“1984” by George Orwell has been challenged numerous times on the grounds that it contains communist and sexual content. This book was challenged in Jackson County, Florida (1981) because the novel is “pro-communist and contains explicit sexual matter.”

“A Doll’s House” by Henrik Ibsen was called for rejection by four members of the Alabama State Textbook Committee (1983) because it propagates feminist views.

“The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” by Mark Twain was banned in Concord, Massachusetts (1885) as “trash and suitable only for the slums.” This fictional work was excluded from the children’s room of the Brooklyn Public Library (1906) on the grounds that “Huck not only itched but scratched, and said sweat when he should have said perspiration.” It was removed from Waukegan, Illinois high school reading list (1984) because of “racially offensive language and tone.” Removed from classrooms in the Cherry Hill, New Jersey schools (1997) after concerns were raised about its “racial epithets” and “depiction of its African-American characters.” Huck Finn was also pulled from reading lists at three Renton, Washington high schools (2004) after an African-American student said the book degraded her and her culture. Ironically, this book which was attacked after its first publication for being “too racially tolerant” is now being attacked for being “too racist.” Twain’s classic was deemed upon publication as “rough, coarse and inelegant,” and not suited for “intelligent, respectable people.”

“The Adventures of Tom Sawyer” by Mark Twain was excluded from children’s room in the Brooklyn, New York public library (1876) and the Denver, Colorado public library (1876). It was removed from the 7th grade curriculum in the West Chester, Pennsylvania schools (1994) because “it is too full of racially charged language.”
“A Light in the Attic” by Shel Silverstein was challenged at the Cunningham elementary School in Beloit, Wisconsin. (1985) because the book “encourages children to break dishes so they won’t have to dry them.” Removed from Minot, N.Dakota. Public School libraries when the superintendent found “suggestive illustrations.” Challenged at the Big Bend Elementary School library in Mukwonago, Wisconsin. (1986) because some of the Silverstein’s poems “glorified Satan, suicide and cannibalism, and also encouraged children to be disobedient.”

“All Quiet on the Western Front” by Erich Maria Remarque was banned for “obscenity” in Chicago and Boston, in Austria and Czechoslovakia (1929) Banned in Italy (1933). Public burning in Germany (1933).

“The American Heritage Dictionary” was banned by an Eldon, Missouri library (1978) because it contained 39 “objectionable” words, and by the Anchorage School Board (1987) for having slang definitions for words such as “bed,” “knocker,” and “balls.”

“And I Still Rise” by Maya Angelou was removed from the required reading list for Wake County High School juniors in Raleigh, North Carolina (1987) because of complaints about a scene in which eight-year-old Maya is raped.
“And the Walls Came Tumbling Down” by Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy was burned in protest in Denver, Colorado (1989) because it alleges that Martin Luther King, Jr. was involved with three women. E. Napoleon Walton, publisher of the Denver Cosmopolitan Advertiser, stated, “[Abernathy] has his freedom of speech, and we have our freedom to burn it.”

“Andersonville” by MacKinlay Kantor was banned in Amarillo, Texas (1962) because of “political ideas” and because the author was cited by the House Un-American Activities Committee. This book won the Pulitzer Prize in 1966.

“Annie on My Mind” by Nancy Garden was banned by the Olathe, Kansas school system (1993) because the book portrays “lesbian love and sex as normal.” In a court trial that followed a federal judge ruled the banning to be “a violation of the students First Amendment rights.” In response many copies of the book were burned on the steps of the Kansas City school district headquarters.

U.S. Customs held up 500 sets of the French scholar Mardus’ translation of “Arabian Nights” or “The Thousand and One Nights” by Anonymous, which were imported from England (1927-31).
“Are You There, God? It’s Me Margaret” by Judy Blume was challenged in many libraries, but removed from the Gilbert, Arizona elementary school libraries (1980) and ordered that parental consent be required for students to check out this title from the junior high school library. It was challenged in Tuscaloosa, Alabama (1982) and Fund du Lac, Wisconsin (1982) school systems because the book is “sexually offensive and amoral.” Blume’s book was challenged at the Xenia, Ohio school libraries (1983) because the book is built around two themes: sex and anti-Christian behavior. It was challenged as profane, immoral and offensive, but retained in the Bozeman, Montana school libraries (1985). It was restricted in Zimmerman, Minnesota (1982) to students who had written permission from their parents. After the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union sued the Elk River, Minnesota school board (1983), the Board reversed its decision to restrict this title to students who had written permission from their parents.

“As I Lay Dying” by William Faulkner, a classic southern novel, was banned by the Graves County, Kentucky school board (1986) because seven passages “made reference to God or abortion and used curse words.” It was declared “offensive and obscene” on the grounds that it “uses God’s name in vain.” None of the board members had actually read the book.

“Areopagitica” by John Milton was published without a required publication license in flagrant violation of the British law, consequently helping to establish the notion of a free press.

A school district in Florida restricted “The Autobiography of Malcolm X” by Malcolm X and Alex Haley in middle school libraries on the grounds that the work condones a racist view of white people and is a “how-to manual” for crime.
“Bastard Out of Carolina” by Dorothy Allison was removed from the Mt. Abram High School English classes in Salem, Maine (1996) because the language and subject matter of “incest and rape” were “inappropriate” for fifteen-year-olds.

“The Bell Jar” by Sylvia Plath, an autobiographical work that traces the poet’s nervous breakdown, was challenged in Illinois school district on grounds that it contains sexual material and condones an “objectionable” viewpoint.

“Beloved” by Toni Morrison was challenged at the St. John’s county Schools in St. Augustine, Florida (1995) and by a member of the Madawaska, Maine School Committee (1997) because of the book’s language. This 1987 Pulitzer Prize winning novel had been required reading for advanced placement English classes.

William Tyndale, who partially completed translating “The Bible” into English, was captured, strangled and burned at the stake (1536) by opponents of the movement to translate the Bible into the vernacular. “Family-friendly” Bibles began to appear (1830), which had excised passages considered to be “indelicate.”
“Black Boy” by Richard Wright was challenged in Texas on the grounds that “the author is a Communist.” A New York school district restricted the novel to students with parental permission in 1976, but the restriction was lifted after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling (1982).

“Blues for Mister Charlie” by James Baldwin was challenged in Sioux Falls, South Dakota (1980) because it’s “pornographic” and it “tears down Christian principles.”

“The Bluest Eye” by Toni Morrison, a Pulitzer prize-winning author, was pulled from a high school in Alaska in 1994 and cited for being too “controversial.” The novel was both challenged and banned in Pennsylvania in 1994, and faced challenges in both Florida and Massachusetts due to the book’s sexual content.

“The Book Your Church Doesn’t Want You to Read” by Tim C. Leedom, Editor was banned from Barnes & Noble store in San Diego, California (1995) for being “too controversial for the bookstore’s conservative clientele.”
“Boss: Richard J. Daley of Chicago” by Mike Royko was banned by a Ridgefield, Connecticut school board (1972) from the high school reading list for “downgrading police departments.”

“Brave New World” by Aldous Huxley has been accused of being anti-family and anti-Christian and has been challenged due to “language and moral content.” It was removed from classroom in Miller, Missouri (1980) and challenged at a Yukon, Oklahoma high school (1988). It was challenged as required reading in the Corona-Norco, California Unified School District (1993) because the book “centered around negative activity.”

“Bridge to Terabithia” by Katherine Paterson, winner of a Newbery Award, has been removed from classrooms and libraries due to “profanity, disrespect of adults, and an elaborate fantasy world that might lead to confusion.”

“Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee” by Dee Brown was removed from the Wild Rose, Wisconsin school district by a district administrator for being “slanted.” This administrator was quoted saying, “If there’s a possibility that something might be controversial, then why not eliminate it.”
“Can Such Things Be?” by Ambrose Bierce was on a list the U.S. Department of War gave to the American Library Association, which demanded removal from camp libraries of a number of literary works deemed as “pacifist.”

“Canterbury Tales” by Geoffrey Chaucer was removed from a senior college preparatory class at the Eureka, Illinois high school (1995) for sexual content. Through the years, it has been subjected to revisions (starting 1928) in which many “four letter words” were taken out. These bawdy tales were removed from an advanced literature course at an Illinois high school (1995) after parents deemed the sexual content in some of the tales “lewd and inappropriate.” Chaucer’s classic tales have weathered and endured six centuries of expurgation.

“Candide” by Voltaire, a critically acclaimed satire, was declared obscene by U.S. Customs (1929) and seized (1930). At the time, the book was an assigned text at Harvard, and was defended by two professors. The book was then permitted in a different edition. The U.S. Post Office demanded that a mail-order book catalog omit the book (1944).

“Catch 22” by Joseph Heller was banned in Strongsville, Ohio (1972). It was challenged in Dallas, Texas (1974) and in Snoqualmie, Washington (1979) because of objectionable language.
“Catcher in the Rye” by J. D. Salinger, a novel that depicts a teenager’s nervous breakdown, has been repeatedly banned and challenged for reasons such as “profanity,” “sexual references,” and the charge that it “undermines morality.” The novel was cited as blasphemous (1983); “the book’s contents” were cited as justification to ban the book.

“The Celluloid Closet: Homosexuality in the Movies” by Vito Russo was challenged at the Deschutes County Library in Bend, Oregon (1993) because it “encourages and condones” homosexuality.

“Changing Bodies, Changing Lives” by Ruth Bell was challenged at the William-Crisman High School in Independence, Missouri (1984) because it is “filth.” It was challenged at the Gray-New Gloucester, Maine high school library (1987) because the book contains first-person accounts of teenagers’ sexual experiences. And Bell’s book was also challenged at the Council Rock School District in Bucks County, Pennsylvania (1994) because of passages that “undermine parental authority and depict sexual relations in explicit and vulgar language.”

“Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” by Roald Dahl was removed from a locked reference collection at the Boulder, Colorado public library (1988) where it had been placed because the librarian thought the book espoused a poor philosophy of life.
“The Chocolate War” by Robert Cormier, a young-adult novel, has been challenged and removed from libraries in numerous states. The frequent reason cited is “language and sexual content.”

“The CIA & the Cult of Intelligence” by Victor Marchetti & John D. Marks was censored by a court injunction by the Central Intelligence Agency (1974), stating that one of the authors, a former CIA employee, had violated his contract, which states that he cannot write about the CIA without the agency’s approval. First amendment activists opposed this ruling, and after prolonged litigation, the CIA succeeded in having 168 passages deleted.

“The Claiming of Sleeping Beauty” or (“Beauty’s Punishment”) by Anne Rice was removed from the Columbus, Ohio Metropolitan Library (1996) after determining the books were pornographic. It was also removed from the Lake Lanier Regional Library system in Gwinnett County, Georgia (1992).

“The Clan of the Cave Bear” by Jean Auel was challenged in Berrien Strings, Michigan high school (1988). It was banned from the Cascade Middle School library in Eugene, Oregon (1992). It was challenged, but retained on the Moorpark High School recommended reading list in Simi Valley, California (1993) despite objections that it contains “hardcore graphic sexual content.”
“*A Clockwork Orange*” by Anthony Burgess

*A Clockwork Orange* by Anthony Burgess was taken off a high school reading list in Massachusetts (1977) and in Colorado (1976) on the grounds that the novel included “objectionable” language. It was removed from two Alabama high school libraries (1982), and then reinstated later on a restricted basis.

“*The Color Purple*” by Alice Walker

*The Color Purple* by Alice Walker was challenged in an Oakland, California high school honor class (1984) due to “sexual and social explicitness” and its “troubling ideas about race relations, man’s relationship to God, African history and human sexuality.” Walker’s work was also banned in the Souderton, Pennsylvania area school district (1992) because “it is smut.” It was removed from the Jackson County, West Virginia school libraries (1997).

“*The Complete Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimm*” by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm

*The Complete Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimm* by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, renowned classic fairy tales, were restricted to sixth through eighth grade students at the Kyrene, Arizona elementary schools (1994). The tales were accused of “excessive violence, negative portrayals of female characters, and anti-Semitic references.”

“*Confessions*” by Jean-Jacques Rousseau

*Confessions* by Jean-Jacques Rousseau was banned by U.S. Customs (1929) on the grounds that it was “injurious to public morality.”
“Daddy’s Roommate” by Michael Wilhoite, one of the top 100 banned books in the world today, was banned for the subject matter of “gay parenting,” and references to homosexuality in material intended for children.

“Deadly Decents: My 25 Years in the CIA” by Ralph McGheehee was delayed in its publication for three years because the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) objected to 397 passages, even though much of what the author wrote about was already public knowledge. The book was finally printed in 1983.

“Death of a Salesman” by Arthur Miller was challenged as “junk” by parents of students in Somerset, Kentucky (1987).

“Decameron” by Giovanni Boccaccio was banned for decades in the U.S. under the Comstock Law of 1873, also known as the Federal Anti-Obscenity Act, which banned the mailing of “lewd,” “indecent,” “filthy,” or “obscene” materials. This book was confiscated in Cincinnati (1922). An import ban was enforced by the Treasury Department (1926). Parts of the text removed, by order of U.S. Customs (1927), before it was shipped back to the British publisher. It was banned by the New England Watch and Ward Society (1934) and in Boston (1935). It was seized by Detroit police (1934). This book appeared on the ‘Black List’ of the National Organization of Decent Literature (1954) as an “obscene, lewd, and lascivious book of indecent character.”
“Dialogue Concerning the Two Chief World Systems” by Galilei Galileo was banned by Pope Urban VIII (1633) for heresy and breach of good faith.

“The Diary of a Young Girl” by Anne Frank was challenged in Wise County, Virginia (1982) due to “sexually offensive” passages. Four members of the Alabama State Textbook Committee (1983) called for the rejection of this book because it is a “read downer.” Anne Frank’s diary of the holocaust has been a target of frequent challenges. Overall, the rejection of the diary has been on the grounds that it was “a real downer.”

“Dictionary of American Slang” by T. Y. Crowell (publisher) was banned by California superintendent of public instruction (1963) after he and his supporters found more than 150 “dirty” passages in the book.

“Different Seasons” by Stephen King was removed from the West Lyon Community School library in Larchwood, Iowa (1987) because “it does not meet the standards of the community.” It was removed from the Washington Middle School Library in Meriden, Connecticut (1989) after a parental complaint. It was also challenged at the Eagan High School in Burnsville, Minnesota (1992). The movies “Shawshank Redemption,” “Stand by Me,” and “Apt Pupil” all were based on short stories in this novel.
“Do or Die” by Leon Bing was challenged at Sweetwater County Library in Green River, Wyoming (1993) because the book tells young people how to become involved in a gang.

“Don’t Call Me Brother” by Austin Miles, the former Christian fundamentalist minister who was sued (1992), was charged as “...a vitriolic attack upon organized Christianity.” The $4 million lawsuit filed in Los Angeles Superior Court also claimed “libel” and “slander.” The court ruled that the book was not defamatory.

“Droll Stories” by Honore de Balzac was declared “obscene” by U.S. Customs, who banned the Concord Books catalog (1944) because it featured the book.

“The Drowning of Stephan Jones” by Bette Greene was removed from a high school (1995) for homosexual content. The book was found “unsuitable” and was banned.
“Earth Science” (textbook) was challenged at the Plymouth-Canton school system in Canton, Michigan (1987) because it “teaches the theory of evolution exclusively. It completely avoids any mention of Creationism... [and] the evolutionary propaganda also undermines the parental guidance and teaching the children are receiving at home and from the pulpits.”

“The Education of Herriet Hatfield” by May Sarton was removed from Mascenic Regional High School in New Ipswich, New Hampshire (1995) for homosexual content. The teacher who had purchased these novels for the classroom, with approval by the school superintendent and the principal, was fired. The books were found unsuitable and were banned. The books were seized from the students while they were reading the novels in class.

“The Egypt Game” by Zilpha Keatley Snyder was challenged in Richardson, Texas schools (1995) because it shows children in dangerous situations, condones trespassing and lying to parents and ostensibly teachers about the occult. The school board declined to ban this book, but did decide that parents should be notified when it is used in class.

Oxford University expressly forbade “Essay Concerning Human Understanding” by John Locke to be taught in classrooms (1701).
“Fahrenheit 451” by Ray Bradbury was removed from the required reading list of the West Marion high school in Foxworth, Mississippi (1998) for profanity. Students at the Venado Middle School in Irvine, California (1992) received copies of the book with words deemed to be “offensive” crossed out. Students and parents protested, and after being contacted by the media, school officials agreed to stop using the expurgated copies. Ironically, this book is about book-burning and censorship, with the message that books are banned for fear of creating too much individualism and independent thought.

“Families” by Meredith Tax was removed by the Fairfax, Virginia County school board (1994) for “glorifying divorce and there was a lesbian couple in the book.”

“Fanny Hill” by John Cleland, a 1749 bestseller about the life of a prostitute, was banned in Massachusetts (1821), in what constitutes the first-known U.S. obscenity case. The book was finally cleared of obscenity charges by the U.S. Supreme Court (1966).

“The Figure in the Shadows” by John Bellairs was restricted at the Dysart Unified School District libraries in El Mirage, Arizona (1990) because of two uses of profanity and because of its link to magic.
“Flowers in the Attic” by V. C. Andrews was challenged by a Richmond, Rhode Island high school (1983) because it contains “offensive passages concerning incest and sexual intercourse.”

“Forever” by Judy Blume, a favorite for girls and young teens, has frequently been the target of censors. This story about the sexual awakening of a teenage girl has been challenged since its publication (1975) because it “does not promote abstinence and monogamous relationships.” It was challenged by Midvalley Junior-Senior Scranton, Pennsylvania high school library (1982), Orlando, Florida schools (1982) and Akron, Ohio school district libraries (1983) for using “four-letter words” and for talking about masturbation, birth control and disobedience to parents.

“From Here to Eternity” by James Jones was censored in Holyoke and Springfield, Massachusetts (1951) and in Jersey City, New Jersey (1953). It was also blacklisted by National Organization of Decent Literature (1954) for offensive sexual passages. The offending subject matter included adultery and gonorrhea.

“Go Ask Alice” by Anonymous was removed from the Wall Township, New Jersey Intermediate School library (1993) by the superintendent of schools because the book contains “inappropriate” language and “borders on pornography.”
"The Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck was banned by the St. Louis, Missouri public library (1939) on the grounds that “vulgar words” were used. The library ordered three copies to be burned. It was also banned in Kansas City, Missouri (1939); Kern County, California (1939); and Kanawha, Iowa high school classes (1980). It was challenged in Greenville, South Carolina schools (1991) because the book uses the name of God and Jesus in a “vain and profane manner; along with inappropriate sexual references.”

"The Graphic Work of M.C. Escher" by M.C. Escher was challenged at Mondonado Elementary School in Tucson, Arizona (1994) for “pornographic,” “perverted” and “morbid” themes.

"Grendel" by John C. Gardner was challenged on Douglas, Colorado High School reading lists (1997) because the novel was “too obscene and violent” for high school students.
“The Handmaid’s Tale” by Margaret Atwood was challenged in the Waterloo, Iowa schools (1982) because of profanity, lurid passages about sex, and statements defamatory to minorities, God, women and the disabled. Downgraded from “required” to “optional” on the summer reading list for 11th graders in the Upper Moreland, Penn. School District (2000) due to “age-inappropriate” subject matter.

“The Happy Prince and Other Stories” by Oscar Wilde was challenged at the Springfield, Oregon public library (1988) because the stories were “distressing and morbid.”

“Harriet the Spy” by Louise Fitzhugh, a children’s favorite, was challenged in Ohio school libraries (1983). The claim was the book “teaches children to lie, spy, back-talk, and curse.”

“The House of Spirits” by Isabel Allende was retained on the summer reading lists for honors high school students at the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District, California (2000) despite objections that the book is “immoral and sexually depraved.”
“Howl and Other Poems” by Allen Ginsberg was prohibited in Jacksonville, Florida Forrest High School advanced placement English class (2000) because of descriptions of homosexual acts. The poems led to the arrest of Lawrence Ferlinghetti and the City Lights bookstore manager, Shigeyoshi Murao, on charges of selling obscene material (1957). A judge found him not guilty.

“I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings” by Maya Angelou was challenged quite often due to the poet’s descriptions of being raped as a young girl and because it “preaches bitterness and hatred against whites.” This autobiographical novel dealing with incest has been consistently challenged for containing profanity and pornographic language. The novel was accused by a Texas school of containing “gross evils.”

Officials of the Christian Research center requested San Diego, California (1981) school administrators to keep “In the Beginning: Science Faces God in the Book of Genesis” by Isaac Asimov out of all high school libraries because Asimov “subjects the Bible to merciless and unremitting destructive attack.”

“In the Night Kitchen” by Maurice Sendak has been challenged in numerous states. The contention is that the book “could lay the foundation for future use of pornography.” A Mississippi library expurgated the book by drawing shorts on the nude boy.
U.S. Customs stopped delivery of imported copies (1974) of “Inside the Company: CIA Diary” by Phillip Agee.

“*It*” by Stephen King was challenged at Lincoln, Nebraska school libraries (1987). It was placed on a “closed shelf” at the Franklinville, New York Central High School library (1992).

“*James and the Giant Peach*” by Ronald Dahl was challenged at the Deep Creek Elementary School in Charlotte Harbor, Florida (1991) because it is “not appropriate reading material for young children.” It was challenged at the Pederson Elementary School in Altoona, Wisconsin (1991) and at the Morton Elementary school library in Brooksville, Florida (1992) because the book contains the word “ass” and “promotes” the use of drugs and whiskey. Dahl’s book was also removed from classrooms in Stafford County, Virginia schools (1996) and placed in restricted access in the library because the story contains “crude language” and “encourages children to disobey their parents and other adults.”

“The Joy of Sex” and “More Joy of Sex” by Alex Comfort were confiscated by Lexington police (1978) in accordance with a new county ordinance prohibiting the display of sexually oriented publications in places frequented by minors.
“Lady Chatterley’s Lover” by D. H. Lawrence was banned by U.S. Customs, and was banned in Ireland, Poland, Australia, Japan, Canada, and China. The ban was lifted in the U.S. (1960) and the book went on to sell over two million copies in its first year of publication.

“The Last Mission” by Harry Mazer was removed from the Carroll Middle School library for its scattered “bad words.” The novel, which was named 1979’s New York Times Best Book of the Year, is based on the author’s experiences in the Air Force during World War II.

“The Last of the Wine” by Mary Renault was challenged for references of homosexuality.

“Le Morte D’Arthur” by Sir Thomas Malory was challenged as required reading at the Pulaski County High School in Somerset, Kentucky (1997) because it is “junk.”
The Boston District Attorney demanded expurgation of “Leaves of Grass” by Walt Whitman, an American classic, and threatened criminal prosecution unless his demand was met (1881). According to the prosecutor, the volume of poetry was in need of a few “fig leaves.”

“The Life and Time of Renoir” by Janice Anderson was restricted at the Pulaski, Pennsylvania Elementary School Library (1997) because of nude paintings in the book.

“The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” by C. S. Lewis was challenged in the Howard County, Maryland school system (1990) because it depicts “graphic violence, mysticism and gore.”

“Little House in the Big Woods” by Laura Ingalls Wilder was removed from the classrooms at the Lincoln Unified School District in Stockton, Calif. (1996) because it “promotes racial epithets and is fueling the fire of racism.”
“**Little House on the Prairie**” by Laura Ingalls Wilder was challenged at the Lafourche Parish elementary school libraries in Thibodaux, Louisiana (1993) because the book is “offensive to Indians.” It was banned in the Sturgis, South Dakota elementary school classrooms (1993) due to statements considered derogatory to Native Americans.

“**Little Red Riding Hood**” by Brothers Grimm, a children’s classic, was removed from a California school district on the grounds that Red Riding Hood’s gift of wine to her Grandmother “condones the use of alcohol.”

“**The Lorax**” by Dr. Seuss was challenged in the Laytonville, California Unified School District (1989) because it “criminalizes the foresting industry.”

“**Lord of the Flies**” by William Golding was challenged at the Duval County, Florida public school libraries (1992) because of profanity, lurid passages about sex and statements defamatory to minorities, God, women and the disabled. It was challenged, but retained on the ninth-grade accelerated English reading list in Bloomfield, New York (2000).
"The Lords of Discipline" by Pat Conroy was challenged in the Cobb County, Georgia schools (1992) for profanity and descriptions of sadomasochistic acts. It was removed from an elective English course by the Westonka, Minnesota school board (1992) due to parental complaints about language and sex in the book.

"Lysistrata" by Aristophanes, a classic work that heralds the power of women and sexuality over war, was banned in the U.S. until the Comstock Act passed (1873).

"The Martian Chronicles" by Ray Bradbury was challenged at Haines City, Florida High School (1982) for profanity and the use of God’s name in vain. It was challenged at the Newton-Conover, North Carolina high school (1987) as supplemental reading due to profanity. Bradbury’s book was also challenged at the Gatlinburg-Pittmen, Tennessee high school (1993) due to profanity.

"Maurice" by E. M. Forster was removed from Mascenic Regional High School in New Ipswich, New Hampshire (1995) for homosexual content. The teacher who had purchased these novels for the classroom with approval by the school superintendent and principal was fired. The books were found unsuitable and were banned. The books were seized from the students while they were reading the novels in class.
“Modern Critical Views: James Baldwin” by Harold Bloom was removed in the Southern Columbia School District in Elysburg, Pennsylvania (2000) because of concerns about sexual references and foul language in a single passage.

A tale of a war-torn family living during the American Revolution, “My Brother Sam is Dead” by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier, Newbery Award-winning authors, has been challenged and accused of “violence and profanity.”

“My Friend Flicka” by Mary O’Hara was removed from 5th and 6th grade optional reading lists in Clay County, Florida schools (1990) because the book uses the word “bitch” to refer to a female dog, as well as the word “damn.”

It was only after Henry Miller’s “Tropic of Cancer” was cleared of obscenity charges (1962) that “Naked Lunch” by William Burroughs was published in the United States. The novel was found obscene in Boston (1965); however, the finding was reversed by the State Supreme Court (1966).
“Of Mice and Men” by John Steinbeck was removed from Tennessee public schools (1964) when the School Board Chair promised to remove all “filthy books” from public school curricula and libraries. This classic was also banned from a public school in Ohio (1980).

“On My Honor” by Marion Dane Bauer was challenged in 4th to 6th grade reading classes in Grove City, Pennsylvania (1995) because it was “depressing.” The criteria used to select the Newbery Award-winning book, along with a list of other books that focus on “divorce, death, suicide and defeat” were contested.

“Origin of Species” by Charles Darwin has faced frequent bans in many nations. In Tennessee, a law which prohibited teaching evolution theory was repealed (1967).

Several libraries and librarians throughout the U. S. were harassed and threatened for carrying “Portnoy’s Complaint” by Phillip Roth.
“Raisin in the Sun” by Lorraine Hansberry was restricted by the Ogden, Utah school district (1979) in response to criticism from an anti-pornography organization.

“The Rolling Stone Illustrated History of Rock and Roll” by Charles A. Beard, a Pulitzer Prize winner, was seized and destroyed by New Orleans, Louisanna police (1937).

“The Satanic Verses” by Salman Rushdie was challenged at the Wichita, Kansas public library (1989) because it is “blasphemous to the prophet Mohammed.”
“Secret Spells and Curious Charms” by Monika Beisner was retained by the Salem-Keizer, Oregon school board after complaints that the book was a how-to book for Satanism.

“Slaughterhouse-Five” by Kurt Vonnegut Jr. was burned in Drake, North Dakota (1973). It was banned in Rochester, Michigan because the novel “contains and makes references to religious matters” and thus fell within the ban of the establishment clause. It was challenged at the Owensboro, Kentucky high school library (1985) because of “foul language, a reference to “Magic Fingers” attached to the protagonist’s bed to help him sleep and also because of the sentence: “The gun made a ripping sound like the opening of the fly of God Almighty.”” It was also challenged, but retained on the Round Rock, Texas Independent High School reading list (1996) saying that the book was “too violent.”

“Sleeping Beauty” This established children’s classic was challenged by a Tennessee school district on the grounds that it promotes magic and witchcraft.

“Song of Solomon” by Toni Morrison was challenged but retained in the Columbus, Ohio schools (1993) because the “language was degrading to blacks, and is sexually explicit.” Removed from required reading lists and library shelves in the Richmond County, Georgia school district (1994). Challenged at the St. Johns County Schools in St. Augustine, Florida (1995). Removed from the St. Mary’s County, Maryland schools’ approved text list (1998) by the school superintendent over the objections of the faculty.
“The Stand” by Stephen King was restricted at the Whitford Intermediate School in Beaverton, Oregon (1989) because of “sexual language, casual sex and violence.

A Rhode Island Post Office attempted to block delivery to Brown University of “State and Revolution” by V. I. Lenin on the grounds that the work was “subversive.”

“The Stupids have a Ball” by Harry Allard & James Marshall was challenged in the Iowa City, Iowa elementary school libraries (1993) because the book reinforces negative behavior and low self-esteem.

The Illinois Police Association urged librarians to remove “Sylvester and the Magic Pebble” by William Steig (1977), which portrays its characters as animals, and presents the police as pigs. The American Library Association reported similar complaints in 11 other states.
Although **“Tarzan of the Apes”** by Edgar Rice Burroughs has been enjoyed for generations, it was once removed from the Los Angeles, California public library because Tarzan was “living in sin” with Jane.

**“To Kill a Mockingbird”** by Harper Lee was challenged and temporarily banned in Eden Valley, Minnesota (1977). It was challenged at the Warren Independent Township schools (1981) because the book “represents institutionalized racism under the guise of good literature.” After unsuccessfully banning the novel, three parents resigned the township human relations advisory council. It was also banned in Lindale, Texas from the advanced placement English reading list (1996) because the book “conflicted with the values of the community.” This novel has been repeatedly challenged and banned in numerous states on the grounds that it “contains profanity and racial slurs.”

**“Tropic of Cancer”** by Henry Miller, now considered an American classic, was banned as obscene in the U.S. for 27 years after its first publication in Paris in 1934. The ban was not lifted until 1961, although the work was still deemed “obscene” by the Citizens for Decent Literature.

**“Twelfth Night”** by William Shakespeare was removed from a Merrimack, New Hampshire high school English class (1996) because of a policy that bans instruction which has “the effect of encouraging or supporting homosexuality as a positive lifestyle alternative.”
The U.S. Customs Office banned the importation of “Ulysses” by James Joyce for 16 years on the grounds that it was “obscene.” Chapters published in the Little Review were burned by the U.S. Post Office (1918). The ACLU won a major legal victory that forced the U.S. Customs Service to lift its ban (1933).

“Uncle Tom’s Cabin” by Harriet Beecher Stowe was challenged in the Waukegan, Illinois school district (1984) because the novel contains the word “nigger.”

“View from Another Closet” by Janet Bode was challenged at the Niles, Michigan community library (1982) because the book is “a deviant attempt to recruit our young people into the homosexual lifestyle.”

“Waco: The Davidian Massacre” by Carol Moore challenges the government’s version of events at Waco, Texas. A public library refused to carry the book stating the reason was that the book was privately published.
A teacher was dismissed for assigning “Welcome to the Monkey House” by Kurt Vonnegut Junior, a collection of short stories, to her 11th grade English class. The book was controversial because it promoted “the killing off of elderly people and free sex.” The teacher brought suit and won in Parducci v. Rutland, 316 F.Supp.352, (1970).

“When Legends Die” by Hal Borland was removed from the Lincoln County, Wyoming high school curriculum (1995) because of “considerable obscenities.” The parent complained that there were 57 swear words in 40 consecutive pages.

“Where the Sidewalk Ends” by Shel Silverstein was challenged at the West Allis-West Milwaukee, Wisconsin school libraries (1986) because the book “suggests drug use, the occult, suicide, death, violence, disrespect for truth, disrespect for legitimate authority, rebellion against parents.” It was challenged at the Central Columbia School District in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania (1993) because a poem entitled “Dreadful” talks about how “someone ate the baby.”

“Where’s Waldo?” by Martin Handford was challenged at the public libraries of Saginaw, Michigan (1989) on the grounds that “on some of the pages there are dirty things.” It was removed from the Springs Public School library in East Hampton, New York (1993) because there is a tiny drawing of a woman lying on the beach wearing a bikini bottom but no top. Although most of us are searching for Waldo among the crowd in the illustrations of this book, some readers have discovered something else entirely.
Would-be censors got their way in their demands to remove "Women on Top" by Nancy Friday from the Chestatee Public Library in Gainesville (Hall County), Georgia. Before a final vote was taken by the library board on the fate of the book, it was borrowed and "accidentally" destroyed. The board voted not to replace it.

"Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle, winner of a Newbery Award, was challenged at a Polk City, Florida elementary school (1985) by a parent who believed that the story "promotes witchcraft, crystal balls and demons." It was challenged in the Anniston, Alabama schools (1990) because of the book's listing the name of Jesus Christ together with the names of great artists, philosophers, scientists and religious leaders when referring to those who defend earth against evil. It has been challenged for "sending a mixed signal about good and evil."

"The Witches of Worm" by Zilpha Keatley Snyder was challenged at the Hays, Kansas public library (1989) because it "could lead young readers to embrace Satanism." The Newbery Award-winning book was retained on the approved reading list at Mathew Henson Middle School in Waldorf, Maryland (1991) despite objection to its references to the occult.

"Zen Buddhism: Selected Writings" by D.T. Suzuki was challenged at the Plymouth-Canton, Michigan school system (1987) because "this book details the teachings of the religion of Buddhism in such a way tat the reader could very likely embrace its teachings and choose this as is religion."