



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

Ad Hoc Challenge Materials Committee Meeting

April 19, 2022

2:00 PM

Curriculum Resource Room

AGENDA

- Review of Challenge to Instructional and/or Media Materials Process
- Challenged Materials
 - Beloved by T. Morrison
 - George by A. Gino
- Good of the Order

BOARD MEMBERS: DEBBIE JORDAN, CHAIR, DISTRICT 4 | MARY FISCHER, VICE CHAIR, DISTRICT 1

MELISA W. GIOVANNELLI, DISTRICT 2 | CHRIS N. PATRICCA, DISTRICT 3 | GWYNETTA S. GITTENS, DISTRICT 5 | BETSY VAUGHN, DISTRICT 6
CATHLEEN O'DANIEL MORGAN, DISTRICT 7 | KENNETH A. SAVAGE, Ed.D., SUPERINTENDENT | KATHY DUPUY-BRUNO, ESQ., BOARD ATTORNEY



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

Committee Response Challenge to Instructional and/or Media Materials

Committee Meeting Date: April 19, 2022

Date Challenge to Instruction and/or Media Materials Form Received: Per Ad Hoc committee, a recommendation was made January 24, 2022, to review the email from [REDACTED] (sent 10/14/21) with a list of materials, reviewed by the Florida Citizens Alliance, based upon citation of objections referencing violation of State Statute FS 847.012. No form was officially submitted for individual books.

NOTE: To be in compliance with Board Policies, complainant submitted a Challenge Form. See pages 4-6 of this response document.

Submitted by: [REDACTED]

Challenged Material: Beloved by: Toni Morrison

Complainant: Book is being challenged per FS 847.012.

Decision:

- Recommend continued use of challenged material as instructional materials and for media circulation
- Recommend continued use for media circulation only
- Recommend continued use for instructional purposes only
- Recommend continued use of challenged material with the following guidelines:
This book appears on novel and assessment lists for several advanced courses (Advanced Placement, AICE Cambridge, and International Baccalaureate). AP courses require College Board approval of teacher syllabi. Parents reserve the right to request alternate assignments. Teachers of advanced courses are required to obtain parental permission prior to utilizing this book for instruction. This book is approved for media circulation only at school sites serving 9th – 12th grade students with the use in Advanced Courses.



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- Recommend to discontinue use of challenged material during instruction and remove from media circulation

Additional Comments and/or Notes:

Parents may exercise their parental rights within the Parent Bill of Rights and submit an individual request to their child's school for an alert to be placed on the child's Destiny account, identifying the book as prohibited for media checkout.

Voting Committee Members in Attendance:

Director of Elementary School Curriculum & Instruction

Director of Middle School Curriculum & Instruction

Director of High School Curriculum & Instruction

Elementary Coordinator of English Language Arts

Secondary Coordinator of English Language Arts

School-based Administrator Representative Elementary

School-based Administrator Representative Secondary

School-based Media Representative

Non-Voting Committee Members in Attendance:

Coordinator for Instructional Technology and Instructional Materials - Facilitator

Content Specialist for Instructional Technology and Instructional Materials - Recorder



Challenge to Instructional and/or Media Material

School or District: Lee County Public Schools Date: June 15, 2022

Please check type of instructional material:

Book: _____ AV (Video, CD, etc.): _____ Other (Identify): _____

Title: Beloved

Author: T. Morrison

Publisher or Producer: _____

Request initiated by name: [Redacted]

Student Name: N/A

Telephone Address: [Redacted]

City: [Redacted] State: [Redacted] Zip Code: [Redacted]

It is expected that the material in question has been read, viewed, or listened to in its entirety. Please complete the following questions. If insufficient space is provided, attach additional sheets.

(Please sign your name to each additional attachment)

1. What brought this material to your attention? Public Records Request

2. Did you examine the entire material? No If not, what parts did you examine? Selected Excerpts

3. To what in the material do you object? (Please be specific. Cite pages, film sequence, etc.)
See Attached Report.

4. What do you believe is the theme or purpose of this material?
Slavery

5. What do you feel might be the result of a student using this material?
I do not know, but the references to bestiality are not appropriate in school.

6. For what age group would you recommend this material? 18+

7. In your opinion, is there anything of value in this material?
Yes, but not for all families.

8. Have you read any critical reviews of this material? If so, what? Please be specific. No

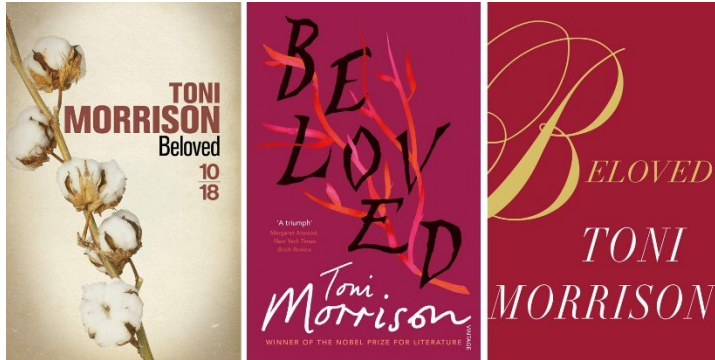
9. What would you like the school or district to do about this material? Check your choice.
 Do not assign it to my child
 Other (Please explain) Tag the book to alert the parent to the potential objectionable nature of the book.

[Redacted Signature] June 22, 2022

Signature of Objector

Date (M/D/Y)

Please submit to the school principal for review.



6 on the FLCA Report

Beloved by Toni Morrison

Pg. 10 They were young and so sick with the absence of women they had taken to calves. Yet they let the iron-eyed girl be, so she could choose in spite of the fact that each one would have beaten the others to rush to have her. It took her a year to choose—a long tough year of thrashing on pallets eaten up with dreams of her. A year of yearning, when rape seemed the solitary gift of life

Pg. 11 All in their twenties, minus women, fucking cows, dreaming of rape, thrashing on pallets, rubbing their thighs and wanting for the new girl

Pg. 20 by the certainty of giving her his sex, Paul D dropped twenty-five years from his recent memory. A stair step before him was Baby Suggs' replacement, the new girl they dreamed of at night and fucked cows for at dawn while waiting for her to choose

Pg. 26 The jump, thought Paul D, from a calf to a girl wasn't all that mighty. Not the leap Halle believe it would be. And taking her in corn rather than her quarters, a yard away from the cabins of others who had lost out, was a gesture of tenderness. Halle wanted privacy for her and got public display. Who could miss a ripple in a cornfield on a quite cloudless day? He, Six and both of the Pauls sat under Brother pouring water from a gourd over their heads, and through eyes steaming with well water, they watched the confusion of tassels in the field below. It was hard, hard, hard sitting there erect as dogs, watching stalks dance at noon

Pg. 107-108 Breakfast? Want some breakfast, nigger?" "Yes. Sir." "Hungry, nigger?" "Yes, sir." "Here you go." Occasionally a kneeling man chose gunshot in his head as the price, maybe, of taking a bit of foreskin with him to Jesus. Paul D did not know that then. He was looking at his palsied hands, smelling the guard, listening to his soft grunts so like the doves', as he stood before the man kneeling in mist on his right. Convinced he was next, Paul D retched—vomiting up nothing at all. An observing guard smashed his shoulder with the rifle and the engaged one

decided to skip the new man for the time being lest his pants and shoes got soiled by nigger puke

Pg. 116-117 "I want you to touch me on the inside part and call my name." Paul D never worried about his little tobacco tin anymore. It was rusted shut. So, while she hoisted her skirts and turned her head over her shoulder the way the turtles had, he just looked at the lard can, silvery in the moonlight, and spoke quietly. "When good people take you in and treat you good, you ought to try to be good back. You don't... Se the loves you. Much as her own daughter. You know that." Beloved dropped her skirts as he spoke and looked at him with empty eyes. She took a step he could not hear and stood close behind him. "She don't love me like I love her. I don't love nobody but her." "Then what you come in here for?" "I want you to touch me on the inside part." "Go on back in that house and get to bed." "You have to touch me. On the inside part. And you have to call me my name."