



Something Happened in our Town: A Child's Story about Racial Injustice

By Marianne Celano

Check CountyCat for copies

Reasons: Challenged for "divisive language" and because it was thought

to promote anti-police views

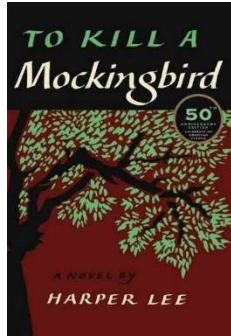
Summary: After discussing the police shooting of a local Black man with their families, Emma and Josh know how to treat a new student who looks and speaks differently than his classmates.

To Kill a Mockingbird

By Harper Lee

F LEE Harper

Reasons: Banned and challenged for racial slurs and their negative effect on students, featuring a "white savior" character, and its perception of the Black experience



Summary: A young girl growing up in an Alabama town in the 1930s learns of injustice and violence when her father, a widowed lawyer, defends a black man falsely accused of rape.

Of Mice and Men

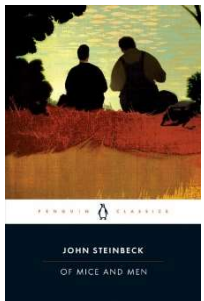
By John Steinbeck

F STEINBECK John

Reasons: Banned and challenged for racial slurs and racist stereotypes, and their negative effect on students

Summary: Tragic tale of a simpleminded man and the

friend who loves and tries to protect him.



The Bluest Eye

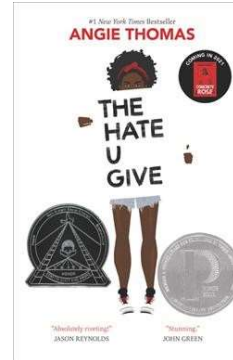
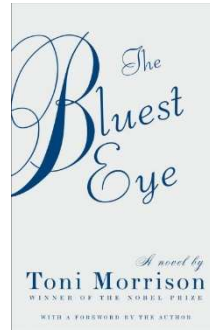
By Toni Morrison

F MORRISON Toni

Reasons: Banned and challenged because it was considered sexually explicit and depicts child sexual abuse

Summary:

Eleven-year-old Pecola Breedlove, an African-American girl in an America whose love for blonde, blue-eyed children can devastate all others, prays for her eyes to turn blue, so that she will be beautiful, people will notice her, and her world will be different.



The Hate U Give

By Angie Thomas

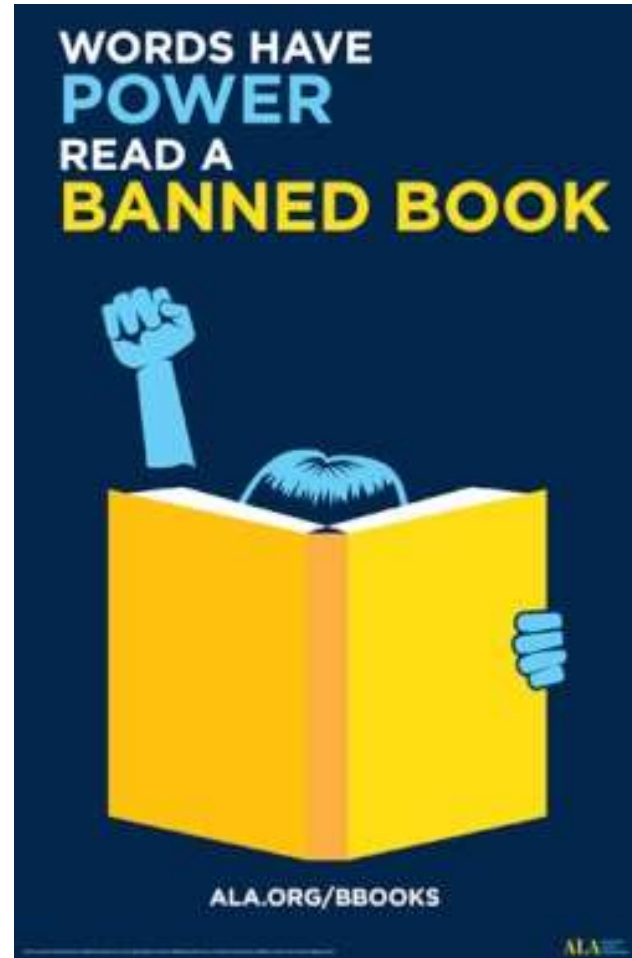
YA THOMAS

Reasons: Challenged for profanity, and it was thought to promote an anti-police message

Summary: After witnessing her friend's death at the hands of a police officer, Starr Carter's life is

complicated when the police and a local drug lord try to intimidate her in an effort to learn what happened the night Kahlil died.

Most challenged books of 2020



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GEORGE

ALEX GINO

WOLFELOW

George

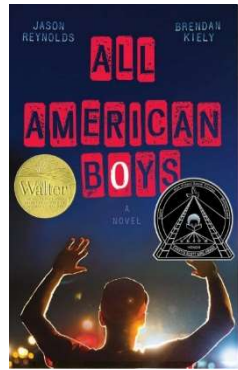
By Alex Gino

J GINO

Reasons: Challenged, banned, and restricted for LGBTQIA+ content, conflicting with a religious viewpoint, and not reflecting "the values of our community"

Summary: When people

look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl. George thinks she'll have to keep this a secret forever. With the help of her best friend, Kelly, George comes up with a plan, so everyone can know who she is, once and for all



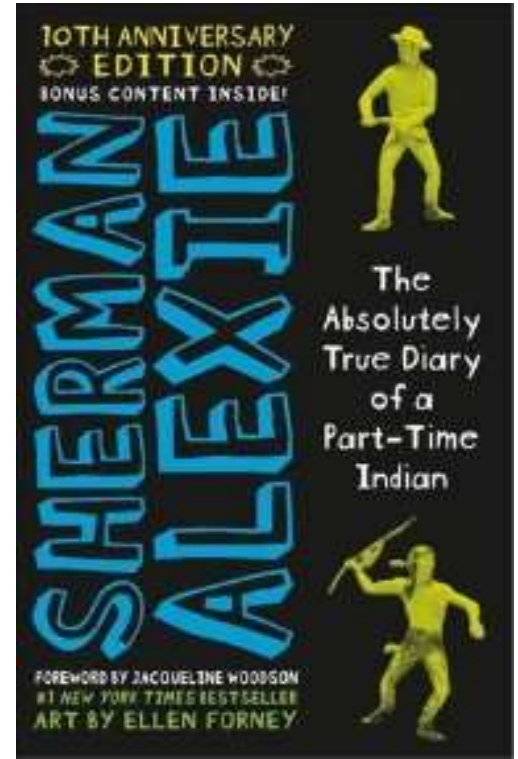
All American Boys

By Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely

YA REYNOLDS

Reasons: Banned and challenged for profanity, drug use, and alcoholism, and because it was thought to promote anti-police views, contain divisive topics, and be "too much of a sensitive matter right now"

Summary: When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the older brother of his best friend.

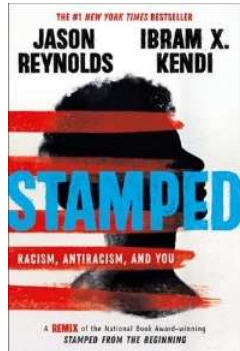


The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian

By Sherman Alexie

YA ALEXIE

Reasons: Banned and challenged for profanity, sexual references, and allegations of sexual misconduct by the author
Summary: Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.



Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You

By Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds

YA 305.800973 KEN

Reasons: Banned and challenged because of author's public statements, and because of claims that the book contains "selective

storytelling incidents" and does not encompass racism against all people

Summary: A history of racist and antiracist ideas in America, from their roots in Europe until today, adapted from the National Book Award winner Stamped from the Beginning

Speak

By Laurie Halse Anderson

YA ANDERSON

Reasons: Banned, challenged, and restricted because it was thought to contain a political viewpoint and it was claimed to be biased against male students, and for the novel's inclusion of rape and profanity

Summary: A traumatic event near the end of the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year in high school.

