

SkeeYee- Banning Books 🤪



Judge: Karen

Speaker 1: Alex

Speaker 2: Noah

Speaker 3: Iris

Rebuttal 1: Za

Rebuttal 2: Jimmy

Point 1 | Impressionable Minds - Today, I stand before you as a student to address a crucial issue that affects not only our generation but generations to come: the impressionability of younger minds. As someone who interacts daily with peers and sees firsthand the impact of external influences on our lives, I firmly believe that we must recognize the incredible impressionability of younger minds and take proactive steps to protect and nurture them.

Firstly, let's acknowledge the power of impressionability in shaping a young person's beliefs, values, and behaviors. During our formative years, we are like sponges, absorbing information and attitudes from our surroundings. Whether it's the media we consume, the role models we look up to, or the conversations we engage in, these experiences leave indelible marks on our developing minds. It's a time when we are most vulnerable to both positive and negative influences.

The media plays a pivotal role in shaping our perceptions and attitudes. Today's youth are bombarded with a constant stream of content from television, social media, and the internet. These platforms can offer valuable knowledge and positive role models, but they can also perpetuate harmful stereotypes, glorify negative behaviors, and distort reality. Young minds lack the discernment to fully differentiate between fact and fiction, making them susceptible to manipulation and misinformation.

Furthermore, the influence of peers and role models cannot be underestimated. Younger minds often emulate the behaviors and attitudes of those they admire, whether it's a favorite celebrity, a sports idol, or even older siblings. This can have both positive and negative consequences. While positive role models can inspire ambition, empathy, and integrity, negative influences can encourage destructive behaviors and misguided beliefs.

Without censorship these negative influences can run rampant and impair our younger generations minds. This could be detrimental to their future and our future. We, the younger generations, pave the way for innovations yet to be conceived. If our minds are corrupted by explicit content and literature insinuating violence we would surely fail as a nation.

Point 2 | Freedom of Speech

- Education in society has brought fourth and united many teachers, such as myself, to congregate against certain issues which seemingly believed to be the root of some of societies problems. The biggest problems which plague society today is books which seemingly ignore the core values of Freedom of Speech and detoritates the peacefulness and humility within society through its altruistic arguments and beliefs. Lets first discuss the use of freedom of speech.
- Freedom of Speech can only legally be considered to go so far; yelling expletives and or threatening language in a public space results in legal consequences and action taken upon; thus expressing how books which portray hatred or racism should have action taken upon. Due to past experinces, seemingly yelling "bomb" in a theater, mall, or even plane, could result in your aprehsion and charges pressed against you for breaking silence and causing discomfort for the people present
- Allowing censored books to be exposed to the public exacerbates all of Freedom Of Speech which can result in a domino effect of problems, such as more books being published allowing more of these arbitrary and prejudiced opinions to bleed throughout the very fabric of society which we have created to shield our young generations and children from experincing what we as the older generations have been put through. An example of this could be the continuation of many hate crimes towards the African American community. Whether its brutality, rejecting services, and or the blatant murders of African Americans, much of the people who

have learned this concept and have bounded this hatred within their hearts have learned this through literature. We as society need to cut the cord of this never-ending black hole of violence and release it from our hearts to completely and to build a foundation for the future, beginning with this would be to censor the source.

- Many School districts united, and have taken action upon books which portray sexual content, racist remarks, and violence, thus halting the process of these kids learning these actions and repeating it throughout their life. Younger generations have been less developed causing them to repeat certain actions which they have therefore been taught. Censoring these books and stopping this lack of effective and beneficial use of Freedom of Speech results in a bright future and peacefulness among all races, genders, where we as society could live as one, and continue to create a stable future without any violence and or hatred for younger generations to come

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Point 3 | Historical Background -

- As a concerned parent school districts should be more open minded when it comes to censoring books many students have faced numerous backlash from all the negative literature have been exposed to. Many schools have faced complications due to the content provided in books that are distributed amongst students. Individuals have taken matters into their own hands due to the blatant disrespect shown by school boards by choosing to prioritize their beliefs above students' feelings towards those discriminating subjects (249). Even after all the discomfort our children have faced school districts sit around and watch all of this happen. School boards sit around and let our children be disrespected by others and think they can get away with it. In the source, it was stated that students had to take matters into their own hands by physically removing books from shelves due to the criticism they were receiving (249). Our children should not have to take matters into their own hands school should be a place where our students should feel safe and comfortable, not threatened or feel as if they need can't be themselves because of the things others might do to them. Mein Kampf is a book that has been censored and banned in every other country due to the issues that are mentioned in the literature which changes societies perspective about Jews. Adolf Hitler wrote the book to begin the Nazi party books can be used to the literature society reads affects their perspective and matters such as these. Individuals have taken matters into their own hands due to the blatant disrespect shown by the school boards choosing to prioritize their beliefs above students' feelings towards the discriminating subjects (Petress, Ken 249). The school board's priority should be the students' disconcertment towards the topic regardless of the backlash that may

be faced. The school could be held accountable for not addressing the racial harassment the kid faced (Wilson, 6). Many complaints have been made about students harassing others due to the content being read in school.

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Notes - Book bans are a breach of student rights. I gave up lmao. Destroys the choices of these students resulting in forceful use of education.