

Madam Chairman and the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Miki Thompson from Dickinson. As a parent I support SB 2360. I come to you saying what should not have to be said, but our state is getting relentlessly hit by an onslaught of out of state ideologies and ways of life. The media does not speak for the taxpayers of North Dakota and neither do these activists, doctors, and out of state lobbyists. We are determined to do whatever it takes to protect the innocence of our children and the community standard we have come to enjoy in this state.

We work hard, we invest into our children's lives. We trusted unspoken social contracts. We never believed that a public librarian or school librarian would bring pornography and grooming books into our libraries. Let alone advocate for them under the guise of Freedom of Speech. As I have stated on testimony for a previous bill, these materials promote the breaking of several North Dakota state laws as well as promoting harmful sex practices, that can injure severely anyone who tries them. These books/materials urge children to use addictive substances and behaviors. The book Let's Talk About It calls porn a "sugary treat." Not only is porn extremely addicting, but it is also illegal in North Dakota for minors. It also encourages kids to sext, which is also illegal for minors in this state. It talks about "fisting", which can have dire medical consequences. The book also refers to sex without a condom as a "no biggie." Guess what state comes in first place in regard to the biggest rates and spread of STD's per 100,000 individuals? North Dakota. If our state already has the largest per capita of STD infections, why would we allow a librarian or teacher to give access to children, books/materials that promote unprotected sex? Under our current law, it gives businesses and other private entities real consequences for displaying and giving children access to this material. Yet it excludes libraries and schools? It does not define the contents of the material being suddenly ok for children. It just excuses its placement. It is time to define that.

We have been through the requests for reconsideration forms at our libraries. We have voiced our displeasure with the material at library board meetings and city commissions. We have had parents apply to be on the library boards. All met with silence. Our State Library has instructed the local libraries how to "Weed out" any complaints that do not fit their personal narratives. This has now become a state issue because of that. Our local libraries get their policies from the state library and the federally ran American Library Association. These policies do not reflect our local community standards. 20 US Code 3401 states: parents have the primary responsibility for the education of their children, and [States](#), localities, and private institutions have the primary responsibility for supporting that parental role. So these materials need to be put with the other pornography at the library. Back behind the checkout desk with the Playboy/Penthouse magazines that can only be checked out by adults 18 and over.

Please look to other like states on this as well. The Montana House just passed a similar bill on Wednesday. South Dakota, Oklahoma, Indiana, and Florida are already taking a stand and saying enough is enough. North Dakota taxpayers are saying enough is enough. Protect our children.

Thank you for your time, Miki Thompson