

To Whom It May Concern,

I strongly urge you to vote Do Not Pass on SB 2360. This bill will only lead to more and more governmental control over our basic rights. Our libraries and schools already have filtering systems in place for our Wi-Fi and internet services.

This and the few other bills that have been introduced pertaining to censoring our ability to read and view what is our given right to do will virtually eliminate any form of sexual education for those youth that might need it the most. As a mother, grandmother, former educator, Christian, and librarian, I firmly believe that knowledge is power.

As a Christian, created and wonderfully made in God's image, I believe that love and sex is a God given gift to share in joy and relationship with another person. If we were only meant to use sex for procreation, why would God have given us the emotional ability to enjoy it?

This bill and others not only accuse librarians and school teachers of being immoral and of sexualizing our children, but it makes the act of sex into a negative experience.

It is the job of a librarian to provide a comprehensive collection of materials for the diverse community the library serves. Not everyone will like every book that is in the library. Some will even wonder why we don't have a certain book in the library. We do the best we can to follow the policies we have in place for collection development. We have a deep concern for all of our patrons that use the library and through policies in place, we encourage all patrons to use the library responsibly. So, in other words, parents are to be supervising their children while in the library.

If you really think about it, the library is protecting children better than you can imagine. We have systems, filters, and policies in place. Children can find things that their parents might not want them to see by just sitting in front of someone's house where they know they can get Wi-Fi that is unprotected in any way. If they are visiting a friend, they may see something in that family's private library that might not be something that their parents want them to see. They may even see someone walking down the street or on a public sidewalk that has tattoos of naked women showing. They could be exposed to a nursing mother's bare breast in a park or even restaurant.

It is a parent's job to educate their children. They do not have to bring their children to the library if they don't want to. They don't even have to send their children to a public school if they want to choose to home school. Yet, they can't wrap them in bubble wrap and expect them to never see something they might not be ready to see.

I remember my father forcing me to look at my grandmother dead in her coffin. That was one of the most traumatic experiences of my life! I was sixteen and to this day cannot handle seeing someone in a coffin.

I am not a stranger to the darker side of humanity either. I have been abused and sexually assaulted and am certain that none of the men that chose to assault me in some way got those ideas from a library or even from the internet.

Please vote no for SB 2360.

Sincerely,

Anita Tulp