



Were you aware that....

In Mark Twain's lifetime, his books *Tom Sawyer* and *Huckleberry Finn* were excluded from the juvenile sections of the Brooklyn Public library (among other libraries), and banned from the library in Concord, MA, home of Henry Thoreau. In recent years, some high schools have dropped *Huckleberry Finn* from their reading lists, or have been sued by parents who want the book dropped. In Tempe, Arizona, a parent's lawsuit that attempted to get the local high school to remove the book from a required reading list went as far as a federal appeals court in 1998. (The court's decision in the case, which affirmed Tempe High's right to teach the book, has some interesting comments about education and racial tensions.)

Source: <http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/banned-books.html>



Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*, Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, Boccaccio's *Decameron*, Defoe's *Moll Flanders*, and various editions of *The Arabian Nights* were all banned for decades from the U.S. mails under the Comstock Law of 1873. Officially known as the Federal Anti-Obscenity Act, this law banned the mailing of "lewd", "indecent", "filthy", or "obscene" materials. The Comstock laws, while now unenforced, remain for the most part on the books today; the Telecommunications Reform Bill of 1996 even specifically applied some of them to computer networks. The anti-war *Lysistrata* was banned again in 1967 in Greece, which was then controlled by a military junta.

The Comstock law also forbade distribution of birth control information. In 1915, Margaret Sanger's husband was jailed for distributing her *Family Limitation*, which described and advocated various methods of contraception. Sanger herself had fled the country to avoid prosecution, but would return in 1916 to start the American Birth Control League, which eventually merged with other groups to form Planned Parenthood.

Source: <http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/banned-books.html>



"You have not converted a man because you have silenced him."

- John Morley, Journalist

This display holds only a few of the materials available in the library. To locate additional resources on banned books or other topics of interest, please visit the LINK at

www.lib.fit.edu.

Go To:

LINK → **Library Catalog** to locate books, periodical titles, government documents, and multimedia materials in the Evans Library.

LINK → **Sites By Discipline** for more information about Internet sites pertaining to this topic.

LINK → **Databases** and search for related topics in one of the library's many databases.

LINK → **Interlibrary Loan**, which allows campus faculty, staff, and students to complete an online ILL form to request materials that are not readily available through the Evans Library. ILL brings the world's library resources to Florida Tech!

LINK → **Research Help** to locate an electronic pathfinder (e-pathfinder) that identifies additional Evans Library resources and services related to this topic.

*The Evans Library has professional staff and reference librarians ready to assist you with many of your information needs.
Don't hesitate to ask for **HELP!***



This display is presented by the Instructional Programs team of Kathy Turner, Lois Crozier, and Joanne Savage.
8/03

Ulysses by James Joyce · *Fanny Hill* by John Cleland · *Lysistrata* by Aristophanes · *Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer · *Moll Flanders* by Daniel Defoe · *Leaves of Grass* by Walt Whitman · *Confessions* by Jena-Jacques Rousseau · *The Rights of Man* by Thomas Paine · *Call of the Wild* by Jack London · *Madama Tsvetayeva* by Anna Gellert · *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley · *Emily, or the Catterley's Lover* by D.H. Lawrence · *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger · *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison · *Blubber* by Judy Blume · *Daddy's Roommate* by Michael Willhoite · *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou · *Earth's Children* (Series) by Jean Auel · *Harry Potter* (Series) by J.K. Rowling · *We Will Fall Down* by Robert Cormier · *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl · *Flowers by Alison* by Daniel Keyes · *The Merchant of Venice* by William Shakespeare · *Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin · *Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain · *Silas Marner* by George Eliot · *Essay Concerning Human Understanding* by John Locke · *Gone With the Wind* by Margaret Mitchell · *Decameron* by Boccaccio · *The Provincial Letters* by Blaise Pascal · *Jerusalem Delivered* by Tasso · *Civil Disobedience* by Thoreau · *State and Revolution* by Joseph Lenin · *Bless Me Ultima* by Rudolfo A. Anaya · *Where Did I Come From?* by Peter Mayle · *The Dead Zone* by Stephen King · *Pillars of the Earth* by Ken Follett · *Private Parts* by Howard Stern · *Slaughterhouse - Five* by Kurt Vonnegut · *The House of Spirits* by Isabel Allende · *Annie on My Mind* by Nancy Garden · *A Light in the Attic* by Shel Silverstein · *Native Son* by Richard Wright · *Girls and Sex* by Wardell Pomeroy · *How To Eat Fried Worms* by Thomas Rockwell · *Sex Education* by Jenny Davis · *View From the Cherry Tree* by Bette Greene · *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret*

Banned Books



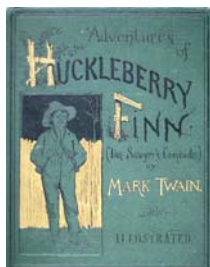
Evans Library
Florida Institute of Technology
August 1 - October 31, 2003
Display

**September 20 - 27 is
'Banned Books' week.**

Banned or Challenged Books on display

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

PS1305 .A1 1912
Mark Twain



Of Mice and Men

PS3537.T3234 O3 1938
John Steinbeck

The Catcher in the Rye

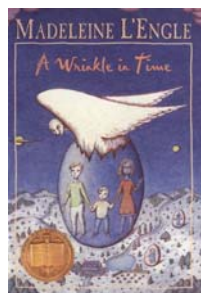
PS3537.A426 C3 1964
J.D. Salinger

The Color Purple

PS3573.A425 C6 1982
Alice Walker

A Wrinkle in Time

PS3523 .E55 W7 1962
Madeleine L'Engle



To Kill a Mockingbird

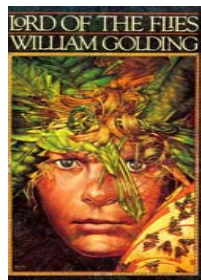
PS3562.E353 T6
Harper Lee

Beloved : A Novel

PS3563 .O8749 B4 1987
Toni Morrison

Slaughterhouse-five, or, The Children's Crusade

PS3572.O5 S53 1988
Kurt Vonnegut

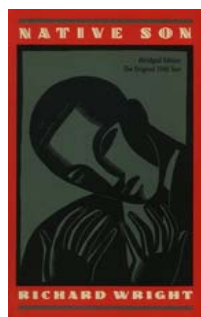


Lord of the Flies

PR6013.O35 L6 1962
William Golding

Native Son

PS3545.R815 N3
Richard Wright

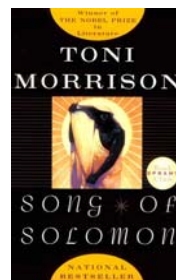


The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

PS1306 .A1 1920
Mark Twain

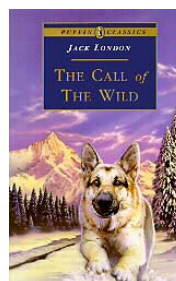
Song of Solomon

PS3563.O8749 S6 1978
Toni Morrison



The Call of the Wild

PS3523.O46 C3 1931
Jack London



Frankenstein

PR5397 .F7 1968
Mary Shelley

Electronic Resources

ProQuest

To find out more about the displayed banned or challenged books, try searching *ProQuest*. This database provides access to article citations, some with full text and graphics, from general academic periodicals (including peer-reviewed journals); full text coverage of U.S. and international newspapers, news sources, and news wires; ABI/INFORM (business news, company information, trade and industry) and other subject-specific database modules.

What is the difference between a 'challenge' and a 'banning'?

A **challenge** is an attempt to remove or restrict materials, based upon the objections of a person or group. A **banning** is the removal of those materials. Challenges do not simply involve a person expressing a point of view; rather, they are an attempt to remove material from the curriculum or library, thereby restricting the access of others. The positive message of Banned Books Week: Free People Read Freely is that due to the commitment of librarians, teachers, parents, students and other concerned citizens, most challenges are unsuccessful and most materials are retained in the school curriculum or library collection.

Source:

http://www.ala.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Our_Association/Offices/Intellectual_Freedom3/Banned_Books_Week/Challenged_and_Banned_Books/Challenged_and_Banned_Books.htm#wdcb

"The Savannah Morning News reported in November 1999 that a teacher at the Windsor Forest High School required seniors to obtain permission slips before they could read Hamlet, Macbeth, or King Lear. The teacher's school board had pulled the books from class reading lists, citing 'adult language' and references to sex and violence. Many students and parents protested the school board's policy, which also included the outright banning of three other books..."

Source: <http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/>

According to the American Library Association, the following books were the most frequently challenged in 2002:

- **Harry Potter** series, by J.K. Rowling, for its focus on wizardry and magic
- **Alice** series, by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, for being sexually explicit, using offensive language and being unsuited to age group
- **The Chocolate War** by Robert Cormier (the "Most Challenged" book of 1998), for using offensive language and being unsuited to age group
- **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings** by Maya Angelou, for sexual content, racism, offensive language, violence and being unsuited to age group
- **Taming the Star Runner** by S.E. Hinton, for offensive language
- **Captain Underpants** by Dav Pilkey, for insensitivity and being unsuited to age group, as well as encouraging children to disobey authority
- **The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn** by Mark Twain, for racism, insensitivity and offensive language
- **Bridge to Terabithia** by Katherine Paterson, for offensive language, sexual content and Occult/Satanism
- **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry** by Mildred D. Taylor, for insensitivity, racism and offensive language
- **Julie of the Wolves** by Jean Craighead George, for sexual content, offensive language, violence and being unsuited to age group