

the Venues

Go Deep

Stay in School
Banned in the USA

9.11.2022

Why is “book banning” on the rise these days?

Have you ever been offended by a book? Why?

Under what circumstances (if any) should a book be removed from a school? A library?

Does a member of the public have a right to decide whether others should be allowed access to a book?

Deborah Caldwell-Stone with the American Library Association says, “Most of the challenged books focus on LGBT issues, discuss racism in America, and/or document the experience or the experiences of other BIPOC individuals.” (Black Indigenous, People of color)

Why do you think stories of marginalized people constitute the majority of banned books?

Read [Jeremiah 36:22-23](#).

King Jehoiakim of Judah didn’t like what was written in the book so he burned it.

How much of King Jehoiakim do we have in us?

Read [Luke 1:51-53](#).

Some countries have banned “Mary’s Song” from being read in public because it was deemed revolutionary and dangerous.

What do you see in the song that would make governments “uncomfortable”?

“Discomfort” from a book is a theme across the country as the rationale for banning books.

Should “discomfort” be a reason to ban a book?

What benefit is there in reading a book that makes us feel uncomfortable?

What can you do to support our public and school librarians?