

CRose Testimony MD.pdf

Uploaded by: Cindy Rose

Position: FAV

I testify before this body as a parent currently involved in an appeal with Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) to have these types of materials removed from our public school shelves.

I apologize for the vulgar and obscene pictures and excerpts.

We aren't asking for a "ban" of these books. They are available at the public library.

There are currently 35 books under appeal in FCPS. There are hundreds more that need to be looked at.

To give you an understanding of how sexualized our schools have become, FCPS has around 300,000 materials on sex and sexuality; but only around 9,000 on abstinence.

They talk about how to involve blood and urine in sexual activity. They involve incest, rape and sexual violence. How is this appropriate for public school? Most of our school children are under the age of majority (18). Most of these books are written for "mature" audience per booklooks.org. They have a rating system not unlike movies and video games.

The majority, if not all the books we brought before FCPS were "not intended for minors." The language is "obscene" and vulgar. The imagery in the graphic novels is inappropriate for young people.

People who oppose removing the books argue "they are going to see it somewhere." How does that make it appropriate for a public school to participate?

My local newspaper refused to publish excerpts from the books we wanted to have removed. We can't read them on the radio nor can we read and show them on public television. If they aren't appropriate for the adults reading and tuning in, why are they appropriate for children?

I'll close with a quote I think sums this up perfectly. It's from Corrie Ten Boom's book "The Hiding Place."

"And so seated next to my father in the train compartment, I suddenly asked, "Father, what is sex sin?"

He turned to look at me, as he always did when answering a question, but to my surprise he said nothing. At last he stood up, lifted his traveling case off the floor and set it on the floor.

Will you carry it off the train, Corrie?" he said.

I stood up and tugged at it. It was crammed with the watches and spare parts he had purchased that morning.

It's too heavy," I said.

Yes," he said, "and it would be a pretty poor father who would ask his little girl to carry such a load. It's the same way, Corrie, with knowledge. Some knowledge is too heavy for children. When you are older and stronger, you can bear it. For now you must trust me to carry it for you."

We are only young and innocent for a short period of time. Let's not rob our children of the joy of youth.

Thank you

Cindy A. Rose,

Things to Try!

Stroke the shaft of your penis with different pressures and speeds. Try mixing up your grip or switch hands.

Whack it against your palm or give it some gentle bending pressure.

FWAP!

Tug or squeeze on your balls.

If you have a foreskin, play with it! Slip a wet finger between it and the glans.

Switch things up and avoid constantly masturbating with a tight hard grip, as it can make it harder to climax in the future.

Try a sex toy for bonus fun. Vibes and strokers are awesome!

Figure 3

else, if you're interested in an activity and your partner just really isn't, don't push.

STI risk: No risk (as long as skin is not broken and items used or shared are clean).

Pregnancy risk: No risk.

Body Fluid or Blood Play



What is it, and how do I do it?

Some people enjoy any number of body fluids sexually: ejaculate, vaginal fluids, menses, urine, or blood. They may simply enjoy tasting, feeling, or smelling them during sexual activities, or they may engage in activities specific to enjoying those fluids, such as "golden showers" (being urinated on) or having a partner ejaculate on them. Some enjoy this because it feels taboo, or naughty, to have intimate contact with body fluids. For others, fluid play may be enjoyable because a certain intimacy or sacredness is experienced in fluid bonding.

But from an infection and disease perspective, fluid play can be dangerous, especially when body fluids have contact with incredibly sensitive sites like the eyes. Whereas urine itself is sterile, it does pass through the urethra, where an infection may be present. Ejaculate can carry several different infections. Contact with blood, or cutting or piercing partners in any way, opens the door to some of the deadlier diseases and infections out there, like hepatitis B and HIV.

So, for the most part, this sort of play is quite risky, especially for younger couples, the majority of whom have not had sound or regular sexual health care. Most younger people have not had safer sex with a monogamous partner long enough to be safely "fluid-bonded."

STI risk: Very high risk.

Pregnancy risk: No risk, unless semen comes into contact with a vulva.

Sex Toys



What is it, and how do I do it?

Sex toys come in many varieties. From vibrators—electric and battery-operated, big and small, swanky and silly—to silicone dildos, anal plugs to masturbation sleeves, cock rings to clitoral suction devices, toys and tools run the gamut. People use them for masturbation as well as for partnered sex, by themselves or in conjunction with other activities.

Generally, sex toys aren't available for purchase by minors and are sold in sex toy shops, through catalogs, and on Internet sites. Some people also make their own sex toys or use household objects as sexual toys or aids: electric toothbrushes, plastic bottles, socks, pillows, and all sorts of other objects.

So long as simple directions are followed for items sold as sex toys, they're usually safe for use. For instance, using something electrical in a bathtub isn't safe or smart, and using an item not designed for anal use—and without a flared base—in the anus is a bad idea. Anything with sharp edges should generally not be used on or in the genitals. You must be able to cover with a latex barrier anything that is being used as a sex toy, especially if it is shared, or be able to boil it; otherwise, you could brew and pass around infections and bacteria. Shared (and uncovered) toys are often a very common route for infections to be spread between female partners, something lesbian women often aren't

When it comes to reproducing, the penis and the vagina can fit together to form the ultimate baby-making machine. Let's take a peek right now and see how—



WHOA, that's NOT safe for work!

Reproduction aside, your genitals exist to let you feel pleasure with yourself or others (no matter which genitals they may have). Sexual intimacy

is a powerful way to feel good and bond with another person, whether it's for a night or a lifetime.

Ahhhh.
I can't handle any more.

Our bodies are so incredible!!!



Shloop!

...Makes me wanna have some alone time with my bits.

Get outta here, Suri!



Shoo!

Figure 1

Things to Try!

Trail your fingers around and over your vulva. Flutter your fingers lightly from place to place.

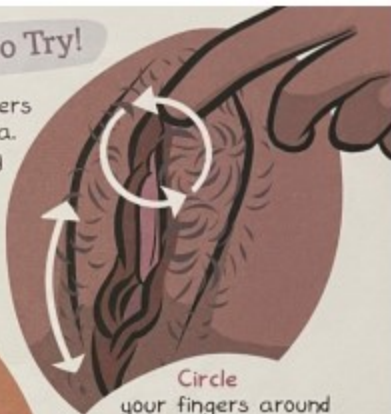
Tug, pull, and rub your labia.

Circle your fingers around and over your clit. Give it a couple quick pats!

Press and pull on the skin around your vulva to make it taut.

Try slipping a finger or two inside your vagina.

Later on, try adding a sex toy to your masturbation! They can bring a completely new sensation that you can't experience with just your hands.



Push

By Sapphire

My clit swell up think Daddy. Daddy sick me, disgust me, but still he sex me up. I nawshus in my stomach but hot tight in my twat and I think I want it back, the smell of the bedroom, the hurt- he slap my face till it sting and my ears sing separate songs from each other, call me names, pump my pussy in out in out in out awww I come. He bite me hard. A hump! A hump! He slam his hips into me HARD. I scream pain he come. He slap my thighs like cowboys do horses on TV. Shiver. Orgasm in me, his body shaking, grab me, call me Fat Mama, Big Hole! You LOVE it! Say you love it! I wanna say I DON'T. I wanna say I'm a chile. But my pussy popping like grease in frying pan. He slam in me again. His dick soft. He start sucking my tittie.

-PAGE 127

I don't fucks boyz but I'm pregnant. My fahver fuck me. And she know it. She kick me in my head when I'm pregnant. ...I think my daddy. He stink, the white shit drip off his dick. Lick it lick it. I HATE that. But then I feel the hot sauce hot cha cha feeling when he be fucking me. I get so confuse. I HATE him. But my pussy be popping. He say that, "Bif Mama your pussy is popping!" I hate myself when I feel good.

-PAGE 72

"Carl got my tittie in hi mouf. Nuffin' wron wif that, it's natural. But I think thas the day IT start. I don't never remember noting before that. I hot. He sucking my tittie. My eyes closed. I know he getting hard I can see wifout my eyes, I love him so much."

..."So he on me. Then he reach over to Precious! Start wif his finger between her legs. I say Car what you doing! He say shut your big ass up! This is good for her. Then he git off me, take off her Pampers and try to stick his thing in Precious. You what trip me out is it almost can go in Precious! I think she some kinda freak baby then. I say stop Carl stop! I want him on me! I never wanted him to hurt her. I didn't want him doing anything to her. I wanted my man for myself. Sex me up, not my chile. So you cain't blame all that shit happen to Precious on me. I love Carl, I love him. He her daddy, but he was my man!"

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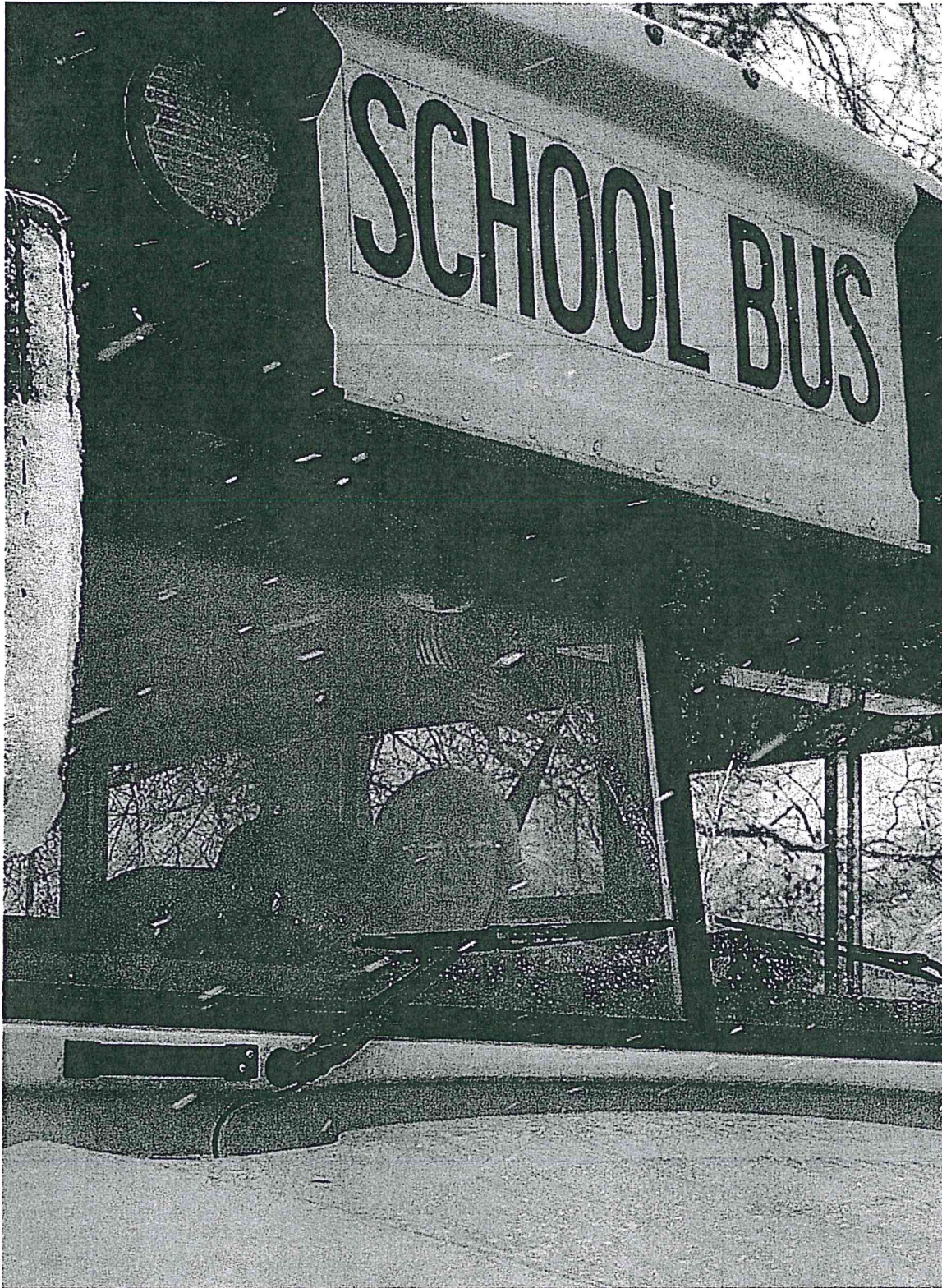
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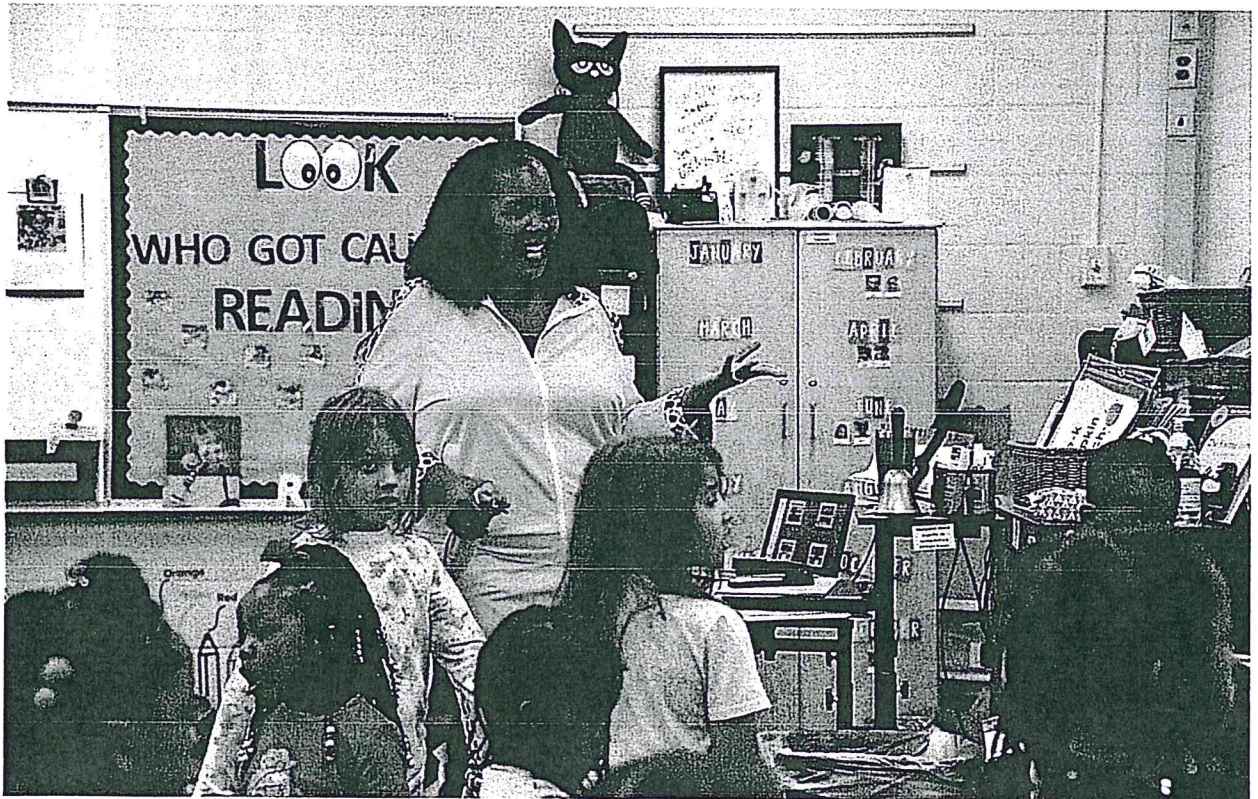
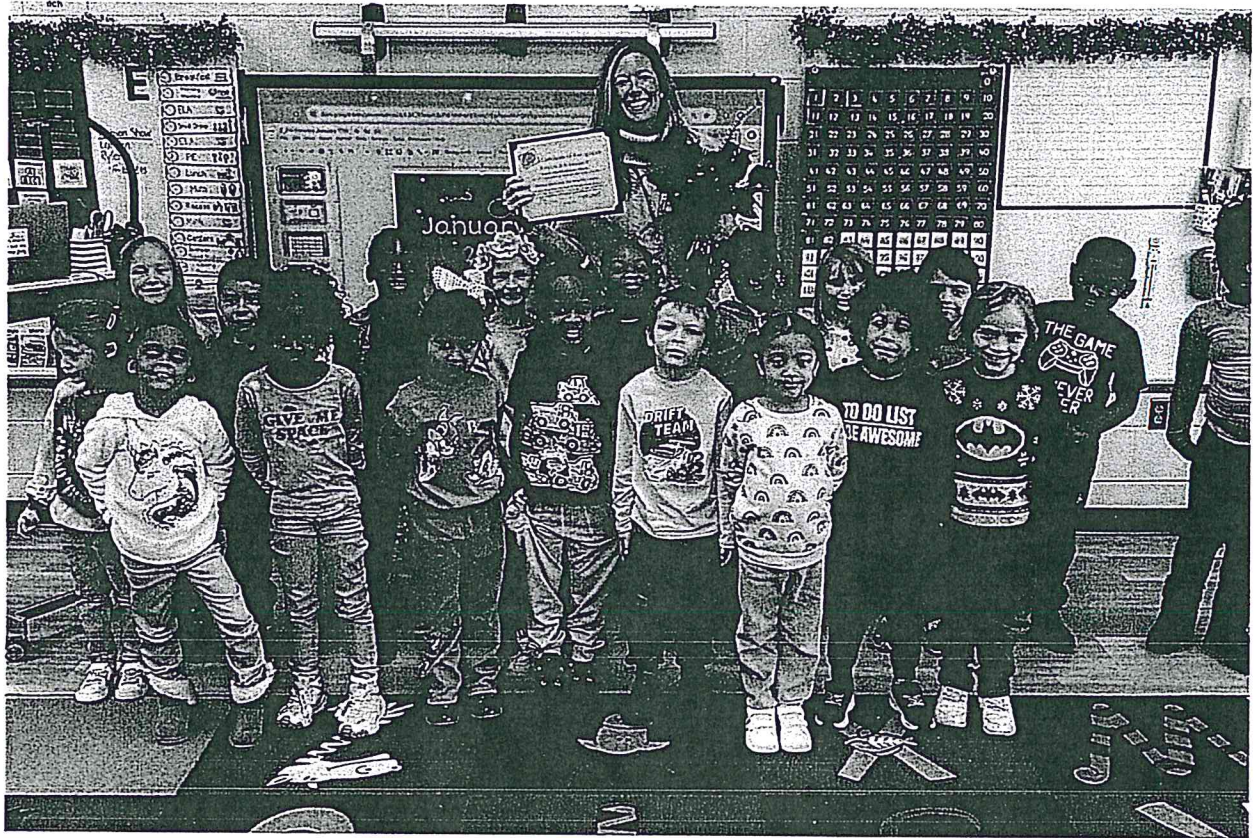
SB 355 Display of Obscene Material to Minors

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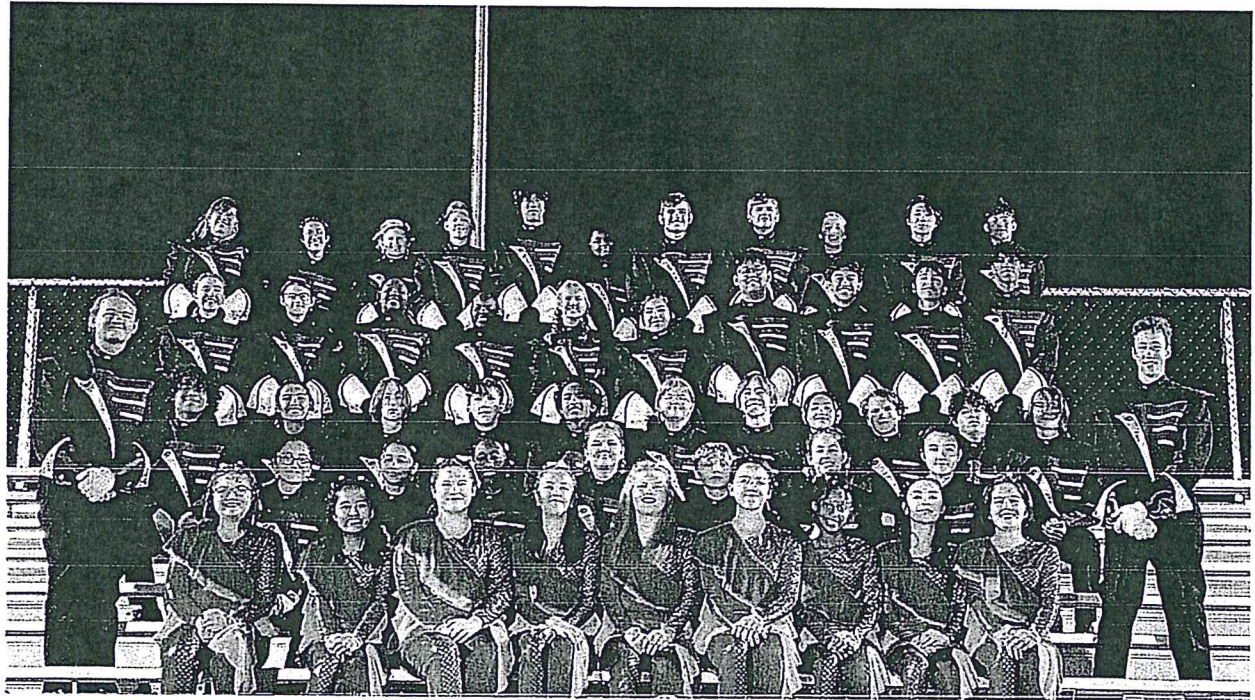
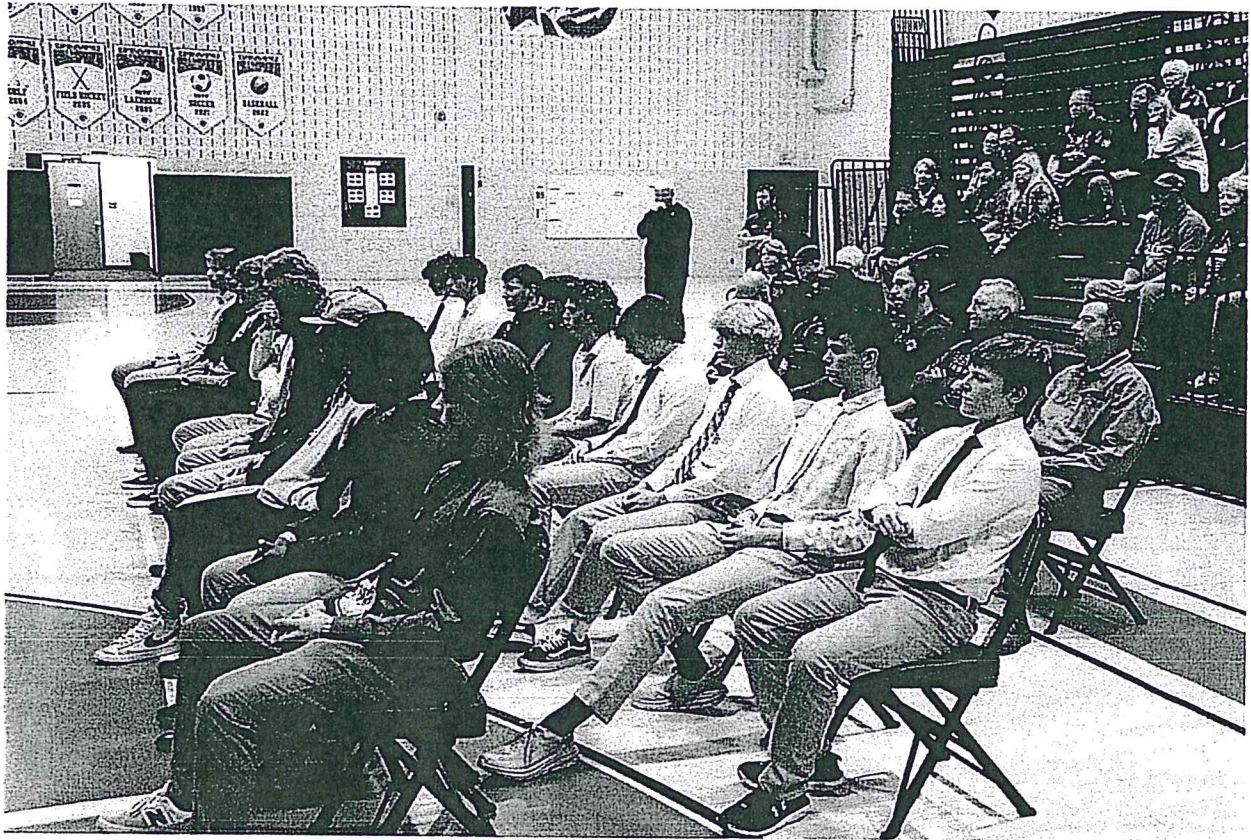
Position: FAV



THIS IS WHY WE ARE HERE.
WILCOMICO COUNTY
> 15K STUDENTS





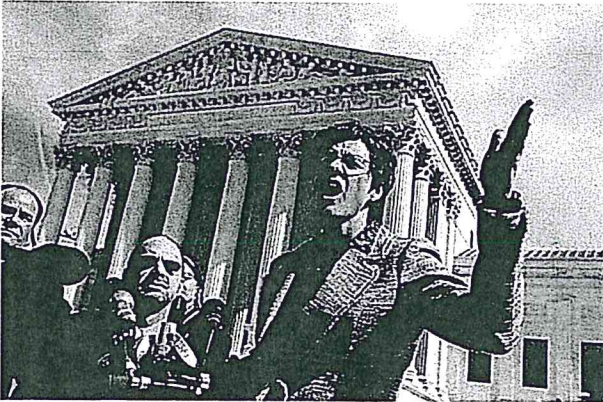




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Miller Test

Written by David L. Hudson Jr., last updated on September 19, 2023



The Miller Test is the primary legal test for determining whether expression constitutes obscenity. It is named after the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Miller v. California* (1973). The Miller test faced its greatest challenge with online obscenity cases. In *Ashcroft v. ACLU* (2002), a case challenging the constitutionality of the Child Online Protection Act, several justices questioned the constitutionality of applying the local community standards of Miller to speech on the Internet. In this photo, Associate Legal Director of the ACLU Ann Beeson gestures during a news conference outside the Supreme Court on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 in Washington. The ACLU claimed COPA violated the First Amendment guarantee of free speech. They challenged the law on behalf of online bookstores, artists and others, including operators of Web sites that offer explicit how-to sex advice or health information. The Supreme Court agreed with the lower court's ruling that COPA did not pass the strict scrutiny test used to judge obscenity cases. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci, used with permission from the Associated Press)

The Miller Test is the primary legal test for determining whether expression constitutes obscenity. It is named after the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Miller v. California* (1973).

Justice Burger outlined guidelines for jurors in obscenity cases

In that case, Marvin Miller mailed five unsolicited brochures to the manager of a restaurant and his mother containing explicit pictures and drawings of men and women engaged in a variety of sexual activities. Mr. Miller was prosecuted for violating a California law that made it a misdemeanor to knowingly distribute obscene material.

In his majority opinion, Chief Justice Warren Burger outlined what he called "guidelines" for jurors in obscenity cases. These guidelines are the three prongs of the Miller test. They are:

- (1) whether the average person applying contemporary community standards would find the work, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest;
- (2) whether the work depicts or describes, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct specifically defined by the applicable state law; and
- (3) whether the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.

Miller wanted a national obscenity standard, not local

Miller argued that there should be a national obscenity standard, not one based on local community standards. But, the majority disagreed, famously writing that "[i]t is neither realistic nor constitutionally sound to read the First Amendment as requiring that the people of Maine or Mississippi accept public depiction of conduct found tolerable in Las Vegas, or New York City."

In *Pope v. Illinois* (1987), the Court held that the trier of fact should apply a national standard to the third prong.

Miller test faces challenges with online obscenity cases

In the ensuing decades, the Miller test would face its greatest challenge with online obscenity cases. In *Ashcroft v. ACLU* (2002), a case challenging the constitutionality of the Child Online Protection Act, several justices questioned the constitutionality of applying the local community standards of Miller to speech on the Internet.

For example, in his concurring opinion, [Justice Anthony Kennedy](#) opined that applying local community standards might lead to the substantial suppression of protected speech, writing, "A Web publisher in a community where avant garde culture is the norm may have no desire to reach a national market; he may wish only to speak to his neighbors; nevertheless if an eavesdropper in a more traditional, rural community chooses to listen in there is nothing a publisher can do."

Federal obscenity prosecutions have waned in the last decade, but state obscenity prosecutions continue in what legal expert Jennifer Kinsley refers to as the "myth of obsolete obscenity."

David L. Hudson, Jr. is a law professor at Belmont who publishes widely on First Amendment topics. He is the author of a 12-lecture audio course on the First Amendment entitled [Freedom of Speech: Understanding the First Amendment](#) (Now You Know Media, 2018). He also is the author of many First Amendment books, including [The First Amendment: Freedom of Speech](#) (Thomson Reuters, 2012) and [Freedom of Speech: Documents Decoded](#) (ABC-CLIO, 2017). This article was originally published in 2018.

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- [Obscenity and Pornography](#)
- [Pope v. Illinois \(1987\)](#)
- [Warren Burger](#)

FURTHER READING

- [David L. Hudson, Jr. "Obscenity Online: Do We Need a National Standard?" Freedom Forum Institute, Feb. 10, 2010.](#)
- [David L. Hudson, Jr. "Will Roberts Court Flip Burger Court Precedents?" Freedom Forum Institute, May 9, 2008.](#)
- [Kinsley, Jennifer M. "The Myth of Obsolete Obscenity," Cardozo Arts & Entertainment Law Journal 33 \(2015\): 607-645.](#)
- [Margolis, Eric. "Obscenity Case Files: Miller v. California." Comic Book Legal Defense Fund, July 3, 2013.](#)
- [Laird, E. Morgan. "The Internet and the Fall of the Miller Obscenity Standard: Reexamining the Problem of Applying Local Community Standards in Light of a Recent Circuit Split." Santa Clara Law Review 52 \(2012\): 1503-1530.](#)

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SB 355 Display of Obscene Material to Minors (2)

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Miller v. California

Miller v. California, 413 U.S. 15 (1973), was a landmark decision of the U.S. Supreme Court modifying its definition of obscenity from that of "utterly without socially redeeming value" to that which lacks "serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value".^[1] It is now referred to as the three-prong standard or the Miller test.^[2]

Background

In 1971, Marvin Miller, an owner/operator of a California mail-order business specializing in pornographic films and books, sent out a brochure advertising books and a film that graphically depicted sexual activity between men and women. The brochure used in the mailing contained graphic images from the books and the film. Five of the brochures were mailed to a restaurant in Newport Beach, California. The owner and his mother opened the envelope and seeing the brochures, called the police.^[3]

Miller was arrested and charged with violating California Penal Code 311.2(a) which says in part, "Every person who knowingly sends or causes to be sent, or brings or causes to be brought, into this state for sale or distribution, or in this state possesses, prepares, publishes, produces, or prints, with intent to distribute or to exhibit to others, or who offers to distribute, distributes, or exhibits to others, any obscene matter is for a first offense, guilty of a misdemeanor."^[4] California lawmakers wrote the statute based on two previous Supreme Court obscenity cases, *Memoirs v. Massachusetts*^[5] and *Roth v. United States*.^{[6][7]}

Miller was tried by jury in the Superior Court of Orange County. At the conclusion of the evidence phase, the judge instructed the jury to evaluate the evidence by the community standards of California, i.e., as defined by the statute.^[8] The jury returned a guilty verdict.

Miller appealed to the Appellate Division of the Superior Court, arguing that the jury instructions did not use the standard set in *Memoirs v. Massachusetts* which said that in order to be judged obscene, materials must be "utterly without redeeming social value."^[5] Miller argued that only a national standard for obscenity could be applied. The appellate division rejected the argument and affirmed the jury verdict. Miller then filed an

Miller v. California



Supreme Court of the United States

Argued January 18–19, 1972

Reargued November 7, 1972

Decided June 21, 1973

Full case name *Marvin Miller v. State of California*

Citations 413 U.S. 15 (<https://supreme.justia.com/us/413/15/case.html>) (*more*)
93 S. Ct. 2607; 37 L. Ed. 2d 419; 1973 U.S. LEXIS 149; 1 Media L. Rep. 144.1

Case history

Prior Summary affirmation of jury verdict by Appellate Department, Superior Court of California, County of Orange, was unpublished.

Holding

Obscene materials are defined as those that the average person, applying contemporary community standards, find, taken as a whole, appeal to the prurient interest; that depict or describe, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct or excretory functions specifically defined by applicable state law; and that the work, taken as a whole,

appeal with the California Court of Appeal for the Third District, which declined to review. Miller applied to the Supreme Court for certiorari, which was granted. Oral arguments were heard in January 1972.^[1]

Previous Supreme Court decisions on obscenity

The U.S. Supreme Court granted certiorari to Miller because the California law was based on its two previous obscenity cases which the Court wanted to revisit. Chief Justice Warren Burger came to the Court in 1969 believing that the Court's obscenity jurisprudence was misguided and governments should be given more leeway to ban obscene materials. In consideration of *Miller* in May and June 1972, Burger pushed successfully for a looser definition of "obscenity" which would allow local prosecutions, while Justice William J. Brennan, Jr., who by now also believed the *Roth* and *Memoirs* tests should be abandoned, led the charge for protecting all "obscenity" unless distributed to minors or exposed offensively to unconsenting adults. Decision of the case was contentious, and *Miller* was put over for reargument for October term in 1972, and did not come down until June 1973, with Burger prevailing with a 5-4 vote.^{[1][9][10]}

Since the Court's decision in *Roth v. United States*,^[6] the Court had struggled to define what constituted constitutionally unprotected obscene material. Under the Comstock laws that prevailed before *Roth*, articulated most famously in the 1868 English case *Regina v Hicklin*, any material that tended to "deprave and corrupt those whose minds are open to such immoral influences" was deemed "obscene" and could be banned on that basis. Thus, works by Honoré de Balzac, Gustave Flaubert, James Joyce, and D. H. Lawrence were banned based on isolated passages and the effect they might have on children.^[1] *Roth* repudiated the "Hicklin test" and defined obscenity more strictly, as material whose "dominant theme taken as a whole appeals to the prurient interest" to the "average person, applying contemporary community standards". Only material now meeting this test could be banned as "obscene".^[11]

In *Memoirs v. Massachusetts*,^[5] a plurality of the Court further redefined the *Roth* test by holding unprotected only that which is "patently offensive" and "utterly without redeeming social value," but no opinion in that case could command a majority of the Court either, and the state of the law in the obscenity field remained confused. In *Jacobellis v. Ohio*, Justice Potter Stewart's concurring opinion said that the Court in earlier pornography cases "was faced with the task of trying to define what may be indefinable," and that criminal laws were constitutionally limited to "hard-core pornography," which he did not try to define: "perhaps I could never succeed in intelligibly doing so. But I know it when I see it."^[12] Other Justices had equally been unwilling to clearly define what pornography could be prohibited by the First Amendment.

Supreme Court decision

lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.

Court membership

Chief Justice
Warren E. Burger

Associate Justices
William O. Douglas · William J. Brennan Jr.
Potter Stewart · Byron White
Thurgood Marshall · Harry Blackmun
Lewis F. Powell Jr. · William Rehnquist

Case opinions

Majority Burger, joined by White, Blackmun, Powell, Rehnquist

Dissent Douglas

Dissent Brennan, joined by Stewart, Marshall

Laws applied

U.S. Const. amend. I; Cal. Penal Code 311.2(a)

Miller had based his appeal in California on *Memoirs v. Massachusetts*.^[5] The Court rejected that argument. The question before the court was whether the sale and distribution of obscene material was protected under the First Amendment's guarantee of Freedom of Speech. The Court ruled that it was not. It indicated that "obscene material is not protected by the First Amendment," especially that of hardcore pornography, thereby reaffirming part of *Roth*.^{[13][14]}

However, the Court acknowledged "the inherent dangers of undertaking to regulate any form of expression," and said that "State statutes designed to regulate obscene materials must be carefully limited."^[15] The Court, in an attempt to set such limits, devised a set of three criteria which must be met for a work to be legitimately subject to state regulation:

1. whether the average person, applying contemporary "community standards," would find that the work, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest;
2. whether the work depicts or describes, in an offensive way, sexual conduct or excretory functions, as specifically defined by applicable state law (the syllabus of the case mentions only sexual conduct, but excretory functions are explicitly mentioned on page 25 of the majority opinion); and
3. whether the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.^[16]

This obscenity test overturns the definition of obscenity set out in the *Memoirs* decision, which held that "all ideas having even the slightest redeeming social importance ... have the full protection of the guaranties [of the First Amendment]" and that obscenity was that which was "utterly without redeeming social importance".^[5]

The *Miller* decision vacated the jury verdict and remanded the case back to the California Superior Court.

Definition of obscenity post-Miller

Miller provided states greater freedom in prosecuting alleged purveyors of "obscene" material because, for the first time since *Roth*, a majority of the Court agreed on a definition of "obscenity." Hundreds of "obscenity" prosecutions went forward after *Miller*, and the Supreme Court began denying review of these state actions after years of reviewing many "obscenity" convictions (over 60 appeared on the Court's docket for the 1971–72 term, pre-*Miller*).

A companion case to *Miller*, *Paris Adult Theatre I v. Slaton*, provided states with greater leeway to shut down adult movie houses. Controversy arose over *Miller*'s "community standards" analysis, with critics charging that *Miller* encouraged forum shopping to prosecute national producers of what some believe to be "obscenity" in locales where community standards differ substantially from the rest of the nation. For example, under the "community standards" prong of the *Miller* test, what might be considered "obscene" in Utah might not be considered "obscene" in Massachusetts, or the opposite might be true; in any event, prosecutors tend to bring charges in locales where they believe that they will prevail. Justice Brennan, author of the *Roth* opinion, argued in his dissent for *Paris Adult Theatre* that outright suppression of obscenity is too vague to enforce in line with the First and Fourteenth Amendments.^[17]

The standards established by *Miller* were elaborated upon in *Pope v. Illinois* in 1987.^[18] In the case, the jury instructions for the local court had been for the jurors to evaluate whether adult magazines had value according to a community standard, and the conviction was held by the Illinois appellate court.^[19] The Supreme Court overruled the appellate court decision, siding with the defendant. In the

majority opinion, the Supreme Court held that the first two prongs of the test were to be evaluated according to a "community standard," but not the third, which was to be held to the higher standard of a "reasonable person" evaluating the work for value.^{[18][20]}

In 1987, Oregon became the first state to strike down the criminalization of obscenity.^[21] In *State v. Henry*, the Oregon Supreme Court ruled in favor of Earl Henry, the owner of an adult bookstore, stating that the state obscenity statute violated the free speech provision of Oregon's state constitution.^[22]

In 1997, the Supreme Court ruled in *Reno v. American Civil Liberties Union* that the anti-indecency provisions of the Communications Decency Act were unconstitutional.^[23] The Act had criminalized the sending of "obscene or indecent" material to minors over the Internet.^[24] The court unanimously ruled that the provision violated the First Amendment due to its burden on free speech.

Effects of the decision

In the years since *Miller*, many localities have cracked down on adult theatres and bookstores, as well as nude dancing, through restrictive zoning ordinances and public nudity laws.^[25]

Additionally, in 1982's *New York v. Ferber* the Court declared child pornography as unprotected by the First Amendment, upholding the state of New York's ban on that material.^[26] In the 2002 *Ashcroft v. Free Speech Coalition* case, however, the Court held that sexually explicit material that only appears to depict minors, but actually does not, might be exempt from obscenity rulings.^[27]

In *American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression v. Strickland*, plaintiffs American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression, joined by various publishers, retailers, and web site operators, sued Ohio's Attorney General and Ohio county prosecutors in United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. Plaintiffs alleged that Ohio Revised Code §2907.01(E) and (J), which prohibited the dissemination or display of "materials harmful to juveniles", unconstitutionally violated both the First Amendment and the Commerce Clause of the Constitution. Plaintiffs specifically challenged the statute's definition of "harmful to juveniles", as well as the provisions governing Internet dissemination of those materials. The court held the statute unconstitutional because the statute's definition of "material harmful to minors" did not comply with *Miller*.^[28]

The "community standards" portion of the decision is of particular relevance with the rise of the Internet, as materials believed by some to be "obscene" can be accessed from anywhere in the nation, including places where there is a greater concern about "obscenity" than other areas of the nation. Enforcing and applying obscenity laws to the Internet have proven difficult. Both the Child Pornography Prevention Act (CPPA) and the Child Online Protection Act (COPA) have had sections struck down as unconstitutional in cases such as *Ashcroft v. Free Speech Coalition* and *Ashcroft v. ACLU*.^{[27][29]}

See also

- [List of United States Supreme Court cases, volume 413](#)
- [Sex-related court cases](#)

**WE WERE THIS CLOSE TO DOING
A MAROON FIVE COVER THAT WE
HADN'T EVEN PRACTICED**

We set up, tuned, and started playing. For the first couple of songs we had no audience. But as we started up on our third song, the door opened and Little Ed came out.

He nodded at us, lit a cigarette, and sat on the steps.

The song we were playing was "If You Love Your Dog So Much, Why Don't You Fuck Him."

He said nothing. He just watched us and took long, exhausted drags on his cigarette.

Pretty soon, more family members opened the door and joined him and watched us play.

We were locked in. We were sounding pretty good.

But I was feeling increasingly anxious about the song we were playing.

The chorus was:

*If you love your dog so much
Why don't you fuck him
I bet he would love it
At least you should suck his dick*

hitched-up eyebrows that were sort of like, *who is this man who is dancing with me. I've never met him before in my life. I've got my guard up but I think maybe I'm in love.*

I looked over at Ash a couple of times and her face was in the shadows, but it looked like she might have been smiling, too.

It turned out Corey passed out in the second-floor bathroom, woke up, threw up, and immediately went to his room and passed out on his bed, which was where we found him. We wiped the excess barf off of his mouth, and then I went into my room, and Ash followed me in there and sat next to me on my bed.

I had no idea what was going to happen next.

"Hey," she said.

"Hey," I said.

Outside someone not very good had taken over on bass and the band had acquired a trumpet and a harmonica.

"Sorry for hooking up with Corey," she said.

"I thought you didn't want to hook up with boys," I said.

She shrugged, kind of staring me down.

"It reminded me why I don't," she said.

"Oh yeah?"

"Yeah. It wasn't a good hookup."

The harmonica playing was completely for shit. The trumpet sounded okay but sleepy.

"What do you mean?"

"I mean, literally all it was was, he went down on me for like half an hour."

"Oh."

"But he wasn't good at it."

"Oh."

"And by the time I got him to stop, he was so on edge that he got his hand on and couldn't get it back. So we just called it quits and went to sleep."

"Okay," I said.

I felt horrible for Corey. But I also felt pretty good that their hookup was such a disaster. It put Corey back on my level somehow, I mean. I was happy about it. I guess I was just kind of relieved.

The room was Quincy's old room. There were trophies and pictures of him everywhere. There was a painting he did of himself playing football.

"All boys need to know this. Never go down on a girl unless you actually like to go down on girls. If you're just doing it because you feel like you have to, and you have no idea what you're doing, it's just not gonna work out."

"Right, right."

"Your approach can't be, I'm going to jam my tongue in here until you come. If that's your attitude, you need to step back and figure some shit out."

The painting Quincy did of his team was one of those paintings where everybody's head and body are facing in completely different directions, and every eye is just a black circle in a brown circle in a white football-shaped circle.

"But why'd you hook up with him in the first place?" I said.

Ash shrugged again. She looked at me.

"Sometimes I get lonely," she said.

We stay up late just talking and browsing the internet and watching videos and talking again, laughing, dozing off. I wonder what it'd be like to have a whole life of this. I think it'd be pretty great. Not gonna lie.

And then one minute we're lying there and the next we're kissing, and it's not like this is anything particularly new, but it *feels* new. It feels like we've been forced apart for a century and this is our reunion, a mix of relief and desperation, both of us clinging to each other on his bed, and when Nick breaks away to kiss my neck I just stop thinking entirely.

How is it that this still makes me so . . . How have two years gone by and I still feel like this in his arms?

We kiss for a long time, like it's two years ago and we're on Nick's lounge sofa trying to watch a film. Impossible. I can't think about anything else when he's running his hands so gently through my hair, across

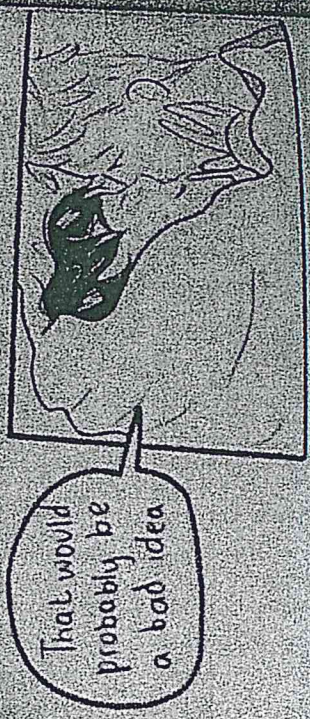
my back, over my hips. I ask if we should take our clothes off and he's saying yes before I've even finished my sentence, and then he's pulling my T-shirt off and laughing when I can't undo his shirt buttons, he's undoing my belt. I'm reaching into his bedside drawer for a condom, we're kissing again, we're rolling over— obviously you can see where this is going.

I don't know if it's because we're feeling especially emotional, or we're just tired, or these past couple of weeks have been too much, but this time reminds me so much of the first time we had sex.

We were both fucking, *terrified*, and the whole thing was kind of tumbler because we didn't know what we were doing. But it was good too, so good, because we were a mess of emotions and we were scared and excited and everything felt *new*.

So, this sort of feels like that.

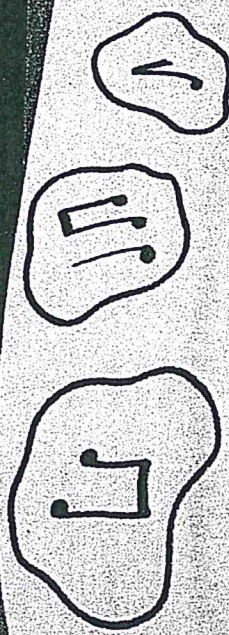
Nick touches me like he's scared that any minute



I could disintegrate forever. When we're finally undressed completely he just stops and stares like he's trying to memorize every second of this. When we're moving he keeps saying my name over and over until I find it too ridiculous and tell him to shut up, but he just grins and keeps on saying it anyway, whispering it against my skin just to make me laugh. I hold him so tight against me, as if that'll keep us here, keep him here with me.

I used to think I was pathetic for thinking sappy, romantic stuff like that. I don't anymore. I just keep thinking it. I keep wanting him here. I keep wanting him to stay.

Afterwards we lie there for a while, Nick's head on my chest and our legs entwined. I reach over to his bedside table and turn the radio on, noticing that it's gone three a.m.—how did that happen? I close my eyes because I think Nick might be asleep, but several



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"Yeah, Earl, I'm going to eat her pussy."

"Hch."

"Yeah."

"Do you even know *how* to eat pussy?"

"Uh, not really."

"Papa Gaines never sat you down, said, Son, one day you're gonna have to eat the pussy."

"No. But he did teach me how to eat a butthole."

When Earl is in full-on Gross-Out Mode, you have to play along or you'll feel stupid.

"God bless that man."

"Yup."

"I would teach you some pussy-eating technique, but it's a little complicated."

"That's a shame."

"I would need some diagrams and whatnot."

"Well, tonight maybe you can draw some up."

"Son, I don't have time for that. I got like twenty pussies over here that I need to eat."

"Is that right?"

"I'm on pussy deadline."

"You've got twenty vaginas, all lined up in a row."

"Aw, what the hell. What the *hell*. No one's talkin bout *vaginas*. Greg, what the hell is wrong with you. Man, that's nasty."

Earl likes to mix it up sometimes by pretending that you're

might also bring about the apocalypse. Also, it was becoming increasingly difficult for me to say words. Instead, I stood there and—there's no good way to put this—attempted not to cry.

“Naw, shut the fuck up. You care so fucking much bout what other people think, you gotta be secretive as shit, gotta go round sucking errybody's *dick* pretendin like you they friend cuz you care so much bout what they think, lemme fucking tell you: *Nobody gives a shit about you*. Nobody think shit about you. You ain't got no *friends*. You ain't got nobody who give a fucking shit about you.”

“Oka , kay.”

“Fuckin *nobody*. Errybody at school could give a *shit* about you, man. Errybody you all friendly with and shit could give a *shit*. You all worried bout what they think about you, man, they don't give a *fuck*. They don't give a fuck if you *live* or *die*, you pussy-ass bitch. They don't give a *fuck*. Look at me. They don't. Give. A *fuck*.”

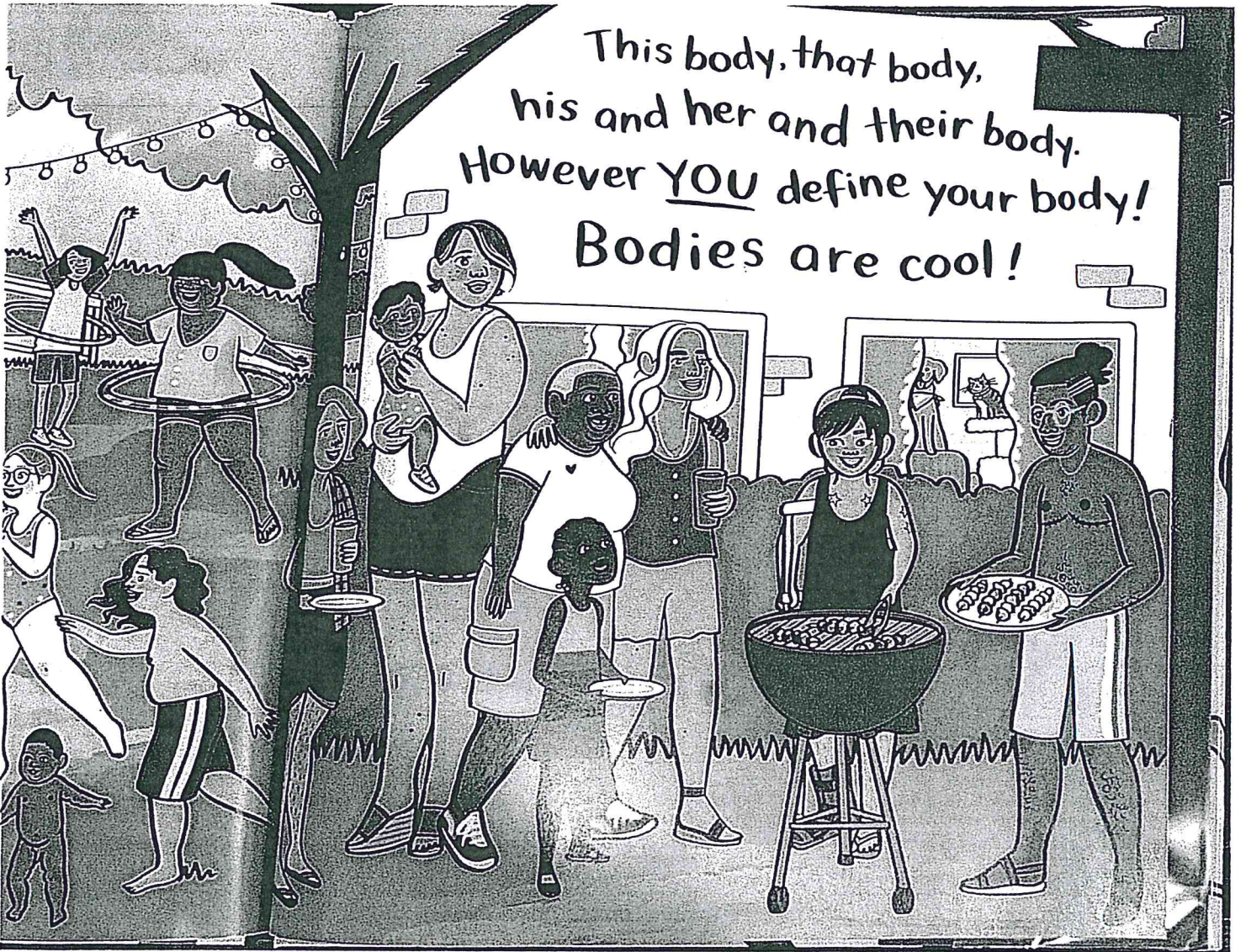
“Oka ay. J Jesu , us.”

“Man, just shut the fuck up, because I can't be hearing no more of this. Yeah, I fucking told Rachel about the films, I fucking gave her some of them dumb-ass films to watch, because she like the only person that *do* give a fuck. Yeah. She don't have big-ass titties, so you don't fucking care, but that other bitch don't give a shit about you and, and fucking Rachel *do*, and you don't fucking give a *shit* cuz you're a dumb little bitch.”

“I d , d do.”

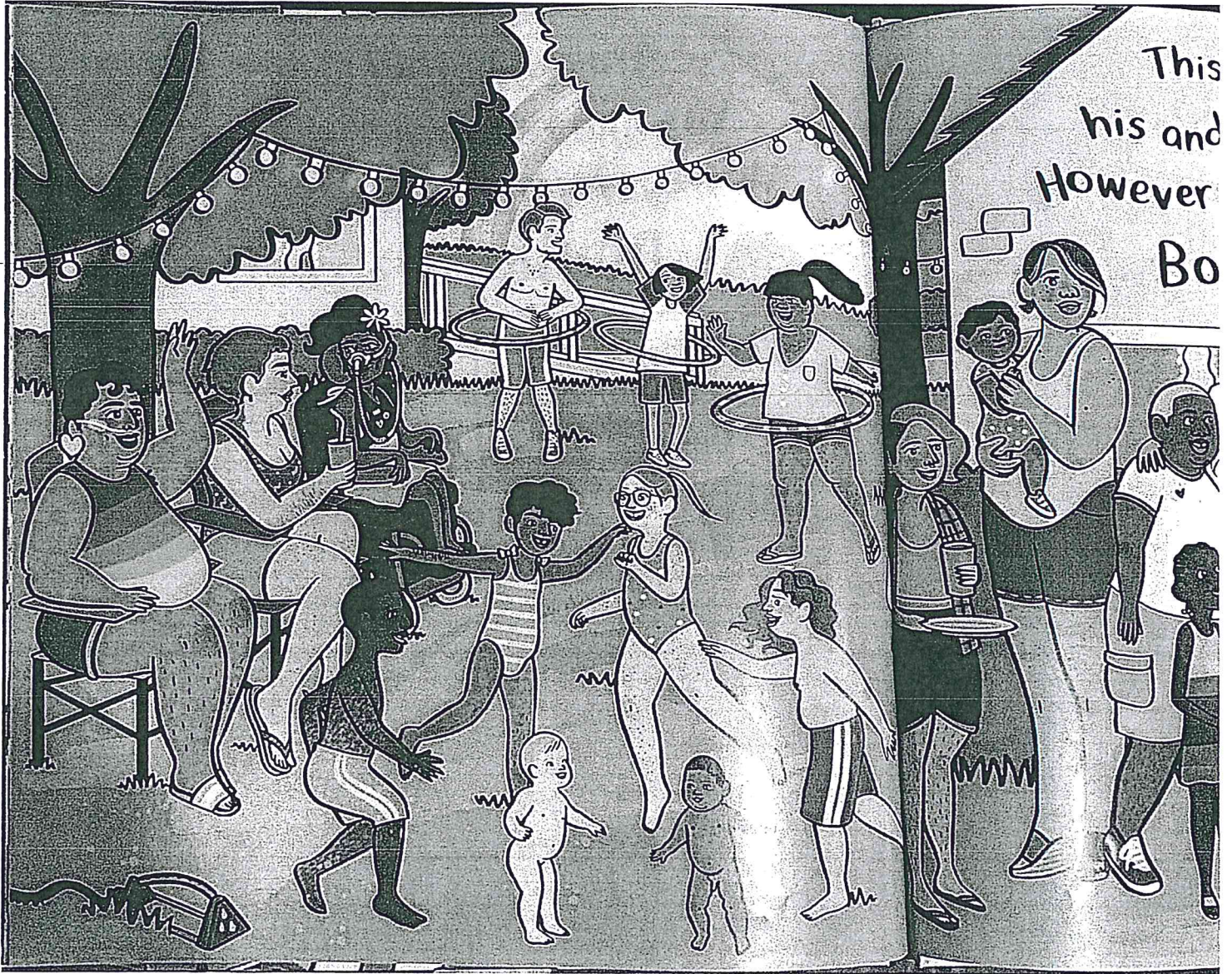
“Stop your fucking crying, bitch-ass.”

This body, that body,
his and her and their body.
However YOU define your body!
Bodies are cool!



STUDENTS ARE BEING CONDITIONED AT
A VERY YOUNG AGE SO THEY WILL NOT BE
SHOCKED AS THEY GET OLDER. THE NEW NORMAL.
MOM-DAD-GRANDMOM-GRANDDAD IS
THIS YOUR NEW NORMAL?

Bodies Are Cool



SB 355 Written Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Suzie Scott

Position: FAV



Senate Bill 355 Cross-filed with HB 0671

Title: Criminal Law - Display of Obscene Materials to Minors - Prohibition

Hearing Date: February 1, 2024

Position: FAVORABLE

Committee: Judicial Proceedings

Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee requests a Favorable Report for SB 355.

Parents have the fundamental right to direct the education of their children. The child belongs to the parent or legal guardian and not to the state. Therefore, parents have every right and obligation to protect their child from books and materials containing obscene content.

A well orchestrated campaign to bring sexually explicit materials is being waged across the country. One sees the same books being named from state to state.

The American Library Association, led by a self-proclaimed Marxist lesbian called Emily Drabinki, <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/american-library-association-president-marxist-lesbian-rcna98254> cites lists of the most challenged books yearly. For each of the books on the 2022 list, the ALA cites “claimed to be sexually explicit.”

According to the ALA, the most challenged book for 2022 was *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe. This graphic novel features a picture of oral sex being performed on a sex toy. This is just one of many obscene graphic pictorial depictions in this book. It also contains X-rated passages.

A review of this book can be found here:

<https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/G/Gender%20Queer.pdf>

A quick flip through this most challenged novel will be enough for the average parent of a public school student to question whether their tax dollars are being abused.

Some of the other most challenged books of 2022 were *All Boys Aren't Blue* by George M. Johnson which contains underage incest. *Lawn Boy* by Jonathan Evison contains a passage about 10 year old boys performing oral sex on each other. *This Book is Gay* by Juno Dawson provides a guide on how to hook up with strangers on gay sex apps.

There is a true disconnect between what extremist led organizations deem appropriate for school aged children and what parents think is appropriate. The claims of parents are well founded. Parents have every right to deem what is and is not appropriate material for their children. Legislation to address these concerns is past due.

Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee urges a Favorable Report for SB 355.

Suzie Scott, Chair

Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee

<https://www.heritage.org/education/commentary/parents-objecting-pornographic-material-school-libraries-arent-book-banners>

<https://www.heritage.org/education/commentary/who-decides-what-children-read-authoritarians-slander-parent-groups-book>

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/top10>

WRITTEN TESTIMONY.pdf

Uploaded by: johnny salling

Position: FWA

JOHNNY RAY SALLING
Legislative District 6
Baltimore County

Budget and Taxation Committee

Public Safety, Transportation,
and Environment Subcommittee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Judicial Proceedings Committee
Senator William C. Smith, Jr.
Senator Jeff Waldstreicher
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

To the Chair, Vice Chair, and esteemed Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

I express my gratitude to the Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee for permitting me to address Senate Bill 355 Criminal law – Display of obscene Material to Minors - Prohibition, also cross-filed as HB671 with Delegate Robin Grammer.

This bill expands current law by revising the definition of "item" in relation to the prohibition of displaying or distributing obscene material to minors. It prohibits certain public schools from displaying obscene material and includes "drawing" and "illustration" in the definition of "illicit sex." Additionally, it designates "public schools" as a location for the distribution of such content and recognizes "school principals" as individuals with managerial responsibility. The bill also updates terminology, replacing "place of business" with "premises" and adjusting language to include public school libraries.

Our school serves as a crucial institution for the education, growth, and development of our children. Creating a safe and supportive learning environment is paramount to their overall well-being. Unfortunately, the accessibility of pornographic content within the school setting poses several risks and potential harms. Schools are entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring that educational content is age appropriate. The presence of explicit material accessible to students contradicts these standards and may expose them to content that is not suitable for their age group.

Schools are expected to uphold legal and ethical standards, and the presence of explicit content in the school environment may raise legal concerns and pose ethical challenges for the institution. Parents entrust schools with the education and safety of their children. The presence of inappropriate content may erode this trust, leading to concerns among parents about the safety of their children within the school environment.

I appreciate the challenges that schools face in balancing access to information with the need to maintain a safe and secure learning environment. By proactively addressing this issue, we can collectively work towards ensuring the well-being and development of our students.

It is crucial to pass this bill to establish an additional protective barrier for children, ensuring they cannot access age-inappropriate material that may harm their development. I appreciate your time and the opportunity to testify on this matter, and I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 355.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "Johnny Ray Salling". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Senator Johnny Ray Salling

SB0355 Oppose Criminal Law - Display of Obscene Ma

Uploaded by: Ashley Teagle

Position: UNF



Southern Maryland Regional Library Association, Inc.

Advancing Library Excellence

February 1, 2024

Senator William C. Smith, Jr., Chair
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Committee Members,

I am writing in opposition to **SB0355 – Criminal Law – Display of Obscene Materials to Minors – Prohibition**. As a librarian deeply committed to supporting lifelong learning, I am concerned that the language in this bill criminalizes the work of school librarians who have a responsibility to provide age appropriate materials to students, including materials on health topics.

The definition of “distribute” including the language “to rent” also presents a challenge. Library materials are available to support learners of all interests and there is no requirement that a student has to check out a book simply because the library makes it available. This broad definition ignores the unique nature of libraries which operate under a philosophy of maintaining a varied collection while allowing readers and caregivers the right to *not* borrow or engage with materials that are not of interest to them.

The definition of “illicit sex” ignores the fact that human anatomy and sexual health are topics that are considered age appropriate by some caregivers. To create a blanket ban on these topics will infringe upon the rights of these students and caregivers.

The bill cites the definition of “obscene,” which library materials are not. School libraries operate under collection development policies that take into consideration a variety of factors to support the educational needs of students.

I request that the Committee does not pass this bill so that Maryland’s students can continue to have access to materials that help them become healthy, well informed and productive members of our society.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ashley Teagle
CEO

Hearing Testimony SB0355 2-2-24 - Emily Puhl.pdf

Uploaded by: Emily Puhl

Position: UNF

**Testimony for the "Display of Obscene Material to Minors - Prohibition" hearing -
February 2, 2024**

Emily Puhl
117 Bosc Court
Thurmont, MD 21788

Testimony:

SB0355 purports to protect minors from obscene materials. But what it really does is hand a blunt instrument to the inorganic groups proliferating today, groups that under the guise of freedom are pushing a "book banning" agenda that targets viewpoints and communities they don't like, in particular LGBTQ+ youth. The end result of this bill will be that these anti-LGBTQ+ groups will enter school libraries and with faux outrage claim that books with LGBTQ+ characters and themes contain obscene descriptions of illicit sex. They'll completely ignore the prong of the definition of obscene that says the work as a whole must lack serious artistic or literary value, because their goal will not be to engage in good-faith evaluation of materials that minors have access to but instead to attack and to delegitimize the LGBTQ+ community, to diminish its voices, to wipe away its stories.

By adding Public Schools to this section of the Maryland Criminal Code, this bill will open the floodgates. It will have a chilling effect, which we can presume is precisely the point. School Principals, fearing criminal liability, will likely choose to preemptively remove and then avoid LGBTQ+ books rather than invite endless chaos, distraction, litigation, and prosecution. This will leave LGBTQ+ students without representation in literature, without access to stories that offer them validation and acceptance and love. Our youth deserve better. I urge you to reject this unnecessary and unkind bill.