

Intellectual Freedom Resources

[National Council of Teachers of English \(NCTE\) Intellectual Freedom Center](#)

This link has a variety of resources. I'll include some below that I think might be particularly relevant, but please check out all that is available beyond what is linked here.

- [Position Statements \(Including Students' Right to Read\)](#)
 - These position statements can help you with supporting intellectual freedom in your classroom, library, school, and/or district.
- [Blog](#)
 - This blog provides information about various topics relevant to intellectual freedom/anti-censorship.
- [Book Rationales](#)
 - NCTE has over 1,300 book rationales for members. These rationales include various justifications for using a particular book in the classroom, professional support for the book, as well as alternate books that could be used if a student's parents/guardians request for them to read something else.
- [Report Censorship Form](#)
 - NCTE uses this form to keep track of censorship and provide advice or other support to people facing book or curricular challenges.

[American Library Association \(ALA\) Banned and Challenged Books](#)

This link has multiple resources, including information about banned and challenged books. I'll share a few that I think might help you at your school.

- [Book Resumes](#)
 - These are similar in some ways to NCTE's book rationales, but they are not as extensive. If you don't find a book on one list, you may find it on another.
- [Report Censorship Form](#)
 - This links to a form you can use to report a book challenge or ban. I encourage you to report these so that ALA and/or NCTE or other organizations can better know what is happening around the country and help advocate for intellectual freedom.
- [Fight Censorship Resources](#)
 - There are financial, legal, and other types of support for challenges. I encourage you to look through all of the resources available, especially the resources under "Be Prepared."
- [Unite Against Book Bans](#)
 - This is part of ALA and is focused on helping people fight book bans. I will highlight a couple of resources on this site.
 - [Action Toolkit](#)
 - This toolkit provides information about organizing, talking points, creating petitions, and more.
 - [News and Updates](#)

[National Coalition Against Censorship](#)

The National Coalition Against Censorship (NCAC) is an organization dedicated to fighting for intellectual freedom. They have numerous resources. I will highlight a few below.

- [School Book Challenge Resource Center](#)
 - This has a variety of resources for navigating book challenges at schools. They provide a definition of censorship as well as ways to advocate for books. This section has sample student and parent letters, links to legal advice, and more.
- [Report Censorship](#)
 - I encourage you to use this form to report censorship. This organization can provide support.
- [Resources for Teachers, Parents, and School Officials](#)
 - Some of the resources include guides to the First Amendment in schools, policy development guidelines, free speech in schools, defending LGBTQ+ inclusive books, and more.

[PEN America](#)

PEN America's focus is the freedom to write, and they have myriad resources regarding censorship. Some of the ones I believe may be most helpful to you are listed below.

- [Book Bans](#)
 - There is extensive information about the current state of book bans in this section, including the content of books most frequently targeted for censorship, the latest on book bans, and more.
- [Educational Censorship](#)
 - This link has information about various laws and policies that have restricted what can be taught in schools. There's an op-ed on freedom to learn, and much more at this link.
- [Don't Censor America](#)
 - This section has a media literacy toolkit, advice for talking to people who spread misinformation, and more.

[Book Riot Articles by Kelly Jensen](#)

Kelly is a former librarian who frequently writes about censorship, as well as new books for children and teens.

NOTE: There are additional resources that I did not include; I shared the ones that I visit for information most frequently. All of these can help you prepare for book challenges and/or help if you are dealing with one.

If you need assistance writing a book rationale for one of your texts and neither NCTE nor ALA has one, I can help you reach out to NCTE or help with writing one if I've read the book.

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