

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Series 600

EXHIBIT RECONSIDERATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS No. 605.3E2

Request for re-evaluation of printed or multimedia material to be submitted to the Executive Director of Teaching and Learning.

Item Description (fill in all applicable information)

Request initiated by _____

Telephone _____ Address _____

City _____ Johnston Zip _____ 50131

School(s) in which item is used _____ Johnston High School

BOOK OR OTHER PRINTED MATERIAL IF APPLICABLE

Author _____ Angie Thomas _____ Hardcover ☒ Paperback _____ Other _____

Title _____ The Hate U Give

Publisher or Producer (if known) _____ Harper Collins

Date of Publication or Production _____ 2017

Type of Material (book, video, computer disk, etc.) _____ Book

DIGITAL MATERIAL IF APPLICABLE

Title _____

Publisher or Producer (if known) _____

Person making the request represents _____ self _____ group or organization.

Name of group _____

Address of group _____

1. Did you review the entire item? If not, what sections did you review?

Yes

2. To what in the item do you object? (Please be specific. For example, if it's a book, cite pages)

The main issue is the theme of the fictional book. Difficult to cite a theme but over 80 times the word "fuck" is used such as "Fuck that cop, bruh" and "Flip that mothafucka!" against police as a riot ensues; Chapter 23 (pages 388-402) is a good example of the negative theme of police and generalizing people on race. Story normalizes teen drug use, sex, racial slurs and rioting throughout. Fictional book is politically divisive at the moment and if this book is to be included in curriculum, then the alternative view should be presented with realistic aspects of the police. Only way to enable critical thinking is to present both sides of an issue, otherwise it's a form of indoctrination. We object to using this book in a lit circle without a book with an opposing theme or at least an accurate portrayal of police officers risking their lives to protect the public..

3. In your opinion what harmful effects upon pupils might result from use of this item?

Assuming police are systemically racist. Harmful to teach students to generalize people based on their skin color rather than their character. ~~Many negative generalizations about both black and white people. Pushes a narrative that cops are~~ specifically targeting to intentionally harm black people. When the media sensationalizes police brutality, it endangers the lives of police officers. Dangerous to put officers' lives more on the line by perpetuating the lie that police want to hurt people, instead of protect the public.

4. In your opinion what is the instructional value in the use of this item?

Teacher instructed us this text was selected to study rhetorical appeals, ethos, credibility and perspectives and how they interact. Students are supposed to draw own conclusions about bias and multiple perspectives and discuss in a literature circle with peers. This book is being used as a way to represent marginalized communities as part of diversity, inclusion strategic plan but only presents one perspective of anti-police sentiment. ~~Plenty of stories about people of color who serve this country as police officers that could address diversity without politicizing division, hate and crime.~~

5. Should the opinion of any additional experts in this field be considered?

 X Yes. Please list suggestions if any: _____

Police officers that serve to protect the community.

 No.

6. To replace this item do you recommend other material which you consider to be equal or superior in quality for the purpose intended?

 X Yes. Please list suggestions: Books that describe heroic actions by over 99.9% of police officers or a non-fiction book such as "The War on Cops" to provide an opposing view. If teacher must include only books about race and empathy, another book called "I Will Always Write Back" tells a true story without vulgar language and sexual references.

 No.

7. Do you wish to make an oral presentation to the Review Committee?

 X Yes.

a. Please also call the Office of the Superintendent _____

 b. Please be prepared when you call to indicate the approximate length of your presentation (not to exceed 15 minutes)

 No.

Date 10/18/2021 Signature Mandy Gilbert

Date Approved: October 24, 2016
Last Date Reviewed: January 25, 2021
Last Date Revised: January 25, 2021