

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

Do We *REALLY* Need To Debate the Educational Value of Pornography?

Parents, if you haven't read [Gender Queer: A Memoir](#) by Maia Kobabe, do so immediately and then demand that the trusted experts and officials that run our schools remove it immediately from the district's libraries!

It is pornography for our kids provided by our schools. This graphic novel is available to all RHS students as an ebook. When they access it on their Chromebooks, you will never be the wiser. Sharing is easy, and the ability to read is not necessary to access the porn - it is a *graphic* novel. Don't take our word for it, or the benign descriptions you might find by "reputable" literary sources, or the "excerpts from [the author's] first graphic novel," or accept the judgment of other school districts' committees. Read it from cover to cover and judge for yourselves if this book should be in our schools. Then take decisive action.

A portion was read aloud and the pictures shown to the Instruction and Accountability Committee school board members (Judy Conlin, Mary Peterson, Ben Roskosky) at the December 13th meeting. Superintendent Burke was present along with other school administrators and school board members in the audience. Also present were the librarians Laura Tooke and Ellie Rumney who said that they are the two that oversee the School District of Rhinelander libraries.

They said that they choose books following library media center [Policies Manual and Administrative Guideline Manual](#) (code numbers po2522 and ag2522, respectively) and recommendations by review journals, professional curation resources, reward lists, as well as student and staff requests. They said they choose books according to WI state requirements "to provide access to materials which reflect the pluralistic nature of American Society." Tooke and Rumney have defined "pluralistic society" as "a diversified society where people believe all kinds of different things and coexist with each other's beliefs even when they don't match their own."

When asked about having the book removed from the district's school library, the librarians gave detailed information about the policy and procedure in place to

have books removed. The burden of proof is on the person who files paperwork despite the fact that the media centers are "to support and enrich the District's standards..." ([po2522](#)) and the materials are to have "educational significance." ([ag2522](#)). The intellectual dishonesty across the board and throughout the school district is profound.

- How does graphically describing sex acts meet educational criteria, assuming that "educational" pertains to academics (as opposed to teaching how to give blow jobs, for example)?
- How does it improve our deplorable reading proficiency at the high school level? (see "[ACT and Top Schools](#)" box below)
- How does this encourage our kids to have healthy relationships, sexual or otherwise?
- Does [Gender Queer](#) support or undermine [Coaching Boys Into Men](#), the program that we are told, albeit falsely, that teaches healthy relationships to our sons?
- How does this book support the district's policy to "Present abstinence from sexual activity as the preferred choice of behavior in relationship to all sexual activity for unmarried students"? [Policy Manual 2414](#)

And think about this. The administrators, school board members, and librarians are our family, friends and neighbors - all trusted members of our schools and community. In their professional capacity, they actively promote this book, and therefore, its pornography: the librarians chose it, and the administrators and school board members, who are ultimately responsible for the content of the district's libraries, allow it. But each one of them cowardly sits back taking protection under the school policy that puts the burden on the community to remove the harmful material that they chose. After hearing just one pornographic passage read out loud, they all individually should have been so disgusted that the book should have been immediately removed for an investigation. Each one of the trusted professionals should be filing the paperwork to have it removed permanently.

Bottom line. The teachers, librarians, administrators and school board members work extremely hard to teach our kids and run the schools that should be the center of our small community, according to Mr. Gary Zarda, who



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chastised the 70 plus community members attending the November 15th School Board Meeting, and was subsequently interviewed exclusively by the Northwoods River News. Mr. Zarda also accused those community members of not living up to Christian values of getting along by not acknowledging “all the good stuff that they do.” But the call to get along really only means “to be quiet” and not speak out against decisions that are contrary to our children’s wellbeing and healthy societal values.

We should ask, “Why are our hardworking friends and neighbors pedaling pornography to our children in school? Why is pornography any part of the school environment our friends and neighbors have created for our children? Do we agree with our friends and neighbors that pornography should have a place in the institution that they believe to be the center of our community?”

Finally, “Why are we sitting idly by while our children are being supplied with pornography?” Talk to your friends, and share your copy of the book. We do not have to be in this alone, but we all do need to take action to protect our children. To do nothing is to be complicit.

ACT state testing and TopSchools reports:

- According to [Wisconsin State Department of Education](#), 51.5% of RHS 11th graders were not proficient in English Language Arts as of 4/2021.
- According to [U.S. News and World Report Top Best K-12 Schools 2021](#), 63% of RHS students are not proficient in reading

Want to Support TBT Efforts Financially?

The TakeBackTeam has set up a GiveSendGo Account to help fund our efforts in keeping our Community Free!

- ✓ Championing a solid education that focuses on fundamentals and critical thinking
- ✓ Ensuring the well-being of our children
 - ✓ Protecting parental rights
 - ✓ Sustaining freedom and liberty
- ✓ Achieving transparency from our elected officials
- ✓ Electing individuals who will support the rights of parents, maintain traditional values, and uphold the Constitution.

100% of the funds raised for the TakeBackTeam will directly go towards our goal to provide an online community where the current issues within our schools, communities, state, and nation can be shared, investigated, and discussed with resulting action plans.

www.givesendgo.com/TAKEBACKTEAM



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

TUESDAY JANUARY 25TH

TBT INFO MEETING
6:00PM-8:00PM
PINES EVENT CENTER
5840 FOREST LN, RHINELANDER

MONDAY, JANUARY 17TH

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
RHINELANDER HIGH SCHOOL
(JOHN & DORI BROWN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER)
CHECK THE SDR WEBSITE FOR A COPY OF THE
AGENDA AND MEETING TIME/LOCATION SPECIFICS.

