

I'm writing to OPPOSE HB 1205, which would ban public libraries from maintaining "sexually explicit" materials. This is blatant censorship and would create a very dangerous precedent. It would diminish the value of public libraries as repositories of information freely available to the public. It would erode public trust in libraries and in the local government as a whole.

If the bill's sponsors had done their homework, they would have learned that public libraries already have policies and procedures in place concerning 1) How the library decides what materials to add or remove from the collection; and 2) A process for a citizen to challenge a specific title. For example, you can view the Morton Mandan Public Library's policy on their website. Here's the link:

[https://www.cityofmandan.com/vertical/sites/%7B38C3EFDC-F4D8-4D02-9E13-0987A081A7A4%7D/uploads/MMPL_Policy_Manual_2018\(1\).pdf](https://www.cityofmandan.com/vertical/sites/%7B38C3EFDC-F4D8-4D02-9E13-0987A081A7A4%7D/uploads/MMPL_Policy_Manual_2018(1).pdf)

(The Collection Management Policy starts on Page 15)

The government has no business censoring public libraries. Therefore, I strongly oppose HB 1205.

Kara L. Geiger
Mandan, ND