

Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

I wish to testify in support of HR 1205 to change the North Dakota Century Code from allowing public libraries to be exempt from the ban on making obscene books and materials available to youth to not permitting them in North Dakota libraries.

The Barnes County Valley City Public Library currently has on its shelves a book titled *Let's Talk About It* which is in the young adult section and readily available to teens and younger ages of children should they discover it. This book has been found in the Dickinson Public Library and similar books are finding their way into other North Dakota libraries.

I have seen the book *Let's Talk About It* and even for an adult the explicit illustrations are disturbing and hard to “un-see.” It calls virginity a “silly idea,” suggests experimenting with kinky acts of sexual self-stimulation, sex between male and females, and sex between homosexuals. No moral guidance is given and the book suggests going on the internet to view porn sites to learn more about what turns one on. Sexually transmitted diseases are dismissed as “no biggie.” There is no mention of the long-term emotional damage that can result to one's self or others. The book encourages gender confusion and contributes to grooming for LGBTQ lifestyles.

We need to keep youth from exposure to explicit sexual images and ideas at too young of an age. Therefore, the North Dakota Century Code should be changed so that libraries will not be allowed to put these materials on their shelves.