



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

ON CHALLENGES TO MATERIALS IN OREGON LIBRARIES
JULY 1, 2015—JUNE 30, 2016

GOAL

The goals of the Oregon Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse is to report on challenges to library materials in Oregon and to provide information and resources needed by librarians to uphold the principles of intellectual freedom in their libraries.

OBJECTIVES

The Oregon Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse will:

1. Establish a central clearinghouse to collect reports about written challenges to library material from all types of libraries in Oregon.
2. Write and distribute an annual report on library materials challenged in Oregon.
3. Submit each annual report to the American Library Association's Office of Intellectual Freedom and the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon.
4. Maintain the Title Index to Challenges which summarizes all of the reported challenges to library materials in Oregon from 1987 to the present.
5. With permission, connect librarians dealing with a challenge to other librarians who have dealt with similar challenges to library material.
6. Provide resources to help libraries establish policies and procedures that uphold the principles of intellectual freedom before challenges occur.
7. Support the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the Oregon Library Association in their effort to increase awareness of intellectual freedom issues.
8. Cooperate with other people and groups concerned with intellectual freedom or related issues.

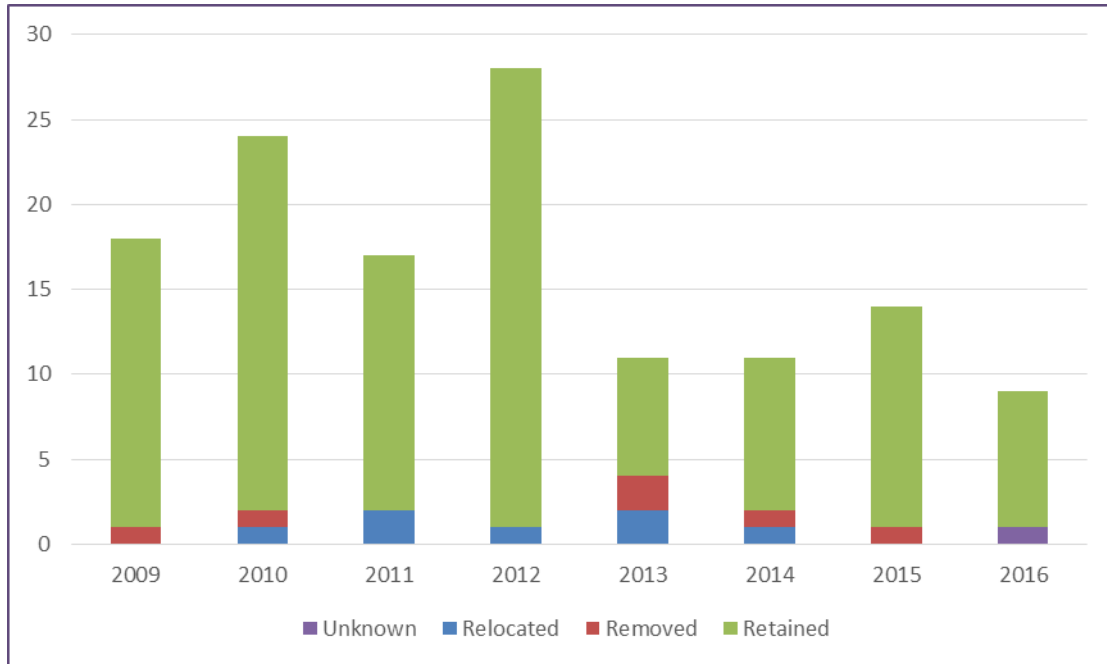
SCOPE

The Oregon Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse (OIFC) collects reports about written challenges to materials from all types of Oregon libraries. Libraries report the information to OIFC on a voluntary basis. OIFC compiles the information into an annual report each year. Each annual report is posted on the OIFC website and submitted to the American Library Association's Office of Intellectual Freedom and the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon. Oregon librarians are notified via email when the annual report is available on the OIFC website.

The 2016 Annual Report is a compendium of nine challenges to material from three public libraries and one school library. The Title Index to Challenges is a summary of all the challenges reported to OIFC from 1987 to the present. The Title Index to Challenges and all the annual reports are posted on OIFC's website (<https://www.oregon.gov/osl/LD/Pages/projects/OIFC/OregonChallenges.aspx>).

RETROSPECTIVE VIEW

The following chart shows the number of items challenged since July 1, 2008, and how many were retained, removed, or relocated. To learn more about past challenges, read the previous annual reports on challenges to material in Oregon libraries available on the OIFC's website.



SUMMARY OF CHALLENGES REPORTED JULY 1, 2015—JUNE 30, 2016

The OIFC received reports on nine challenges to library materials from three public libraries and one school library. Of the nine challenges, six of the items were books, one was a sound recordings, one was a video, and one was an insert in a free local paper. Three of the challenges were initiated by parents and six were initiative by patrons. Eight of the challenged items were retained in the collection and a decision has not been made about one item.

The following challenged items are organized alphabetically by title of the challenged item. Each challenged item went through a review process by their respective library's board of trustees, library board, selection committee, or committee of staff members. Review processes typically are adopted procedures by which a reviewing body reads or views challenged material, collects information about the material, and makes a decision about the material. Generally, the library director writes a letter to the party who has challenged the material informing them of the decision, and explaining the appeals process.

Fifty Shades of Grey by Sam Taylor-Johnson (video)

Objection: 1. Sexual (sexually explicit) 2. Values (anti-family)

Initiator of the challenge: Patron

Type of library: Public

Decision: Retained

Comments: None

Artichoke Tales by Megan Kelso (book)

Objection: Sexual (unsuited to age)

Initiator of the challenge: Patron

Type of library: Public

Decision: Unknown

Comments: An illustration in the book contains nudity and apparent sexual activity.

Brimstone Journals, The by Ronald Koetge (book)

Objection: 1. Sexual (unsuited to age) 2. Values (violence)

Initiator of the challenge: Parent

Type of library: School

Decision: Retained

Comments: None

Chrononaut, Vol. 1 by Mark Millar (book)

Objection: 1. Sexual (homosexuality) 2. Values (religious view)

Initiator of the challenge: Patron

Type of library: Public

Decision: Retained

Comments: Patron concerned item unfairly celebrates black men, and promotes a left-wing agenda.

Crossed by David Laphman (book)

Objection: 1. Sexual (sexually explicit) 2. Values (violence)

Initiator of the challenge: Patron

Type of library: Public

Decision: Retained

Comments: Patron concerned about this book being accessible to minors and this book may normalize and desensitize views from extreme violence, rape, and hatred.

Five, Six, Seven, Nate! by Tim Federle (sound recording)

Objection: Sexual (unsuited to age)

Initiator of the challenge: Patron

Type of library: Public

Decision: Retained

Comments: None

Little Bill by Bill Cosby (book)

Objection: Other (criminal charges against author)

Initiator of the challenge: Patron

Type of library: Public

Decision: Retained

Comments: Patrons concerned about the library offering Bill Cosby's Little Bill books as summer reading prizes due to the nature of criminal charges against the author.

Make Something Up: Stories You Can't Unread by Chuck Palahniuk (book)

Objection: Sexual (sexually explicit)

Initiator of the challenge: Patron

Type of library: Public

Decision: Retained

Comments: Patron concerned that this book is not fit for most readers.

Oregon Cannabis Guide, insert in *The Mercury*; Vol. 16, No. 20 by Marjorie Skinner (other)

Objection: Social issues (drugs)

Initiator of the challenge: Parent

Type of library: Public

Decision: Retained

Comments: Item is an insert in a free local newspaper which is made available to patrons in the free community information area in the library, it is not cataloged.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." —First Amendment to the United States Constitution
