# Your Library: A Marketplace of Ideas and Controversy





## What have you read?

Read the list of books and circle those you have read.

### Two-Box Induction

- I am going to put the list of books into one of two categories. It will be your job to figure out the pattern.
- What ideas, concepts, themes, characteristics do they have in common?
- Why are some books in column A and some books in Column B?

## What is the pattern?

- The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald-A
- The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck-A
- Charlotte's Web by E. B. White-B
- Winnie-the-Pooh by A. A. Milne-B
- To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee-A

## What is the pattern?

- The Color Purple by Alice Walker-A
- The World According to Garp by John Irving-B
- Portrait of a Lady by Henry James-B
- Animal Farm by George Orwell-B
- <u>Ulysses</u> by James Joyce-A

## What is the pattern?

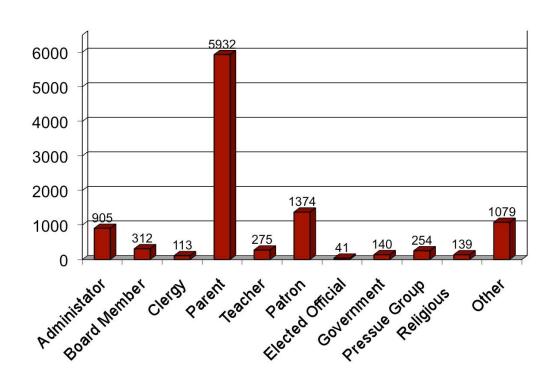
- Beloved by Toni Morrison-A
- The Sound and the Fury by William Faulkner-B
- A Room with a View by E. M. Forster-B
- The Lord of the Flies by William Golding-A
- 1984 by George Orwell-A

### What is the Pattern?

- The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger-A
- Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck-A
- The Lord of the Rings by J. R. R. Tolkien-A
- Schindler's List by Thomas Keneally-B
- The Age of Innocence by Edith Wharton-B



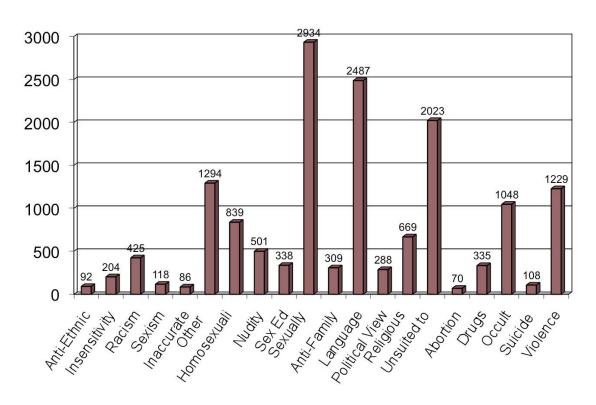
#### Challenges by Initiator





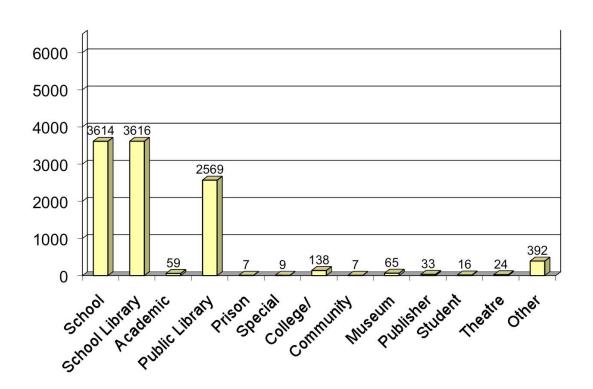
# Challenges by Reason (1990-2008) from A.L.A

#### Challenges by Reason





#### **Challenges by Institution**



## What are books challenged?

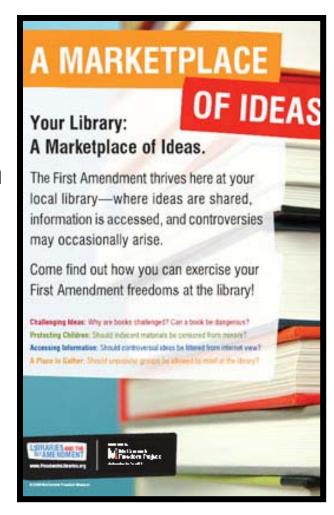
- According to the ALA, challenges are often motivated by a desire to protect children.
- Parents challenge books more than any other group
- The top three reasons cited for challenging materials, as reported to the Office of Intellectual Freedom, are:
  - the material was considered to be "sexually explicit"
  - the material contained "offensive language"
  - the materials was "unsuited to any age group"

## Thinking about libraries

- 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.
- How are the five freedoms of the First Amendment exercised in a library setting?

# Your Library A marketplace of ideas

- They are a storehouse of ideas
- They provide access to ideas needed for decision making
- They disseminate ideas through various media
- They provide a meeting place
- They sometimes serve as a site for sit-ins and protests
  - McCormick Freedom Project



### Libraries



### A 1st Amendment Battlefield

- A. Should it be legal to remove some books from a public library?
- B. Should the library censor the internet to protect young people?
- C. Should certain books be pulled from a school's library shelves?
- D. Should all groups be allowed to meet in the library?

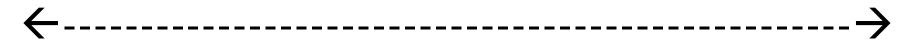


# Expert Groups Share Your Findings

Complete Your Chart

## Spectrum Placement





No censorship

Libraries must vigorously censor to protect children

Put your name on the card and list the main reasons for your placement. Then, place your card on the spectrum in the front of the room.