please do not let that be undermined by a minority of library users, to the great loss of all others.

I applaud Homer Library Director David Barry's decision to resist this well-intended but misguided petition, and I hope the Library Advisory Board will support him on this matter.

Richard Chiappone

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:52 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: FW: Library Advisory Board's Decision on Restrictive Access to LGBTQ Books

From: Nina Faust <aknina51@yahoo.com> **Sent:** Saturday, November 12, 2022 11:12 AM **To:** Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Library Advisory Board's Decision on Restrictive Access to LGBTQ Books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Please send this to the Library Advisory Board members. Thanks! Nina

P.O. Box 2994 Homer AK 99603

November 10, 2022

Homer Library Advisory Board Homer AK 99603

Dear Library Advisory Board Members:

As a retired English teacher, citizen, avid reader, and library supporter, I am opposed to the censorship of books in our public library, and that includes restricting access. Our library's mission statement exemplifies how a public library in a free society should serve its community:

The Homer Public Library serves the diverse needs of our community members by providing access to information, promoting literacy, and facilitating lifelong learning. We foster education, personal well-being, cultural creativity, community engagement, and economic development. Our resources are offered without charge to people of all ages and abilities within our service area.

I want our library to be inclusive, supportive, informative, and accessible. The library is a resource for all users, young and old. The approach the library has taken for creating programs, acquiring educational materials, and its mission have made the library a well-respected, welcoming, and valued local institution.

As to the decision by the Homer Library Board on not restricting access to books on a long list presented to the Library Board recently, the Library Advisory Board made the right decision to allow free access to these resources for everyone.

Considering the statistics on suicide; the bullying, harassment, and non-acceptance; and the difficulty in understanding why they are different; access to information is vital to young people who face gender identity issues. Just knowing there are others facing the same difficulties can be a big relief. Many books that have a character who is LGBTQ center around common difficulties that most young people face in growing up. Reading about how others deal with problems in their lives can be very helpful. It can also be enlightening to those who bully people who are different.

I think it is important to maintain access to information across all categories of our library resources. I support the Library Advisory Board's decision, the constitutional one, that maintains access to information for all.

Sincerely,

Nina Faust

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #28

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Sat, 11/12/2022 - 12:17pm

104.254.229.89

First Name Sharon

Last Name Gorman

Email sharonmtgorman@gmail.com

Phone Number

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Dear Library Board,

A family is many things with many different values for all of us but their are a lot of values we all share. Some are respect, acceptance, kindness, responsibility, love, caring, structure, safety, fun, and sense of belonging. Accepting, respecting, enjoying and celebrating seems essential for all people to flourish.

Please keep the library children books in your collection that explore and celebrate all differences. warmly, Sharon Gorman and Joe Spaeder

Electronic Signature

Sharon Gorman

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50033

Links

[1] https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #26

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Sat, 11/12/2022 - 9:22am

63.140.103.226

First Name Therese

Last Name Lewandowski

Email thereselew@gmail.com

Phone Number 9074357222

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Hello.

I write regarding the item under New Business on your Nov 15 agenda: Decision regarding children and young adult materials. I am adamantly opposed to censuring out books in the children/young adults section of the library that are related to LGBTQ people/families/parents/lives. The petitioners desire to have such a censorship believe such materials will influence a gay lifestyle on children/young adults. I have no such concern, most people probably do not either. Of grave concern to me are materials related to hunting, guns, war games and violent topics in this section of the library that I believe have the possibility to influence children and young adults to grow up to know violence and war as the norm and acceptable. How much better the future for our young people would be without accepting war and violence as normal. The bottom line, however, is this is a Public Library, not a religious institution. The petitioners for censoring any material are gravely wrong. I put full confidence in you, the Library Advisory Board and the Library director to make proper decisions on its holdings. Also- if parents do not want their children to be subjected to any topic they deem influentially harmful, it is their responsibility to oversee what they read and view. That includes all the devices kids use to play war games on. Respectfully, Therese Lewandowski

Electronic Signature

Therese Lewandowski

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50030

Links

[1] https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:53 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: FW: library collection policy

From: Nancy Lord <njlord250@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 4:17 AM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: library collection policy

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Please add this message to the packet for the Nov. 15 LAB meeting.

I have reviewed our library's Collection Development Policy and fully support the library director's decision, based on that policy, to maintain a balanced and diverse books and materials collection in the library, including in the children's room. Clearly, there are community members who would like to impose their personal religious views on others, but that is not appropriate for the city as a whole and all who live here. Can we not favor kindness and appreciation for all who share our world instead of fostering ignorance, divisiveness, and hate? To those people who want to remove books they find objectionable--use the opportunity to talk with your children, not to put blinders on them. I trust that the LAB will support the director and allow our library professionals, who are truly professional as well as sensitive to community needs and desires, to do their jobs.

Nancy Lord city resident

<u>Home</u> > <u>Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings</u> > <u>Webform results</u> > Submission #24

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Sat, 11/12/2022 - 8:46am

65.74.107.92

First Name Rudy

Last Name Multz

Email rudyrocks@gmail.com

Phone Number 9072998210

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

Item 10C: Freedom means having choices. Public institutions such as the library allow citizens to choose to educate or entertain themselves freely without censorship of those voices or their choices within the limits of what is legally allowed. Banning books is censoring choice and that is definitely not freedom. A dangerous precedent is set when we start limiting choices. If parents are concerned about content of children's books then they need to monitor and guide their children until they turn 18 and can be legally responsible for themselves. Please do not censor and limit choices that constitute the freedoms we have in this nation. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Electronic Signature

Rudy Multz

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50027

Links

[1] https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:52 AM

To: Rachel Tussey **Subject:** FW: Children's books

From: Gurgi89 <jcptodd@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 1:55 PM **To:** Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Children's books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To: Library Advisor Board

Topic: LGBTQ+ Books in the Children's Library

Date: 12 November, 2022 From: Janice C.P. Todd

I write as a parent and grandparent and a past Homer LAB member and president. I've taken college courses on Children's Lit and Fairy Tales. Both of my daughters are pediatric nurses and I have lived in the Homer area over 40 years.

Children books with LGBTQ+ themes <u>should remain</u> in the children's library. The fear of these books reminds me of Sleeping Beauty, a fairy tall we all know and love. The King and Queen were proud, thrilled to be new parents. They want the very best for their child. She's a princess after all. Then the angry fairy curses their tiny princess. Fortunately, a good fairy steps in and though she can't erase the curse, she sideswipes it.

The horrified parents try to erase the curse. They're powerful. Every spindle and every spinning wheel in the country is burned. But the precautions failed...

What if instead, the princess had learned to spin? What if she had learned about the curse? Would she have be able to overcome the curse? Isn't that was growing up means?

The books on the list are well written. They represent people in our very community. They are respectful and encourage inclusion, compassion, diversity and freedom to make our own choices so long as others are not hurt. Isn't this what our country is about? These books allow us to explore questions our children may have about ideas we may be unfamiliar or uncomfortable with. Questions our children want to or do ask. These books

say, "We're not all the same. That's natural and that's Ok. We can still accept each other and be friends."

Children will question what it means to be a boy or a girl. Why can girls wear jeans, but boys can't wear a dress? Should boys cry? Should girls be strong and independent?

Children hesitate or struggle to ask questions if their parents are loath to discuss topics outside their beliefs. If a child 'stumbles across' one of these books, it opens a door for parent and child to explore and learn together. These books share the other side of the coin. The one the parent may not want to look at.

These book expose children to a multifaceted world of ideas and conflicts. Removing them closes the door on a reality that *some* children will find they are a part of. Banning them doesn't stop the ideas and questions. It doesn't stop life from happening. Don't burn the spindle.

Sincerely,
Janice Todd
jcptodd@gmail.com
907 235 7049

<u>Home</u> > <u>Submit Written Testimony to City Council</u> > <u>Webform results</u> > Submission #69

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony to City Council [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Sat, 11/12/2022 - 3:20pm

146.71.68.108

First Name Shellie

Last Name Worsfold

Email shelliew@gci.net

Phone Number

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which City Council Meeting do you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

To be clear, I support the HPL and its policies to keep the library diverse.

I mistakingly thought I needed to sign the iPetition doc before making a comment.

Please know that if my name appears in support of removing books, it was purely by mistake.

These books on the list are not "disgusting" (as I've read some comments), they are beautiful stories that may show a different perspective than yours, but remember- you don't HAVE to check them out and read them, although I wish you would.

I support HPL

Electronic Signature

Shellie Worsfold

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/50038

Links

 $\hbox{[1] https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-city-council}\\$

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:51 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: FW: LAB Regular Meeting 10.C - LAB 22-006

From: Laura Zeiset <aklaura@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 6:18 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: LAB Regular Meeting 10.C - LAB 22-006

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To the Library Advisory Board,

I am a resident of Homer and a user of the Homer Public Library.

I know families that agree and I know families that disagree with LGBQ books being in the children's section of the library. I have two suggestions that could be a compromise for both groups. I love how the picture books are stored in color coded bins by book type, rhyming, families, Alaska, holidays, and more. A new themed bin could be made to house the LGBQ picture books. The books with LGBQ characters would be easier to find for those looking for that type of book and it will also help those families not wanting to read them to know what bin to stay away from. My second idea is if a dedicated bin would not work, a simple rainbow sticker on the spine of books with LGBQ characters would set the books apart and easily distinguishable.

As a mom with four kids who read a lot, I know I would be very happy to be able to easily distinguish the books with LGBQ characters and those without.

Thank you for the consideration.

Laura Zeiset

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:51 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: FW: Library LAB22-006

From: mark zeiset <markz423@yahoo.com> Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 7:33 PM

To: Circ Admin <CircAdmin@ci.homer.ak.us>; Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Library LAB22-006

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hi,

My name is Mark Zeiset and I am a city of Homer resident.

As a father of 4 I am very concerned about any sexual books, transgender, LGBQ, heterosexual or any others in the kids section. I think the books should be removed. I am aware that this is a big argument across our nation. As a compromise at least move these books out of the kids area.

Thank you for considering my comments on Library LAB22-006.

Mark

<u>Home</u> > <u>Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings</u> > <u>Webform results</u> > Submission #32

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Sun, 11/13/2022 - 9:38pm

162.142.119.13

First Name Sarah

Last Name Allan

Email sarahallan00@gmail.com

Phone Number

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I am a Homer resident, the parent of two young children (4 and 6), and a frequent library user. I appreciate the diversity of offerings at the Homer Public Library and fully support the continued inclusion of a wide range of books for children and young adults in the children's section of the library, including books that address diversity and LGBTQIA+ identities, families, and individuals. The books that have been identified for removal or relocation are age appropriate, important contributions that should be available to families without barriers or stigma.

As a parent, I am empowered to choose what books and other materials my children spend time with and to share literature and culture in the context of our family values. While I may not find that everything in the library aligns with my family's values, I appreciate that all perspectives are represented and I do not believe it is protective of my children or our community to censor books. Please maintain children's books, including those identified for removal or relocation in the current appeal, in the children's section of the library, along with the full range of literary offerings for families.

The Library's Collection Development Policy is robust, politically neutral, and responsive to the diverse needs and interests of our community. I strongly support this Policy, the Library Bill of Rights, and the broader understanding that censorship is contrary to preservation of freedom and democracy. I thank the Library for their continued commitment to providing opportunities for everyone in our community to expand their knowledge and understanding of the world we live in.

Electronic Signature

Sarah Allan

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50049

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #33

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Sun, 11/13/2022 - 10:06pm

146.71.64.153

First Name Thorey

Last Name Munro

Email thorey.rk@gmail.com

Phone Number 9072996131

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I am a resident of Kachemak City, a new mother, and a born-and-raised Homer community member and I fully support the current Library policy regarding inclusion of diverse books and viewpoints in our community library. Those who are requesting certain books be banned are fostering fear and meanness towards actual members of our community and contribute to a damaging atmosphere for young people to grow up in. Several of my loved ones in this town are gay or gender fluid and everyone I know has an aspect of their being that does not easily fit into traditional categories. Books-especially children's books- are important for teaching that difference is okay and wonderful, and the library's current policy adequately supports this. Please deny this petition that seems to have more to do with an abstract political agenda than it does with actual people that we know, love, work and coexist with in this town.

Electronic Signature

Thorey Munro

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50050

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #31

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Sun, 11/13/2022 - 3:01pm

104.254.226.143

First Name Susie

Last Name Amundson

Email susie.amundson@gmail.com

Phone Number 5099981009

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

It seems like each parent in our community wants to be the best parent they can be: nurturing, protective, and wise for their little ones. It's a hard job. Although I fully support parents operating in their own sphere of influence for their children (e.g., what foods to eat, what books to read, what video games to play), it's truly ill-advised for them to make decisions for other parents.

That is why I believe the children's books (even those that might have confusing topics such as LGBTQIA+2s, childhood friendships, and even Christianity) need to remain in the children's section of the Homer Public Library.

It's OK if a parent doesn't want their child to interact or check-out a specific book, that's the parent's choice. However, I believe one of the greatest gifts to children is using our wisdom as adults and parents.

And with that wisdom, may each of us help children make sense of a world where the landscape is not black or white. But where we help children make sense that there is space and belonging for every human being in this world.

Please allow the children's book to remain in the children's section of the public library.

Electronic Signature

Susie Amundson

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50048

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #34

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Sun, 11/13/2022 - 11:00pm

104.254.230.165

First Name KD

Last Name Dixon

Email kdd@fromktoj.com

Phone Number 907 235-6697

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

Topic: Appeal of Library Director's Decision Regarding Children and Young Adult Materials:

After reading the library director's statement, I wanted to write in support of their thoughtful choice to keep the challenged titles in their original spots on the shelves. Thank you for this gift of access to our community.

Electronic Signature

KD Dixon

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50051

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #29

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Sun, 11/13/2022 - 12:00am

146.70.100.30

First Name Vivian

Last Name Finlay

Email vivianfinlay@gmail.com

Phone Number 907-435-7030

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I am opposed to the petition that is trying to remove library books from general circulation. The word "indoctrinate" is used in that petition. I object to the notion that books are written to "indoctrinate" anyone. We all have choices as to which books we read, and parents can make those choices for their children. We must not cross the line of censoring books otherwise we start on the slippery slope of individuals, according to their personal beliefs, deciding what is best for everyone. We each have our beliefs and values, and all those need to be respected. Removing books (putting them in special sections) means that some people decide what is appropriate for everyone and what is not. We need to be able to make our own decisions as parents/grandparents as to what is appropriate for our children/grandchildren.

Electronic Signature

Vivian Finlay

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50044

Links

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:50 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: FW: Public Comment - Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

From: Karianna Ford <kariannaford@gmail.com> **Sent:** Sunday, November 13, 2022 2:39 PM **To:** Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Public Comment - Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hear this and hear it well,

The racially marginalized, queer and disabled of all ages deserve to have their lived experiences represented in books at their local library. This abhorrent petition for the erasure of queer representation shows a complete lack of intimate awareness and highlights the cultural incompetence of our neighbors in dealing with racism, gender and sexuality. Specifically, how we as a community treat people of different gender identities.

"Social force has maintained gender norms for centuries via reference groups and implicit information. That has a lot to do with access to cultural frameworks that either aided or forced you to have reference groups tied to your reality" to quote Ashtin Berry, educator.

When your reference group is a white, hetero-normative, cisgendered, sexist, evangelical community who demonizes others you're destined to be upset by anything that contradicts this reality, especially your children.

Berry goes on to say "They are not upset that we are taking up space in fictional stories. They are upset that we're taking it up in real life. Writing entirely white, [hetero-normative, cisgendered] worlds in fantasy is a form of storytelling/visual eugenics. A made up world and everyone is white [and heterosexual]. These folks are imagining a world where no one else exists. THAT is their eugenics fantasy."

All parents should be free to direct the upbringing of their own children; furthermore, LGBTQIA+ children shouldn't be adultified and forced to find books in the adult section. Prohibiting these titles altogether violates the rights of other parents and the rights of children. In doing so, you're removing the possibility for LGBTQIA+ children to hold meaningful conversation and relationships with their families while laying the groundwork for increased bullying, disrespect, and violence.

The profound misunderstandings about the LGBTQIA+ community stated in this petition serve as a textbook example of the type of adults that children raised in hyper-controlled environments can grow up to become. To be clear, a person's gender identity and expression are not the same as their sexuality; gender identity isn't a choice or a "sin"; LGBTQIA+ folks are not a monolith; and queer and trans folks aren't inherently sexual. Sexualizing and fetishizing the LGBTQIA+ community, making fun of the acronym LGBTQIA+, misgendering, and speaking as a white cis-het person on behalf of an entire marginalized community you don't share a lived experience with is unacceptable.

This petition states that it's most concerned about sexually suggestive storylines but, unsurprisingly, most of these books contain no sexually explicit content whatsoever. That includes a book about a barnyard rooster, families, babies, and a Black child being proud of and celebrating their Black culture ("Black is a Rainbow Color"). Which shows that this petition is also anti-black in addition to being antiqueer. Please see this petition for what it actually is: trash.

Finally, and most importantly, don't forget to check in on your LGBTQIA+ friends and family while the town is reeling. Events like these are extremely isolating and triggering. While our neighbors show their true characters, LGBTQIA+ folks are the ones who are impacted most.

You can find more resources for LGBTQIA+ youth locally at The REC Room and online at The Human Rights Campaign Foundation at https://www.hrc.org/life For mental health support, call the Trevor Project's 24/7 support line at 866-488-7386. You can also reach a trained crisis counselor through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling or texting 988 or by texting "HOME" to 741741.

Thank you.

- Karianna, Anchor Point, Alaska.

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:50 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: FW: Written testimony: Appeal of Library Director's Decision

From: lyn maslow <davelyn@gci.net>

Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2022 11:18 AM **To:** Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Written testimony: Appeal of Library Director's Decision

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Advisory Board Member,

We are longtime residents of Homer who avidly support and use the library frequently. Growing up here, our children were able to take advantage of HPL's rich programming, diverse book selections, and friendly staff who were able to steer our boys toward books that were enriching, interesting and appropriate. As parents we appreciate the staff's ability to add highly regarded books to the children's collection that reflect the entire community of Homer and connect youth with peers whose experiences are different. As a parent, I always felt that it was my responsibility to discuss book choices with my children.

The library's role is not to promote any one individual or group's personal beliefs. However, it is their role to provide access to information and literature for everyone. The library's policy clearly states that "individual or group prejudice about a particular item or type of material in the collection may not preclude its use by others."

We support Library Director Dave Berry's decision not to remove the materials in question from the children's room. He is following library policy, and we request that the LAB also uphold current policy.

Lyn Maslow and David Lewis, Homer residents

<u>Home</u> > <u>Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings</u> > <u>Webform results</u> > Submission #30

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Sun, 11/13/2022 - 2:58pm

216.67.3.11

First Name Cynthia

Last Name Morelli

Email cmorelliclay@gmail.com

Phone Number 9072352846

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: Appeal to move books

Written Testimony

It is my understanding that the Homer Public Library's policy clearly states that parents are encouraged to facilitate their children's reading and it is not the library's responsibility nor job to censor anyone's reading choices. Please continue to uphold the Library Director's decision to leave children's books in the children's library, in accordance with the city's collection and development policy. Free access to information creates opportunities for discussion about differences among us.

Electronic Signature

Cynthia Morelli

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50047

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #40

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Mon, 11/14/2022 - 11:40am

65.74.105.50

First Name Louise

Last Name Ashmun

Email leashmun@gmail.com

Phone Number 907 299 6360

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I strongly reject the appeal by members of the community who want 40+ books moved from the children's library into the adult library because they don't align with their family values. This action would clearly be censorship that is not allowed by the current Collection Development Policy. I want those materials to be available to my grandchildren and others. I encourage the community members seeking this action to simply steer their children away from materials they find objectionable.

Electronic Signature

Louise Ashmun

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50057

Links

 $\underline{\text{Home}}$ > $\underline{\text{Submit Written Testimony to City Council}}$ > $\underline{\text{Webform results}}$ > $\underline{\text{Submission \#70}}$

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony to City Council [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Mon, 11/14/2022 - 8:50pm

73.169.36.144

First Name Mandy

Last Name Bernard

Email mandybernard@gmail.com

Phone Number 907-299-5635

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which City Council Meeting do you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony

I am writing in support of the Library's existing catalogue of children's books, and reject the petition filed October 25th to relocate several titles to the adult section. The library should continue to be a haven of enrichment and information accessible to anyone, regardless of their age or their parents' bigotry.

Electronic Signature

Mandy Bernard

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/50067

Links

[1] https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-city-council

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #35

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Mon, 11/14/2022 - 9:14am

71.80.156.131

First Name Lolita

Last Name Brache

Email lolitagrace@gmail.com

Phone Number 9072990694

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: Library Advisory Board

Written Testimony

I support the Library Board in following their stated policies and procedures: to keep all books relating to LGTBQ+, trans experience and sex education themes in place whether in the children's or young adult sections. I believe it is important for families to have access to these items. Those who do not want their children to read them have the right to manage their children's access. Knowledge/examples of these aspects of life is all around us in our community and on media. The children will be exposed, regardless. As a lesbian raising two daughters in Homer, I found the community to be generally very supportive and unbiased. Unfortunately my daughters did have to bear some bullying in school. I can only think that the childen who would be mean and rude came from families where there was no or only limited discussion of what it means to be gay or lesbian. That perhaps fear was instilled due to lack of information and understanding. Books about these issues help us all bridge gaps of ignorance, fear and misunderstanding. I hope we can all listen to one another with compassion as we help our community become ever more diverse, safe, and open hearted.

Electronic Signature

Lolita Brache

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50052

l inks

 $\underline{\text{Home}} > \underline{\text{Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings}} > \underline{\text{Webform results}} > \underline{\text{Submission #41}}$

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Mon, 11/14/2022 - 1:39pm

65.74.105.231

First Name Sky

Last Name Cady

Email skyforchrist@aim.com

Phone Number 907299-1483

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Regarding LGBTQ+ childrens books: The Homer library functions as a resource for our community to learn and grow. While it can be useful to expose citizens to different viewpoints and worldviews (one of which is someone's understanding of sexual identity) - this does not necessarily apply to making young children aware of sensitive topics. This topic is one that many parents view as controversial, if not detrimental to the health of personal sexual identity. It's the parents responsibility to expose their children to these things and at the proper time - and should not have to worry about explaining sexual bondage to their 7 year old. If this is indeed within the book - should we also be asking what other types of bondage(as if it could ever be good) is paraded as good within childrens books? While some things may be explored in a private bedroom and discussed among like minded peers, this type of content should be kept away from normal circulation while still being made available to anyone who wants to teach their children using this content. By exposing children to the sexual practices as represented in these types of books we risk encouraging our children to have sexual expression outside of the proper age. We risk disenfranchising those who love and use the public library because they view this expression of sexuality as evil and don't want their kids thinking it's good. We now open the door for other controversial minority sexual practices to be explored and normalized through a children's medium (book or otherwise) such as the objectification of women, beastiality or polygamy. While these topics have a place in the public discourse, that place is not on the low shelf in the children's section.

Electronic Signature

Sky Cady

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50060

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #36

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Mon, 11/14/2022 - 9:43am

146.71.68.66

First Name Melody

Last Name Chesley

Email melodychesley@gmail.com

Phone Number 9072996406

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I urge you to uphold the current City's Collection Development policy and support the Director's decision to leave all children's books in the children's library. I fully support the current Library policy that reading choices and access by children should rest with parents or legal guardians. I also fully believe that LGBTQ+ books for children need to remain in the library and that these books represent our community in a safe and meaningful way.

Electronic Signature

Melody s chesley

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50053

Links

From: David Berry

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:22 PM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: FW: Removal of books

From: Adam Christensen <ccvadam@gmail.com> **Sent:** Monday, November 14, 2022 3:14 PM **To:** David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Re: Removal of books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Please do! I will plan on attending via zoom!

Thank you again!

Adam

On Mon, Nov 14, 2022, 3:01 PM David Berry < dberry@ci.homer.ak.us > wrote:

Thank you! Would you mind if I forward your comment to the City Clerks, for inclusion in the LAB packet tomorrow?

Cheers!

Dave Berry

Director, Homer Public Library 907-435-3151 (office)

907-299-5490 (cell) dberry@ci.homer.ak.us

Notice: Emails to and from this address are subject to disclosure under the Alaska public records law.

From: Adam Christensen <ccvadam@gmail.com> Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 2:05 PM To: David Berry < dberry@ci.homer.ak.us> Subject: Removal of books CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders. David, I am writing in regard to an article I just read about LGBTQ+ books in the Homer Library. I want to thank you for denying the request previously made by Melissa Martin, and to encourage you to stand your ground again tomorrow. I very much agree with your statement that it is better to "add rather than subtract" Please do not allow ANY books to be moved, removed, or censored - Especially ones that are so important to the under-represented. The library should be an inclusive place to ALL - if these (and potentially other) books are removed, we are only doing further damage to our friends that historically don't feel safe, or welcomed. "When you tear out a man's tongue, you are not proving him a liar, you're only telling the world that you fear what he might say." - GRRM Thank you again for having the upstanding character it takes to deny the hateful and fearful request to remove books. Please stand your ground again tomorrow. Adam Christensen Ninilchik

907-953-7335

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:50 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: FW: Library Advisory Board Meeting Agenda Item 10.C (11/15/22)

From: Deborah Cox <debdcox@mac.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2022 3:06 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Library Advisory Board Meeting Agenda Item 10.C (11/15/22)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Members of the Homer Public Library Advisory Board,

I am writing in support of Library Director Dave Berry's decision regarding Children and Young Adult Materials (Item 10.C. on LAB Meeting Agenda 11/15/22). I request that all books on the list for reconsideration be left in the children's section. (In fact, moving them would draw further attention to the books, as well as draw children into the adult section of the library).

I have read the arguments in favor of the petition, as well as those in favor of leaving the books where they are in the children's section of the library. In order to avoid repeating what so many in support of Mr. Berry's decision so eloquently stated, I will just add a few comments here.

I find it ironic that Mrs. Veldstra, a children's book author herself, would head up such a petition to censor books in our children's section of the library. According to the Barnes and Noble overview of Mrs. Veldstra's book "A Christmas Parade", "The world always stops for Christmas" (in fact, it does not). When Michael Armstrong interviewed her for a lovely article in the Homer News, he describes the story, where the girl "puts on a new costume, and leads parade watchers in Christmas songs". This book is very similar to *Julian Is a Mermaid* (Love, Jessica), in that both books have a child dressing up and participating in a parade.

The petition to remove books from the children's section of the library states that the books in question are "promoting transgender ideology, and...intend to indoctrinate children into LGBTQ+ ideologies". Taking *LGBTQ*+ books out of the library would be like taking books dealing with *Christmas* out of the library. What if I do not believe in Christmas, nor celebrate it, and do not want my children indoctrinated to its ideologies? (All hypothetical here). Should I request that all books on Christmas be removed, or put in the adult section?

As a certified Librarian, I am familiar with the role of libraries, and librarians. I believe in the First Amendment, Intellectual Freedom and the Library Bill of Rights. If you visit our incredible public library, and find a book that you do not want to read: *put it back on the shelf. Choose another book*.

If you want to "police" the books that your child reads, feel free to do so. There are many ways for you to do this.

If you were to walk the halls of Homer High School, where I am currently the librarian, you will see an incredible array of people, with a wide range of beliefs, interests, and gender fluidity. All of us do not need to agree on our beliefs, but we must agree to disagree respectfully. The people that signed the petition, in no way, need to read books that they are uncomfortable with. They can choose not to read them. They can choose to censor these books from their children. But they can NOT censor them from anyone else.

I firmly believe that the reconsidered books should remain where they are in the library, in the children's section.

I want to thank Library Director Dave Berry, and acknowledge his expertise. I also thank all members of the Homer Public Library Advisory Board for upholding the clear and professional library policies that are currently in place.

Sincerely, Deb (Cox) Curtis Homer High School Librarian

Sources:

Armstrong, Michael (December 8, 2021). https://www.homernews.com/life/a-christmas-parade-is-local-authors-first-book/

Barnes and Noble. https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/a-christmas-parade-madeline-a-hawthorne/1140549722

Love, Jessica. Julian Is a Mermaid: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PHsixlARQPM

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:56 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: Fwd: Library Advisory Board meeting re: LGBTQ books

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tara Findlay <ramblinarat@gmail.com>
Date: November 14, 2022 at 7:55:04 PM PST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Library Advisory Board meeting re: LGBTQ books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To Whom it may concern:

As I am well aware that our poor city clerk is being inundated with public commentary on the subject, I will attempt to be as concise as possible, though I'm not sure my rage will allow it.

The mere suggestion of this ban by Ms Veldstra and others is not only a dangerous and deeply personal affront to me and some of my most beloved family and friends, but an assault on free speech, representation, education, diversity, and so much more. I am perhaps overly confident that Homer Public Library and it's supporters will prevail and this petition will be shut down, but given the political climate I am weary that Veldstra and cohorts will portray themselves as victims of a "woke movement" and continue to attack and censor school curriculums, teachers, and others in interest of insulating children and preserving their myopic worldview. We must stay vigilant and stand strong against these frightened and misled bigots and defend our children and their access to free education that represents the broad spectrum- rainbow, if you will- of perspectives and lived experiences in our community, country, and world at large.

"The future is caramel and queer, baby." -ilana glazer

With respect, Tara Findlay

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #42

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Mon, 11/14/2022 - 1:57pm

74.123.241.8

First Name Jill

Last Name Gann

Email gann.jill@gmail.com

Phone Number 907-513-9348

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

As a librarian on the Kenai Peninsula and a supporter of libraries. I support the librarians decision to keep these books on the shelves. Parents have the right to choose what their children can read and access but not what others can access and read. The librarian chooses the books that meets the wide varied needs of the community and thus has a great responsibility to provide materials that meet those needs.

We must not censor these books every persons has the freedom to read.

Please support your library by keeping these books in the regular collection so all have access to them.

Thank you

Electronic Signature

Jill Gann

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50061

Links

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:50 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: FW: Public testimony about library issue

----Original Message-----

From: Maggie Goedeke <maggie_kay89@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2022 7:24 PM To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us> Subject: Public testimony about library issue

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

The plight to have children's books that don't match the hetero-gender-roles formula removed from the children's library in Homer AK is a homophobic and transphobic act. Please help us support access to knowledge, representation and freedom. Limiting access to diversity breeds racism, homophobia, transphobia, hate, intolerance and violence as children grow into closed minded adults who are afraid of people who are different than their upbringing. The human condition is a spectrum of skin color, gender and sexuality which can be seen throughout history despite suppression, erasure and violence against them. Please help protect acceptance and diversity as we are all humans who exist. Thank you, Maggie G

Sent from my iPhone

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #37

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Mon, 11/14/2022 - 10:27am

76.121.39.81

First Name Cheryl

Last Name Green

Email GREENCL45@hotmail.com

Phone Number

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Thu, 12/01

What type of comments will you be giving?

Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I use the Homer Public Library twice a month and I stand with their current policy to keep all books exactly where they are and available for review, reading and checking out. Do not change anything! Thank you for hearing my statement.

Electronic Signature

Cheryl Green

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50054

Links

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:57 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: Fwd: Testimony Regarding Children & YA Materials

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kayci Hanson kaycihanson@gmail.com **Date:** November 14, 2022 at 5:40:14 PM PST

To: Department Clerk clerk@ci.homer.ak.us

Subject: Testimony Regarding Children & YA Materials

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello,

I would like to provide testimony regarding the proposal to remove literature raising awareness of LGBTQ+ ideology from the children's section of the Homer Public Library.

I believe it is our responsibility to ensure that access to education is not handpicked, but instead reflects realities from all walks of life. Failure to engage in dialogue and viewpoints from those who are traditionally underrepresented is a reflection of fear-driven biases. Regardless of whether we elect to encourage our own children to see the world through all minority lenses or not, it is NOT the responsibility of the library to manage these parental decisions. All children should have equal opportunity for education in a public library environment, and it should not be up to the individual guardian to determine what minority subjects other children in the community have exposure to.

I implore you to retain your selection of LGBTQ+ literature in the children's section of the Homer Public Library. I appreciate your wonderful facility, and thank you for all your hard work in maintaining a safe, inclusive, and equal-opportunity public space.

All the best,

Kayci Hanson Ninilchik (907)953-6908

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:57 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: Fwd: Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting - 10C- Appeal of library director's

decision

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: karen jensen <kljensen64@gmail.com>
Date: November 14, 2022 at 6:01:50 PM PST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting - 10C- Appeal of library

director's decision

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Homer Library Advisory Board:

Imagine for a moment if the letter of testimony sent to you by Madeline Veldstra had, instead of the word LGBTQ, the word "Black," or perhaps "Jewish," or even "Latino." Is it not immediately apparent that it is outright discrimination of a single group? Try a substitution and read it aloud. Would you ever consider putting all books by or about Black people in a separate section in the library? How would you respond to a request to do so? That's how you need to respond here. To put everything written about or by one group of people in its own segregated library section is a beginning step toward community annihilation. They have no "sympathy for those within the transgender community;" they merely want people who are transgender or gay to disappear forever.

Did you know that people tried to ban kids' books in the 1950s about black and white people being together, kids swimming together, mixed "race" marriages? Will you repeat that history now for those in the LGBTQ community? Will you hide the books in a separate section so children don't know about LGBTQ people?

 $\frac{https://www.npr.org/sections/npr-history-dept/2015/05/06/404470968/4-hot-button-kids-books-from-the-50s}{}$

The long list of books on these petitions reveals this group's true intent; none of those testifying have read these books. If I had to bet, I'd bet most don't read any books at all.

One only needs a quick read-through of "Everywhere Babies" to know that the complaints are founded not on the concern about any book, but instead inspired by lists circulated by national groups like the American Family Association, listed by the Southern Poverty Law Center as a hate group. The goal is to intimidate, harass, and threaten people in the LGBTQ community. It is to silence their voices and their full participation in our society, starting with hiding their existence from children. At least a few of those testifying were bold enough to state their true beliefs outright, hateful as they are.

Each book challenge must be taken on its own merit or lack thereof. Let professional librarians do their jobs, and parents who are concerned about *any* book can accompany their children and supervise their checkouts, just as they monitor what their children buy at the store or watch on tv. Stop this overt attempt at unlawful discrimination.

Sincerely, Karen Jensen Fairbanks Alaska

This message is my own, from my personal email and not approved or endorsed by my employer.

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #46

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Mon, 11/14/2022 - 8:36pm

104.254.224.215

First Name Heather

Last Name Kallevig

Email heatherkallevig@hotmail.com

Phone Number 9072523431

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: 10.c. moving material fro children's and young adult section of the library

Written Testimony

It is not the job of the library to censor or remove items because they are considered offensive to individuals or a group of people. If this were the case, there would be very little material available that would be deemed appropriate by all users. In one way or another, most items are deemed inappropriate for children by one person or another. If we are to remove content concerning LGBTQ+ themes we not only risk silencing an already marginalized group, we also run the risk of setting a very dangerous precedent. What about those who are offended by violence, warfare, evolution, religion? Are books that touch on any of these themes to be removed as well? Is this really a path we want to begin? If a parent is concerned about the materials their children are exposed to, they should join them in the library and take an active interest in their reading choices. They should not seek to censor the rights and voices of others.

Electronic Signature

Heather Kallevig

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50066

Links

<u>Home</u> > <u>Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings</u> > <u>Webform results</u> > Submission #43

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Mon, 11/14/2022 - 2:26pm

162.142.118.20

First Name Alex and Cindy

Last Name Koplin

Email cindy.koplin@gmail.com

Phone Number

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

We feel like there is a good system in the Homer Public Library to place books in appropriate age group sections. The librarians are highly skilled, and the purpose of a library is to promote learning and literacy. Books do not "indoctrinate" anyone about anything, they just provide more information.

We feel that the petition to ban or remove the books in question is not in the best interest of the Homer community. Cindy and Alex Koplin

Electronic Signature

Alex and Cindy Koplin

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50062

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #39

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Mon, 11/14/2022 - 11:13am

146.71.64.153

First Name Lisa

Last Name Krebs

Email lckrebs@gmail.com

Phone Number 9073992485

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I fully support the Homer Public Library administration in its selection and placement of books and other materials for our library. The staff are highly trained and follow specific guidelines that are appropriate for placement in the children's room. Books can represent our diverse world and community and can encourage inclusion. Banning books that reflect this diversity breeds distrust and comes from a place of hate. A true public library should serve the entire community. Thank you

Electronic Signature

Lisa Krebs

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50056

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #47

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Mon, 11/14/2022 - 9:21pm

65.74.107.179

First Name Megan

Last Name Malcolm

Email meganfmalcolm@gmail.com

Phone Number 4065993314

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

This pertains the the proposed book bans/relocation of LGBTQI+ children's books at the Homer Public Library.

I believe that those who want the books banned should be required to provide a written review of every book they've identified as being harmful/confusing to children, highlighting every passage that they think is harmful to the psycho-social development of children, citing peer reviewed scientific research to support their position.

Every respected industry specialist who is even tangentially tied to LGBTQI+ (e.g. psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, educators, public policy experts, etc) have decades of research to support the position that books do not turn a person gay/trans/etc; perpetuate hate and exclusion; reinforce biases they're exposed to - for example in the home; and removing access to informational knowledge that encourages justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, only breeds hate.

Some parents would rather have a child who is depressed, suicidal, and forced to hide their true self out of fear their parents/peers will reject them. Do not take away an avenue that helps children learn about acceptance and love... particularly if they are not getting it at home from parents who want to spread their hate, bias, and uneducated views throughout our community.

Electronic Signature

Megan MALCOLM

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50068

Links

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:56 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: Fwd: Library advisory board meeting LGBTQ+

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Elizabeth Morphis <shirleyrigamorphis@gmail.com>

Date: November 14, 2022 at 7:22:11 PM PST **To:** Department Clerk clerk@ci.homer.ak.us

Subject: Library advisory board meeting LGBTQ+

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Greetings!

I do not agree with this ban on LGBTQ+ Books at the public library!

This can not happen!

These books are necessary for our community here in Homer. I am out raged.

Sincerely someone apart of this community.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 11:07 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: Fwd: comments for Library Advisory Board November 15 meeting

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: marshall@xyz.net

Date: November 14, 2022 at 12:13:02 PM CST **To:** Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: comments for Library Advisory Board November 15 meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Please include my comments in the supplemental packet for the upcoming meeting. Thank you for this opportunity to express my concern.

As a long time patron of the Homer Public Library, I support the Library's policies regarding the procedures of placing books in the appropriate locations. The library offers inclusive and free access to its patrons regarding the selection of the materials. Children's books are housed in the children's section of the library and in order to provide free access, that's where all the children's books should remain. The proposed request to remove or relocate particular books from the children's section would deny equal access. The library serves ALL members of the community, regardless of political affiliations/religious beliefs. No one has the right to prevent other families from reading/reviewing the collection which includes making it more difficult to access particular books.

When my child was younger, it was MY job to supervise her reading selection, her media exposure and her interactions with the world outside of our family home. I, as most parents, took that responsibility to heart, by being involved in reading choices and information access. I continue to maintain that it is up to the parents to oversee what their child is reading. It was our family's choice to raise a child in an inclusive environment and the children's library diverse reading selection helped foster that.

Please support the Library Director's decision to keep the targeted books where they belong...as part of the overall children's reading selection. Our library needs

to continue to serve all patrons by providing free access to all materials.

Thank you, Karen Murdock East End Road Homer, AK

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #45

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Mon, 11/14/2022 - 3:43pm

209.112.136.147

First Name Alice

Last Name Porter

Email aliceporteralaska@gmail.com

Phone Number 907-299-6529

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Please let me comment on item 10c of the LAB regular meeting about moving LGBTQ+ books from the children's section of the library. I stand for unity in diversity, forbearance, mercy, compassion and loving-kindness towards all the peoples and kindreds of the earth. Prejudice of any kind is entirely against the spirit of life and is based on ignorance. We are one human family, let us gain knowledge and embrace difference, rather than divide.

Electronic Signature

Alice Porter

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50065

Links

 $\underline{\text{Home}} > \underline{\text{Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings}} > \underline{\text{Webform results}} > \underline{\text{Submission #44}}$

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Mon, 11/14/2022 - 2:29pm

209.112.213.121

First Name kathy

Last Name smith

Email splinter@xyz.net

Phone Number 9072355523

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: Petition to move Homer Public Library materials from Children's area

Written Testimony

I am a long term Homer resident and a registered user of the Homer Public Library. I am also a volunteer who mends library books on a weekly basis. I do sympathize with the people who put forth this petition. It isn't easy to raise children in today's expanding world. I am a parent, and a grandparent of a 6 year old and two teenagers who attend local schools. When my children were young, we used the library a lot, and we read a lot of books together. Our book choices varied widely, but at times I made it a point to choose books that would help them to learn the values of compassion and fairness. I don't get to make parental choices for my grandchildren. This is a job for their parents, not for me or for you or the people who run our library. I don't want concerned citizens making reading choices for me or my family. These people have chosen 40 books they want moved from the Children's area to another part of the library. Other people might choose different books they would like moved or removed. Where does it end? I support the policies the Homer Library already has in place.

Electronic Signature

KATHY SMITH

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50063

l inks

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #38

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Mon, 11/14/2022 - 10:48am

104.254.230.150

First Name Kim

Last Name Sweeny

Email kimsweeny4@gmail.com

Phone Number (907)299-7332

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I am in favor of trusting the library staff to select appropriate books for the Homer Library, including the children's section. Parents will take the lead in helping their children explore topics of interest through radio, TV, the internet, and written material including books. If parents feel strongly about book topics, they have every opportunity to restrict or open access to those books accordingly through guided parental discussions. The Homer Library has an outstanding variety of reading matter to promote learning about an endless array of topics. I support the Library Board in continuing to feed learning.

Electronic Signature

Kim Sweeny

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50055

Links

<u>Home</u> > <u>Submit Written Testimony to City Council</u> > <u>Webform results</u> > Submission #71

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony to City Council [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Tue, 11/15/2022 - 10:59am

65.74.104.120

First Name Kate

Last Name Balderas

Email k8them8@yahoo.com

Phone Number 15125078206

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which City Council Meeting do you want to participate in? Worksession (if scheduled)

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony

Librarians are specially trained to make decisions on what children books are and how to uplift the community. Hiding valuable children books in the adult section only serves a community that is trying to censor what they wish their children to see. We already have many churches, we need this library and the diversity it offers. LBGTQ children has a hight rate of suicide and the library should be a safe place for all children. Suppressing and censoring children only causes discourse and depression. Let the librarians do their jobs.

Electronic Signature

Katherine Mary Balderas

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/50076

Links

[1] https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-city-council

<u>Home</u> > <u>Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings</u> > <u>Webform results</u> > Submission #54

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Tue, 11/15/2022 - 10:43am

104.254.226.151

First Name Dale

Last Name Banks

Email dale@loopylupine.com

Phone Number 9072990524

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I'm sorry that you have to waste so much of your time and effort to defend the Library's Collection Development Policy against attempts to censor content based on a set of personal beliefs that only heterosexual content should be allowed in the children's section. If you replace "LGBTQ" with "Heterosexual" in the appeal statement, it reveals how absurd it is. Children's literature should inspire and entertain, but also reflect positively all of society, not just a certain select set. Please support the Library Director's response to the petition. Thank you.

Electronic Signature

Dale L Banks

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50075

Links

 $\underline{\text{Home}} > \underline{\text{Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings}} > \underline{\text{Webform results}} > \underline{\text{Submission #52}}$

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Tue, 11/15/2022 - 9:18am

65.74.105.239

First Name William

Last Name Bell

Email wmbell51@gmail.com

Phone Number 9073991042

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

RE: Library Board Meeting

If a library is to serve its community well it must include an uncomfortable diversity of opinions through many media. Otherwise the library will just be a mouthpiece for the entitled. The necessity for a wide ranging collection is as true toady as it was in Alexandria in 50 BC. Critical wide ranging thinking about all current events is as important now as it was then. If I want to read Mein Kampf to understand history I can do that, but that exposure will not turn me into a Nazi. If I want to read about the psychology of a murderer I can read In Cold Blood but I am not going to go on a murderous rampage. If I want to read angrily written books about racism, I may disagree with many tenets but I may well get some insights into my own behaviors. If I read about LGBTQQ+ issues I am not going to suddenly change my sexuality but I expect to have a better understanding of the lives of those I interact with.

Copernicus and Galileo had their books banned (at great physical peril also) because they were determined to be heresy. Books are not a contagion, they provide us with insights into worlds we don't live in, give us a platform to build our moral foundation.

Any restriction of books by one particular group can only lead to a blinder driven world view that will severely limit our growth as an inclusive, surviving community

Bill Bell

Electronic Signature

William Bell

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50073

Links

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:55 AM

To: Rachel Tussey **Subject:** Fwd: LGBTQ+ Books

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ann Daigle <annbdaigle@gmail.com>
Date: November 15, 2022 at 9:31:52 AM PST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: LGBTQ+ Books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Library Advisory Board,

Thank you for your consideration in the matter of possibly removing LGBQT+ books from the children's section of the library. I believe it would be wise to move these materials to a confined portion of the library accessible to children whose parents feel they are ready for such content. This is not banning books, it is moving them. As a teacher, mother and grandmother, I beseech you to preserve the innocence of young children. In time they will grapple with these ideas which confuse and conflict us even as adults.

<u>Home</u> > <u>Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings</u> > <u>Webform results</u> > Submission #49

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Tue, 11/15/2022 - 8:24am

162.142.119.11

First Name Allison

Last Name Galbraith

Email ak.nanooks@gmail.com

Phone Number

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: 10.c

Written Testimony

I would like to voice opposition to the removal of books. Removing books due to what some would deem "inappropriate" or "uncomfortable" content is a slippery slope and a truly inappropriate action for a publicly funded institution. To those who submitted this petition: everyone has different opinions and different levels of comfort and yours should not dictate what I can do or how I teach my children. If you find something you decide is inappropriate, steer your child toward something you find more palatable, but do not assume you know what's best for my family because of your own insecurities and preferences.

Electronic Signature

Allison Galbraith

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50070

Links

<u>Home</u> > <u>Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings</u> > <u>Webform results</u> > Submission #56

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Tue, 11/15/2022 - 11:45am

107.77.205.10

First Name Matthew

Last Name Iverson

Email iverson.matthew@gmail.com

Phone Number 9078858518

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

This is regarding the petition to remove certain LGBTQ-themed books from the children section of the Homer Library. I want to state that, as someone raising a child in our community, it is extremely important to me that these books continue to be available for him, as from what I can tell from a quick survey (having not read them all), the purpose of these books is NOT to "groom" children towards any sort of "lifestyle" in any way, but rather their purpose is to educate, to show children how many ways of being in the world there can be, and to promote tolerance and understanding. This seems right at the heart of what the entire children's section should be about! Further, as a bisexual man, I am very disturbed at the notion that a book simply recognizing my orientation would be considered inappropriate reading material for our community of kids to engage with. As far as I can tell, this petition is simply an attempt at blatant discrimination under the supposed guise of "protecting" children. I can tell you I sure wish such books had been around when I was a child, they would have been a great source of comfort. Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Electronic Signature

Matt Iverson

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50078

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #48

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Tue, 11/15/2022 - 6:10am

193.37.33.161

First Name Ron

Last Name Keffer

Email ron.keffer01@gmail.com

Phone Number (907) 235-8293

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: An appeal by members of the community who want 40+ books moved from the children's library into the adult library.

Written Testimony

I have confidence in our library staff and I support its policies. I strongly oppose any actions that hurtfully marginalize LGBTQ+ people by restricting mention of them, as this change would do. Under the current policy, parents have full control over the materials their children access. It's important to realize that the nature and use of the library's materials is being misrepresented by those who started this campaign. A particular group wishes to control not just the access of their own children but that of everyone's children. That is gross overreach. Thank you for considering my comments.

Electronic Signature

Ronald Keffer

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50069

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #55

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Tue, 11/15/2022 - 11:27am

97.120.89.1

First Name Florence (Flo)

Last Name Larson

Email putts5646@yahoo.com Phone Number (907) 399-5560

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

To whom this my concern:

Having served on the Homer Library Board in the past for several years, the protest of children's books is a gross misrepresentation of Homer Public Library's

service to Homer and the wider communities. The

Homer Library does not indoctrinate or educate anyone at any age. The library built in the heart of

Homer is the envy of every visitor I have hosted since it

was built.

Parents and children are encouraged to choose books

of their liking. The library makes effort to serve the whole community, excluding no one, as public libraries do with support of tax paying citizens. Parents protesting books on the shelf have the right to choose books for their children but not the wider community.

Librarians are trained professionals deserving the respect they have earned. The City screens those hired to serve the library.

Public discussion serves community making at all levels. Contentious arguments divide a community.

Wanting peace in this Hamlet By The Sea,

Flo Larson Citizen of Homer

Electronic Signature

Florence Larso

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50077

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #53

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Tue, 11/15/2022 - 10:37am

209.193.52.150

First Name Susan

Last Name Post

Email alaskasuefb@gmail.com

Phone Number

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I am not able to attend the LAB meeting tonight but would like to submit my comments here. If books are removed from the Children's Library due to concerned parents over the content inside, this is the start of a VERY slippery slope and I am adamantly opposed to these books being removed. Our society is already too divided because of certain people not being able to handle certain facts or certain realities. Why can't we all just work on accepting one another and accepting that every individual has the right to be who they want to be. Reading about two penguins who band together to keep one of their chicks alive is part of nature. There is nothing wrong with children reading this. If humans could be as sensible as these two penguins, we wouldn't have to continue with this nonsense of trying to move books to protect the minds of our children. Heather Has Two Mommies? Two Grooms on a Cake? Really? What is wrong with either of these books. Love is love and it doesn't matter if it is between two women or two men or a man and a woman. Love is love and if more of our society could just accept that, it would be so much better for the whole of society. It's Okay to be Different- another book with a very important lesson. Every human is different and by trying to make our children fit into a certain model, it causes so much conflict and angst within those children. I could go on, but I am sure the meeting will be long enough so I won't. Although I do not "live" in Homer, I do live within the Homer area and I have a business in the city and spend almost all of my time in Homer. I have supported the library since I was 10 years old when we used to visit Homer in the summer, and as soon as we moved to Homer full time, I was thrilled to have such a great library to use. I hope that many children will continue to use our library for years and years to come. It was one of my saving graces when I used to spend summers here and didn't have much to do. Thank you for all you do to help make Homer such a special place.

Electronic Signature

Susan Post

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50074

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #51

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Tue, 11/15/2022 - 9:15am

65.74.106.39

First Name Francie

Last Name Roberts

Email francie.roberts@gmail.com

Phone Number 9072351068

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I support following the HPL Collection Development Policy as it stands. Parents need to be responsible for their children's reading choices, not the library. I also feel it limits the rights of some people if they have to ask to see a certain group of books which are set aside in a special place, making them feel awkward to ask. Thank you for your service to the City of Homer.

Electronic Signature

Francie Roberts

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50072

Links

<u>Home</u> > <u>Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings</u> > <u>Webform results</u> > Submission #50

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Tue, 11/15/2022 - 8:47am

162.142.119.16

First Name candy

Last Name rohrer

Email candy@xyz.net

Phone Number 907235-1314

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I want to express confidence in our library staff, support for its policies and opposition to any actions that hurtfully marginalize others and impinges on their rights to access reading materials of interest to them and their families in an inclusive environment. The present policy of the library gives parents full control over the materials their children access and I have complete confidence in our library to follow the library mission statement. The petition material presented by, "Greater Parental Discretion", about books and material that the Homer Public Library has is being misrepresented. If a parent wishes to control the access of their own children so be it, but that of everyone's children is gross overreach. I have confidence the Homer librarians have in place policies that provide fail-safe parental controls.

Electronic Signature

candy rohrer

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50071

Links

Home > Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings > Webform results > Submission #57

Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Tue, 11/15/2022 - 11:50am

107.77.205.10

First Name Katherine

Last Name Schake

Email kaschake@gmail.com

Phone Number 907-205-0235

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I am writing against the petition to remove LGBTQ related books from the children section of the library. It is fundamental that the library not censor any books. It is important that books for all ages of children related to sexual orientation be discoverable and accessible. Removing these books can cause harm to those individuals who identify with minority perspectives.

Electronic Signature

Katherine Schake

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50079

Links

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:55 AM

To: Rachel Tussey **Subject:** Fwd: Good morning

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Elizabeth Spofford <emspofford@yahoo.com>

Date: November 15, 2022 at 8:07:55 AM PST **To:** Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Good morning

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To Whom This May Concern,

This message is in response to the proposal to remove literature which raises awareness for LGBTQ+ identities from the children's section of the Homer Public Library.

Andrew Carnegie once wrote, "A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring

in the desert." To this I would add, libraries can only be a spring when all voices are represented.

I am a mother of an 11-year old girl, and I want her and all other children to have equal opportunity and access to literature written from a wide variety of voices.

Please retain your selection of LGBTQ+ literature in the children's section of the Homer Public Library. Thank you for all that you do to make Homer Public Library a welcoming, inclusive and safe space for all people.

Sincerely,

Elise Spofford

emspofford@yahoo.com 907-252-9544

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:55 AM

To: Rachel Tussey

Subject: Fwd: Comments on the LAB Agenda Item 10.C Appeal of the Library Director's

Decision Regarding Children and Young Adult Materials

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jenny Stroyeck <wordfolk@xyz.net>
Date: November 15, 2022 at 12:20:26 AM PST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Comments on the LAB Agenda Item 10.C Appeal of the Library Director's Decision Regarding Children and Young Adult Materials

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Thanks to those who volunteer time and talents to serve on the Library Advisory Board.

Regarding the petition by a group of local citizens to remove books identified as "promoting the LGBTQ agenda", I am glad there is a process in place for concerns and for public testimony, but sometimes it seems to give undue weight to a very vocal minority. This petition to remove books took several months to garner the signatures presented. The counter petition to keep the books in the children's section of the library and maintain the status quo easily reached double the amount of signatures in a few days. To me this is reflective of the nature of Homer's population.

I support the criteria for collection development at the Homer Public Library, as developed by the ALA, approved by the Homer City Council, and interpreted by Mr. Berry, the current library director. Inclusivity and diversity should be core values of a library's collection- every patron deserves to see a reflection of his/her/their persona in a book. It is not and should not be the job of librarians to monitor the reading habits of children. A healthy society allows the introduction of ideas from and acceptance of many diverse viewpoints-especially those that may have been stifled by a dominant class, religion, or culture in the past. The inclusion of all enriches the lives of all.

Jenny Stroyeck 65240 Diamond Ridge Rd. Homer, AK 99603

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Submission information

Form: Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified) Tue, 11/15/2022 - 12:51pm

146.71.65.28

First Name Annie

Last Name Williams

Email ppod51@hotmail.com

Phone Number 9073997087

Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

To the Library Advisory Board:

First, I want to thank the board for their work. The Homer Public Library has been an outstanding performer in attending to the informational, literary, educational, and recreational needs of our community for the entire 42 years that I have lived here. Never have I questioned their judgement in reading the needs for this community as it has grown. They have addressed with quiet assuredness many issues that confront their patrons and have sought to address those needs without great fanfare. The world and Homer are changing at a rapid pace. For alot of us, it seems too fast but it is the reality of the technological age we live in. To find shelter from that onslaught, I look to the beauty of our surroundings, the kindness and openness of our community, and even to the many faith based groups who practice in harmony here. I would never expect or demand that an institution, based on the premise of addressing the needs of its public be responsible for filtering what I don't want to see. That is my job. As a parent whose children were raised within the library's influence, I also believed it was my job not theirs to filter what I deemed appropriate for their age. I loved the fact that there was so much diversity of life styles and living environments protrayed in their book selections. I felt that it generated converstion with my kids; it gave them a "safe" exposure to the unknown and unexplored so that they could ponder upon what they might encounter when they left for the bigger world. This to me is the library's job: to allow for rich exploration and growth. Please do not tamper with the freedom the library has been given to judge what is suitable and where it can be found. The library takes that responsibilty very seriously and they have never disappointed me. Please let them know I support them and as their Board, I implore you to do the same.

Electronic Signature

Annie Williams

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50081

Links