

Projection is a Freudian concept - the process of displacing one's feelings onto a different person, animal, or object.

Moms for Liberty does not ban books. A “book ban” suggests books would no longer be available. Any book not on school library shelves would still be available at an online or bricks and mortar retailer or at the Public Library. School libraries have a limited amount of space and funds and must curate their libraries to select the most appropriate books for their population. A STEM school might lean towards books by Hawking, Crick or Pasteur, while a classical education school might lean towards Plato, Cato and Plutarch. An elementary library would include picture books and easy readers while a high school library might have a larger nonfiction section. No library is going to house every book on a topic; they must choose what is most appropriate for their students. **Expecting schools to curate their collections for quality, purpose and appropriateness is not book banning.**

Who is limiting exposure to books?

- Teachers, professors and schools are removing books like *To Kill a Mocking Bird*, because of immutable characteristics of the author. Classical works by Twain and Shakespeare are being removed from class reading lists and replaced with contemporary authors whose works have not withstood the test of time.
- Purveyors of Critical Race Theory have pushed for the removal of Dr. Seuss from libraries and bullied the publisher into ending their printing. Recognizing books written during a different time period might have words or concepts that offend the modern reader, the response should not be to ban the book but to discuss how the ideas presented might be viewed through a contemporary lens.

Great literature and high quality nonfiction open minds. Books not only teach facts but allow readers to experience emotions, events and adventures outside their realm of experience. There is a disturbing trend for schools to seek books that kids “like” and in which they can “see themselves.” Books should not limit readers, but challenge them to learn new vocabulary, deal with sentence construction more complicated than a conversation and to open their minds to concepts and characters that expand their thinking.

However, **some confuse literature with obscenity.** Pertinent federal law: <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/criminal-ceos/citizens-guide-us-federal-law-obscenity>