



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

Challenge to Instructional and/or Media Materials Response

Date Challenge to Instruction and/or Media Materials Form Received: July 5, 2023

Submitted by: [REDACTED]

Challenged Material: Crank by Ellen Hopkins

Complainant: See pages 3 – 9 of this response document.

Reviewed by:

- Director(s) of Curriculum: Director of High School Curriculum & Instruction
- Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Date: _____

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:

- Recommend discontinuing use of challenged material during instruction and remove from media circulation.

Rationale for Decision and/or Additional Notes:

This book is being discontinued for use due to content which *(II) depicts or describes sexual conduct as defined in [F.S. §847.001\(19\)](#); per [House Bill 1069](#). Examples of this content are as follows:*

- “It was gentle persuasion. I can’t get enough of you. Sweetest coercion. My beautiful angel. Magnet to metal. I’ve got to have all of you. It was hands, exploring taboo places. Oh, God! You’re perfect! Lips and tongue, not far behind. Let me eat you up. Skin to skin, belly to shoulder. Sweet as puddin’. It was body rush after body rush, intensity building. Touch me there. Hot flush, raging blush, quick-start ignition. Show how much I need you? Ice flash, instant crash, voices outside the door. No! Don’t stop now!” (Hopkins, 96-97).
- “Hands covered my mouth, rough, held my arms, strong, ripped, my clothes, vicious. Fear danced up my spine, jolted my brain, dripped onto the ground. No! I screamed into dirty flesh. Not this way. Buttons burst, zippers opened, I closed my eyes, braced for pain.” (Hopkins, 114-115).

- "...I've waited for weeks. Put up and shut up. Kisses segued to bites. Bruises. Pain rippled through my body. 'Brendan, please stop.' No. You promised, you damn little tease. Off came my shorts. Down went his zipper. I realized I was in serious trouble. 'I'll scream.' Go ahead. No one can hear but skunks and coyotes. Still, as I opened my mouth, his hand slapped down over it. Those sublime muscles hardened." (Hopkins, 341).
- "Just relax. You'll love it. My brand-new Victoria's Secrets shredded, and I felt the worse of Brendan pause, savoring my terror. They all love it. Had he done it a different way, I might have responded with excitement. Instead, I froze as he pushed inside. There it is. Oh, God. There it goes. It went, all right, with an audible tear. Pain mushroomed into agony and all I could do was go stiff. You weren't lying, you bitch! I laid there, sobbing, as he worked and sweated over me. Stoked by the monster, it took him a long time to finish. Give me a line, I'll give you an encore. He pulled away, sticky and bloody. Throbbing inside and out, I didn't move, didn't dare look him in the eye. What the hell is the matter, Bree? I stared up at the clouds, gathering into gloom, shrouding the moon. 'My name is Kristina.'" (Hopkins, 342-343)

Based upon the examples provided above, *Crank* will be removed from media circulation and is not considered suitable for instructional purposes. All impacted schools will remove *Crank* by Ellen Hopkins from their Destiny and OverDrive accounts. In addition, this book will no longer be approved for future purchase.



Challenge to Instructional and/or Media Material

School or District: NORTH FORT MYERS HIGH SCHOOL

Date: JUNE 30, 2023

Please check type of instructional material:

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

Title: CRANK

Author: ELLEN HOPKINS

Publisher or Producer: _____

Request initiated by name: _____

Student Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Telephone Address: _____

City: _____ State: FLORIDA Zip Code: _____

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? A SEARCH OF THE AUTHOR'S NAME IN THE SCHOOL'S DIGITAL LIBRARY
2. Did you examine the entire material? NO If not, what parts did you examine? PGS 67-69, 85-89, 92, 94-96, 99, 101, 02, 104, 113-14, 129, 138, 161, 163, 264-66, 268-69, 274, 278, 305, 308, 310, 312, 315, 337, 339-41, 344, 352, 378-79, 401-04, 412, 437, 439, 485, 490, 502-03
3. To what in the material do you object? (Please be specific. Cite pages, film sequence, etc.) THIS BOOK CONTAINS EXPLICIT SEXUAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SEXUAL BATTERY; PROFANITY; AND DRUG ABUSE. IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO EXPOSE MINOR CHILDREN TO THIS CONTENT.
4. What do you believe is the theme or purpose of this material? THE THEME AND/OR PURPOSE OF THIS MATERIAL IS IRRELEVANT BECAUSE IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO EXPOSE MINOR CHILDREN TO SEXUAL CONTENT LIKE THIS BOOK DOES
5. What do you feel might be the result of a student using this material? WHAT I FEEL IS IRRELEVANT BECAUSE IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO EXPOSE MINOR CHILDREN TO SEXUAL CONTENT LIKE THIS BOOK DOES
6. For what age group would you recommend this material? THE AGE GROUP THAT I WOULD RECOMMEND IS IRRELEVANT BECAUSE IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO EXPOSE MINOR CHILDREN TO SEXUAL CONTENT LIKE THIS BOOK DOES
7. In your opinion, is there anything of value in this material? WHETHER OR NOT I BELIEVE THIS BOOK CONTAINS ANYTHING OF VALUE IS IRRELEVANT BECAUSE IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO EXPOSE MINOR CHILDREN TO SEXUAL CONTENT LIKE THIS BOOK DOES
8. Have you read any critical reviews of this material? If so, what? Please be specific. WHETHER OR NOT I'VE READ ANY CRITICAL REVIEWS IS IRRELEVANT BECAUSE IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO EXPOSE MINOR CHILDREN TO SEXUAL CONTENT LIKE THIS BOOK DOES
9. What would you like the school or district to do about this material? Check your choice.

() Do not assign it to my child

(X) Other (Please explain) IMMEDIATELY REMOVE THE ILLEGAL CONTENT FROM EVERY SCHOOL LIBRARY

Signature of Objector

Date (M/D/Y)

6/30/23

Please submit to the school principal for review.

Page	Content
67	Been smokin' pot since I was 13, couldn't quit if I tried. ...The white stuff was a different story. He'd stay up all night, eating zip, bowling and snorting line after line. Rent money, right up the nose.
68	We used to do coke, till "Just Say No" put the stuff out of reach. Now it's crank. Meth. The Monster. It's a bitch on the body but damn do you fly.
69	You fly until you crash
85	So when he asked about getting high, I didn't think, I agreed. We smoked some good California green. Took three tries to put me in the place he said I should be. ...I wanted to meet the monster. Why go down if you can go up? Sleepy. Not "high" at all, but real low. And real slow.
86	Some good green bud around. You're gonna love it. You'll see ...Like magic, a mirror and razor blade appeared.
87	I watched him pour powder, yellowish-white. It will take you to heaven. Used the blade to chop the chunks fine, draw two crooked lines. Make you want to fly all night. He held the mirror to my face, handed me a saw toothed straw. Make you want to make love to me.
88	You start to climb crank-crank-crank
89	...that's exactly how it feels when you shake hands with the monster.
92	...he says, Tell me how you feel. So you can't stand it one more second, and you, your eyes, daring him to kiss you. So he does, and it's electric, high voltage, stun-gun strength desire jolting sinew and bone. And he asks, How 'bout another line?
94	If a Little's Good more must be great right?
95	...everything off, nothing left to chance, all the wway in?
96	Because it wasn't that it was gentle persuasion. I can't get enough of you. Sweetest coercion. Let me eat you up. Skin to skin, belly to shoulder. Sweet as puddin'. It was body rush after body rush, intensity building. Touch me there. Hot flush, raging blush, quick-start ignition. See how much I need you? Ice flash, instant crash, voices outside the door. No! Don't stop now! ...I've got to have all of you.

Page	Content
	<p>It was hands, exploring taboo places. Oh, God! You're perfect! Lips and tongue, not far behind.</p>
99	<p>We were busted. I was busted. And I didn't give a damn</p>
101	<p>Wha' the fuck you up to, Buddy? ...You two been messing' around? ...Okay then. Fix me a line.</p>
102	<p>Like an idiot I took one too. ...there I was, snorting crank with my dad, boyfriend, and his other girlfriend.</p>
104	<p>Whoa, baby. Keep it in your pants, at least. Till I take it out of them.</p>
113	<p>Yo, I think this bitch has been crankin'. That was license enough. Bodies bumped, pushed me into a doorway, blocked Ever done a three-fer?</p>
114	<p>Hands covered my mouth, rough, held my arms, strong tore my clothes, vicious. Fear danced up my spine, jolted my brain, dripped onto the ground. No! I screamed into dirty flesh. Not this way! Buttons burst, zippers opened, I closed my eyes, braced for pain.</p>
129	<p>Somewhere between the transvestite who slapped (her?) mother's boyfriend and the perky blond (transvestite?) evening weathergirl.</p>
138	<p>The monster rose up hard then, hard in her She looked like an animal, crazy mad, diseased Spit in every word, she swore she'd get back at you, at me. ...Crankin', they said, and she was. Oh, yes, she was.</p>
161	<p>He pulled a bindle from his pocket, tapped the sparkly powder inside. Cooked up fresh yesterday. ...That's my girl. Let's forget the bullshit and fly.</p>
163	<p>Adam took me in his arms kisses melting hurt, forgotten ice Unhurried hands lifted my shirt Pump. Pump. Pump. Passion rose up in my heart and a bit farther south The monster-fueled inferno built thigh to belly button Adam's mouth moved lower, inch by trembling inch I was ready to do it oh, so ready. Right that very instant.</p>
264	<p>You really wanna piss her off, try a piercing. Want to see mine? I couldn't find studs in his ears, lips, or tongue, which pretty much left one place. "Didn't it hurt?" Like a mother. But it feels awesome now. He guided my hand south of his zipper. ...Bree was Bree, to Chase's great pleasure. ...So want to take a little ride? Got my truck outside.</p>
265	<p>I've got a little toot, if you're so inclined.</p>
266	<p>I mean I'd thought about the monster dreamed about the monster lusted for the monster</p>

Page	Content
	<p>regretted knowing the monster but I hadn't touched the monster...in over a month. Hadn't even seen it. ...No mirrors, no blades, Chase reached deep inside a pocket, withdrew an amber bottle and a tiny spoon attached to the lid. He set it on his knee.</p>
268	<p>It was the monster desire that made me tremble. Chase noticed.</p>
269	<p>One spoon. I was cool. Two, I was too cool. Three, sub-Arctic. Four, my mouth hit monster mode. Chase could barely keep up.</p>
274	<p>Talk about your strange bedfellows. I was in line for that menage a trois.</p>
278	<p>Two guys in one day? Almost too much to consider, although Bree found the prospect quite intriguing.</p>
305	<p>...pot made you buddy up with Satan... ...Far fuckin' out! Beer's in back.</p>
308	<p>Pot smoke hung, a skunky green curtain, but I didn't want to fall low so I indulged in another big snort before inhaling a couple of tiny tokes mostly to satisfy the incredible urge to pollute my lungs. I topped that off with Marlboro, landing on just about the perfect plane, just about the place I wanted to be. Not too speedy, not even close to straight falling into the yo-yo rhythm of crank, pot, beer, tobacco, the sensational motion and emotion, up and down</p>
310	<p>As he pulled me onto his lap, I wondered if I should confess my double identity. Instead, I let him kiss me. Hard. Hot. Oh, man. I'm hot. He shed his shirt and the moon revealed perfect, tanned muscles. He started to unbutton mine, silencing my protest. Shhh. Don't say no. "I can't. I mean, I never..." Crank-enhanced goosebumps lifted as he moved his hands gently across my skin. "Stop." You know you want to. "I do, Brendan, I really do. But I can't. It's the wrong time of the month." I'd decked him. He slapped back. Then, why did you call? I let Bree answer. "Not to get laid, incredible as you are. Is that all you think I'm about? What if I told you I'm a virgin?" I'd call you a liar.</p>
312	<p>Brendan softened immediately, offered to forgive me if only I promised to let him be the first. ...I said okay, then proceeded to thank him as only Bree- and the monster- could.</p>
315	<p>High For two days, too much crank, no sleep, liquid diet.</p>
337	<p>Called Brendan for a date and asked him to make a buy. "Can you get me an eight ball? Figured an eighth of an ounce would last awhile. It cost me \$250, which I was saving to buy my first car.</p>
339	<p>...the voice of my virginity nagged, the lure of the monster was stronger. Besides, I could always say "no."</p>

Page	Content
	<p>Couldn't I? ...As we drove up the mountains, his hand crept up my leg. I let it do exactly that as I watched for a safe spot to pull over. We drove back off the highway, and into a grove of fresh-scented evergreens.</p>
340	<p>He pulled out a bindle, which looked a bit short, and a six-pack of beer. For the next twenty minutes, we snorted and drank, climbing to a very tall buzz.</p>
341	<p>It started with a kiss crank-revved, pistons firing full bore, passion firecracked in tiny bursts from thigh to belly button. Oh, baby. I want you so bad! "B-b-bad to the bone?" We laughed, but it wasn't alright. Not for long. My shirt tore open. "Wait." I've waited for weeks. Put up and shut up. Kissed segued to bites. Bruises. Pain rippled through my body. "Brendan, please stop." No. You promised, You damn little tease. Off came my shorts. Down went his zipper. I realized I was in serious trouble. "I'll scream." Go ahead. No one can hear but skunks and coyotes. Still, as I opened my mouth, his hand slapped down on it. Those sublime muscles hardened. Just relax. You'll love it. My brand-new Victoria's Secrets shredded, and I felt the worst of Brendan pause, savoring my terror. They all love it. Had he done it a different way, I might have responded with excitement. Instead, I froze as he pushed inside. There it is. Oh, God. There it goes. It went, all right, with an audible tear. Pain mushroomed into agony and all I could do was go stiff. You weren't lying, you bitch! I laid there, sobbing, as he worked and sweated over me. Stoked by the monster, it took him a long time to finish. Give me a line, I'll give you an encore. He pulled away sticky and bloody. Throbbing inside and out, I didn't move, didn't dare look him in the eye. What the hell is the matter, Bree? I stared up at the clouds, gathering into gloom, shutting out the moon.</p>
344	<p>It was Bree who got me to my feet helped me to the car put me on the seat kept me semiupright on the long ride home Bree, who staunched the blood straightened up my clothes unsmeared my makeup brushed my hair smooth</p>

Page	Content
	willed strength against the aching claiming body and soul Bree, who understood that, wasted on crank, there was nothing I could do but plot future revenge.
352	I've got two boyfriends. One is too busy trying to keep me out of trouble. The other just raped in I think it was rape, anyway. Can you define the word for me? Oops I'm sounding bitter. Better close now. I need to cry. (Maybe you didn't want to hear that.)
378	Don't tell me your still snorting. Have you ever tried smoking it? She was the first to even suggest it. Robyn the Reno High cheerleader proceeded to show me a whole new way to get down with the monster.
379	Robyn produced a V of crusty foil, tapped in the crumbs of powder. This little bit will right to your brain and won't clog your sinuses.
401	Can't rape the willing. "That's what I've heard." I turned to his side. "How about you? Are you willing?"
402	I started crankin' to keep up with schoolwork around gymnastics, cheerleading, student body council, and other extracurricular crap.
402	When I told him to stop, he said, "It's a long way back even if you don't get lost. Anyway we both know what kind of a girl you are." That stung, but not much.
403	All I could do was more crank so maybe I could halfway enjoy it. I was dirty. ...after he started, he got mean. He did things to me- terrible things, I've still got the scars- things no sane person would ever do. Of course he wasn't exactly sane. Afterward, neither was I.
404	...coaxing myself mostly awake with a whiff of white.
412	How to get high and stay that way? (Coming down was a bitch and a half.) Finding crank wasn't difficult. Most of my new crowd knew someone who dealt (or knew someone who knew someone who did).
437	I Don't know whose blade it was, whose idea it was. I don't remember saying yes. I know I didn't say no. The knife was sharp. One nick at my wrist. It didn't even hurt. It didn't seem wrong. Rust in my mouth. Rich red salt. I drank it down, asked for more. Offered my own to those who would partake. Fever. Fire. I was on fire.

Page	Content
439	<p>"Make love to me. Please? I don't care who sees." He might have. But just then his watch beeped "two." No way. Come on, let's go!</p>
485	<p>Finally, I went to the pay phone and made two calls. One to Planned Parenthood. The other to Chase.</p>
490	<p>I Already knew my options I listened patiently as the saccharine Ms. Sweetwater outlined them again. She did confirm that should I choose abortion, my parents would not have to know. All I needed was \$500 and someone to drive me home.</p>
502	<p>The bitch queen? What would I tell her now? That I was pregnant? That I was pregnant because I was raped? That I was raped because I would have done anything for just one more taste of the monster?</p>
503	<p>Where would I find such nerve without crank to put in my mouth?</p>