



## THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

### Ad Hoc Challenge Materials Committee Meeting

February 3, 2022

8:30 AM

ZOOM

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## AGENDA

- Review of Challenge to Instructional and/or Media Materials Process
- Challenged Materials
  - And Tango Makes Three
  - The Bluest Eye
  - The Hate U Give
- Good of the Order



## THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

## Committee Response Challenge to Instructional and/or Media Materials

**Committee Meeting Date:** February 3, 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 letter from [REDACTED] (sent 10/25/21) with a list of materials based upon his 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 5-8 of this response document.***

**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]

**Challenged Material:** The Bluest Eye

**Complainant:** Book is being challenged per FS 847.001 (para 3, 6, 8, 10), FS 847.012 (para 3a, 3b, 5, 6) dissemination of this pornographic requires a third-degree felony charge.

### 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 the College Board's list of Advanced Placement assessment material. 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 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- Recommend to discontinue use of challenged material during instruction and remove from media circulation



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### **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.



## THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

### Voting Committee Members in Attendance:

Director of Elementary School Curriculum & Instruction

Director of High School Curriculum & Instruction

Secondary Coordinator of English Language Arts

School-based Administrator Representative

Diversity & Inclusion Representative

School-based Media Representative

Curriculum Advisory Representative

### Non-Voting Committee Members in Attendance:

Coordinator for Instructional Technology and Instructional Materials - Facilitator



# 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: The Bluest Eye

Author: Toni 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 Word Doc.

4. What do you believe is the theme or purpose of this material?  
The intent may be literary, but the result is exposure to graphic sexual situations not appropriate for all students.

5. What do you feel might be the result of a student using this material?  
Various results depending on the student and family.

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

7. In your opinion, is there anything of value in this material?  
If this were "rated" the rating would be based on the most graphic portion/content making it all inappropriate.

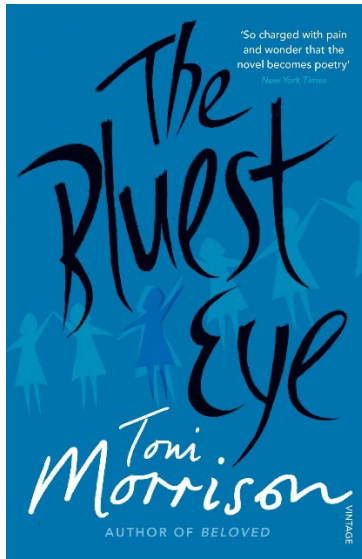
8. Have you read any critical reviews of this material? If so, what? Please be specific. No

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 of Objector

6-15-2022  
Date (M/D/Y)

**Please submit to the school principal for review.**



## 5 on the FLCA Report

The Bluest Eye is the story of a young African American girl and her family who are affected by the dominant white culture and is written by Toni Morrison.

Pg. 84, Nor do they know that she will give him her body sparingly and partially. He must enter her surreptitiously, lifting the hem of her night gown only to her navel. He must rest his weight on his elbows when they make love, ostensibly to avoid hurting her breasts but actually to keep her from having to touch or feel too much of him. While he moves inside her, .....that she will remain dry between her legs—she hates the clucking sound they make when she is moist. When she senses some spasm about to grip him, she will make rapid movements with her hips, press her fingernails into his back, suck in her breath, and pretend she is having an orgasm. She might wonder again, for the six hundredth time, what it would be like to have that feeling while her husband's penis is inside her. The closest thing to it was the time she was walking down the street and her napkin slipped free of her sanitary belt. It moved gently between her legs as she walked. Gently, ever so gently. And then a slight and distinctly delicious sensation collected in her crotch. As the delight grew, she had to stop in the street, hold her thighs together to contain it. That must be what it is like, she thinks, but it never happens while he is inside her. When he withdraws, she pulls her nightgown down, slips out of the bed and into the bathroom with relief.

Pg. 130, Then he will lean his head down and bite my tit. Then I don't want him to rub my stomach anymore. I want him to put his hand between my legs. I pretend to wake up, and turn to him, but not opening my legs. I want him to open them for me. He does, and I be and wet where his fingers are strong and hard. I be softer than I ever been before. Then I don't want his hand between my legs no more, because I think I am softening away. I stretch my legs open, and he is on top of me. Too heavy to hold, and too light not to. He puts his thing in me. In me. In me. I wrap my feet around his back so he can't get away. I know he wants me to come first. But I can't. Not until he does. Not until I feel him loving me. Just me. Sinking into me. Not until I

know, that my flesh is all that b on his mind. That he couldn't stop of he had to. That he would die rather than take his thing out of me. Of me. Not until he haslet go of all he has, and give it to me .Now I be strong enough, pretty enough, and young enough to let him make me come. Then I feel like I'm laughing between my legs, and the laughing gets all mixed up with the colors, and I'm afraid I'll come, and afraid I won't. But I know I will. And I do. And it be rainbow all inside. Most times he's thrashing away inside me before I'm woke, and through when I am.

Pg. 147, They were on top of each other in a moment. She corkscrewing her hands into his cloths. Here turning the play, digging into the neck of her dress, and then under her dress. When he got his hand in her bloomers, she suddenly stopped laughing and looked serious. Cholly, frightened, was about to take his hand away, but she held his wrist so he couldn't move it. He examined her then with his fingers, and she kissed his face and mouth. Cholly found her muscadine-lipped mouth distracting. Darlene released his head, shifted her body, and pull down her pants. After some trouble with the buttons, Cholly dropped his pants down tohis knees. Their bodies began to make sense to him, and it was not as difficult as he had thought it would be. She moaned a little, but the excitement collecting inside him made him close his eyes and regard her moans as no more than pine sighs over his head. Just as he felt an explosion threaten, Darlene froze and cried out.

Pg. 162, The confused mixture of his memories of Pauline and the doing of a wild and forbidden thing excited him, and a bolt of desire ran down his genitals, giving it length, and softening the lips of his anus. Surrounding all of this lust was a border of politeness. He wanted to fuck her—tenderly. But the tenderness would not hold. The tightness of her vagina was more than he could bear. His soul seemed to slip down to his guts and fly out into her, and the gigantic thrust he made into her then provoked the only sound she made—a hollow suck of air in the back of her throat. Removing himself from her was so painful to him he cut it short and snatched his genitals out of the dry harbor of her vagina. So when the child regained consciousness, she was lying on the kitchen floor under a heavy quilt, trying to connect the pain between her legs with the face of her mother looming over her.

Pg. 166, He could have been an active homosexual but locked the courage. Bestially did not occur to him, and sodomy was quite out of the question, for he did not experience sustained erections and could not endure the thought of somebody else's. And besides, the one thing that disgusted him more than entering and caressing a woman was caressing and being caressed by a man. His attentions therefore gradually settled on those humans whose bodies were least offensive—children. He further limited his interests to little girls.

Pg. 181, Why do I have to die? The little girls. The little girls are the only things I'll miss. Do you know that when I touched their sturdy little tits and bit them—just a little—I felt I was being friendly? I didn't want to kiss their mouths or sleep in the bed with them or take a child bride for my own. Playful, I felt, and friendly. Not like the newspapers said. Not like the people whispered. And they didn't mind at all. Not at all. Remember how so many of them came back? No one would even try to understand that. If I'd been hurting them, would they have come back? No one would even try to understand that. If I'd been hurting them, would they have

come back? Two of them, Doreen and Sugar Babe, they'd come together. I gave them mints, money, and they'd eat ice cream with their legs wide open while I played with them. It was like a party. And there wasn't nastiness, and there wasn't any filth, and there wasn't an odor, and there wasn't any groaning--just the light white laughter of little girls and me. With little girls it is all clean and good and friendly.