



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Baum, Carolyn

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	Understand survival as a innate human quality, methods to approach traumatic/abusive situations, recognizing PTSD, value of interpersonal relationships and the role in creating internal strength and motivation, understand various issues regarding mental health
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	Yes
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	Yes
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	9th Grade (14 to 15 years old)
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	Yes
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	Not all youth will desire to read a thriller or story about traumatic events; however, for those who do read this genre, this story provides a glimpse into rare but real scenarios, and connect further to situations where people feel trapped by an abuser of some type and looks for links and motivation for survival

7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes
8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	Yes
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	Strength comes not only from within but also because of our relationships/connections with others

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	Make available to students 9th-12th grade, with awareness of content



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Committee Member Name: Brooks, Brie

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Peterson

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	A psychological thriller to entertain you and keep you turning pages to find out what happens next.
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	Not Applicable
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	No
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	19+
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	No
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	I feel like because of the language, murder, kidnapping, rape and the concept of the story that it should be for adult readers.
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes

8.	For young adults?	Yes
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	No
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	Be aware of your surroundings because you never know what can happen or who is lurking around the corner. A story of perseverance if you are in a crazy situation.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	While I understand that people enjoy reading thrillers I don't understand why a fiction book full of profanity, kidnapping, murder and rape needs to be in our classroom book options. I would have it removed and let kids once they are out of school make the choice to choose to read this.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

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Committee Member Name: Cowart, Jami

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	The overall purpose of this book is to provide readers a thriller where the main character shows perseverance throughout her time in captivity. It is a lesson in being aware of your surroundings and being strong and continuing to fight no matter your circumstances.
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	No
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	Yes
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	Yes
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	In my opinion, this was not a fantastic book. I wanted to read through it quickly. However, someone else may really enjoy it. It is a suspenseful. There is a problem that gets resolved. There is also a tough subject that is dealt with in a way that is motivating to the reader. While the main character goes through a terrible ordeal, she

		is still a fighter and remains convinced that she will escape and survive.
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes
8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	Yes
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	I believe the overall message of this story is perseverance. The story is written plainly and is engaging enough for young adults to read and become aware of potential real situations.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	As an adult, I did not enjoy this book. However, I tried to look at it from a high schooler's perspective and I think it would be more enjoyable at this age level. While the book does deal with a several tough subjects, none are described in a way that is inappropriate. The main character presents to the reader with a strong, female role model. She never gives up hope and she continues to encourage the other girls to stay strong and try to find a way out of the situation.
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	I would recommend this book remain an instructional resource for high school.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Gonzales, Holly

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Peterson

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	Fictional Thriller
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	No
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	Yes
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	9th Grade (14 to 15 years old)
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	Yes
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	The writing of this book is very basic which originally bothered me quite a bit. I then thought about how there may be students that struggle with more complex texts and want to read books their peers are reading.
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for	Yes

	children?	
8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	Yes
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	I would say this story covers the current event of trafficking and survival.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	I think we should keep the resource available as a choice especially for students that are not strong readers.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Hale, Heather

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author:

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	I assume independent reading
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	No
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	No
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	No
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	It is geared toward teenagers, so it is written on their level, but it is just junk literature.
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes

8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	No
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	It's so one-dimensional: girl-power, love will save the day...blah

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	I know there are teachers who say that kids love this book. They find it intriguing and fun to read. It's no wonder because crime stories are all the rage. Teens love watching all the true crime documentaries and spin-offs, so this is right up their allies. But it's poorly written, superficial, junky, and predictable. Any book I have in my classroom-- for personal choice or direct instruction-- I have because I <i>*want*</i> to talk to my students about. I want to engage in discussion and...see below
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	analysis, but I would never want to sit down and discuss this book with students. A) I wouldn't be able to stop rolling my eyes, and B) there's no depth to it to discuss. I wouldn't offer it, but some teachers love it, so I don't know my recommendation.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Haynes, Jamie

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	To teach children how to have underage sex, rape, pickup hors, kidnap, use profanity, manage psychological and physical abuse and break down sexual inhibitions.
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	No
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	No
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	19+
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	No
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	This books is pure trash. I think there are multiple clues throughout the text that it was written for an older audience and the publisher asked the author to change age of characters to fit into the 'YA' category to have a broader audience. An example would be that at 16 years old, Summer mentions that she and Lewis had been dating for ages. A second example is that Summer dreams of a flat in

		London with cocktail bars close. What child dreams of cocktail bars and a flat? Ridiculous.
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes
8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	No
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	I just cannot answer that question. I do not know what the author is trying to do if this is truly targeted at young adults. Is he trying to entertain with sexually explicit material? To break down inhibitions go move them towards underage sex, the intense feeling a woman goes through when a man overpowers her and takes advantage of her body? You tell me. EVERY TEACHER THAT HAS THIS TITLE ON THEIR LIST NEEDS TO BE REMOVED FROM OUR DISTRICT. Disturbing. Disgusted. Angry Mamas. No Words.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	Remove it from all reading lists. It does not meet the district code of conduct. If this was a true story, would it get approved like 'The Glass Castle'? Our teachers can and should do better than this garbage. This is what we get when we bring in speakers like Kitty from NJ. So disappointed CISD. Why are we even reading this again? Remove it.
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	Remove it from all reading lists and quite buying trash like this with our tax dollars.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

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Committee Member Name: Henninger, Stephanie

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	I can't find a single positive thing to say about this resource. The first 30 pages deals with the main character (Summer) getting kidnapped. Then 270 pages later deals with breakfast, Summer crying, lunch, Summer crying, dinner, Summer still crying, killing prostitutes, rape, watching movies, cooking, killing prostitutes, rape, regular beatings, Summer crying, reading books and cry again after. Repeat this cycle in 270 pages. Then end it with the easiest solution ever in the last 60 pages.
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	No
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	No
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	19+
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	No
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500	I had a hard time getting through this book and I don't know how

	character maximum)	this garbage was published.
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes
8.	For young adults?	Yes
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	No
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	Not sure because the first 250 pages were full of absolute repetition described with complete redundancy. I could not get past the amateur writing style. This book is not for teens.. this book is not for anyone.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	Foul language, kidnappings, rape, beatings, multiple murders that the hostage's have to clean and dispose of on a regular basis. How is this relatable to 14-18 year olds? This is is neither educational or entertainment. It's disgusting.
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	I DO NOT recommend this book for Canyon High Students for many reasons. It is in no way educational.



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Committee Member Name: Hinders, Tami

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	This is a fictional piece for entertainment.
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	No
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	Yes
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	Yes
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes

8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	Yes
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	This is a tale of caution and being aware of your surroundings. It is written for low level readers to pique their interest in reading.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	Although there is a rape scene, it is not graphic in any way. There is not description of the actual act and would not be considered pornographic.
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	Keep it as a choice in the school.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Huddleston, Rachel

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	This is a thriller/survival book aimed at teenage girls.
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	No
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	Yes
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	Yes
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes

8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	Yes
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	Preston attempts to look at human nature and how people are not always who they seem to be. Clover appears to be a handsome, productive member of society, but behind closed doors, he is a monster. She also provides warnings for our teens to be aware of their surroundings. There are also themes of friendship and family.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	I did not love this book, but students will. It has high interest value with a low reading level, which is an important kind of book to have in the classroom. Low and reluctant readers will actually read this book and be able to participate in literature circles and class discussions. Getting kids to read is important, so having this type of book available is beneficial.
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	This should remain an instructional resource in our book rooms and classroom libraries. Like most other books we are reviewing, I would not choose to read this as a whole-class novel, but it has value for independent reading.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Hudson, Serena

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	Fictional thriller/drama, entertainment purposes
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	No
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	No
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	19+
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	No
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	This is a sadistic story, with copious amounts of violence and brutality. There is no enjoyment or any redeeming concepts to be had in this story.
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes

8.	For young adults?	Yes
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	Yes
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	There is no overall message. This is a crappy book - it is poorly written, horribly presented, and disgustingly celebrated. Summer is a 17-year-old girl who is kidnapped and held in a cellar with three other women, where they are all raped and brutalized - 95% of the book focuses on Summer and the other women's suffering and torture, physically and sexually. Why would we even want to offer this to our students?

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	This book revels in sadistic morbidity. The artistic and literary value is nil, so as an instructional resource, this book should not even make the list.
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	Do not offer in the classroom or the school library. Better books are available and more deserving of the space.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Johnson, Bill

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	"The Cellar" is categorized as thriller. It is the story of a young woman (Summer) being kidnapped and the phycological and physical horrors she is subjected to. It is also the story of her family's and her boyfriend's tireless search for her. This is accomplished well. At times the book is difficult to read due to the phycological and physical abuse Summer goes through.
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	Not Applicable
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	Yes
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	9th Grade (14 to 15 years old)
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	Yes
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	Although horrific, events that happened to the main character (Summer) do actually happen. Reading this book will raise awareness of those events. Shielding young adults from realistic

		events is counter to what I believe an education should be about. This book is appropriate for high school students.
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes
8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	Yes
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	"The Cellar" shares the story of when a young woman's life is upended by abduction. The young woman (Summer) is subject to psychological and physical abuse by her kidnapper. To survive, she must play along with her abductor's fantasy and pretend to be a part of his family. Meanwhile, her family and her boyfriend tirelessly search for her, and her boyfriend's efforts eventually lead the police to the kidnapper. This is an entertaining thriller.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	At times this book was difficult to pick up and continue reading due to what the main character was going through as a victim of abduction.
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	This book should be allowed. As a parent, I would want to know my child was reading the book, but I would definitely allow my high school student to read "The Cellar".



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Mabry, Ashley

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	A thriller that seeks to explore the psychology of both kidnapper and victims
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	No
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	Yes
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	Yes
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	The content is purposely shocking, but not beyond the average high school student's exposure to such content from other sources.
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes

8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	Yes
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	This story tries, and fails, to explore the psychology of a serial kidnapper/rapist/killer as well as his victims. The reader is meant to understand the changes to the main character's personality as a result of the trauma she faces.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	While I don't think this book should be removed from classrooms on the basis of content, I can't recommend it as an instructional resource. There is little to explore in terms of literary/instructional value.
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	This book is appropriate for classroom libraries.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Merriss, Jennifer

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	This book is a thriller, meant to entertain a young adult audience.
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	No
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	No
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	19+
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	No
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	There is nothing educational about this book; it is purely for entertainment purposes. The writing uses British slang; there is a lot of vulgar language; character development is poor; and there are several scenes that are inappropriate for an educational setting.
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for	Yes

	children?	
8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	No
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	I don't feel like she really has an overall message; she's simply trying to write an entertaining story. The idea had potential, but the author completely disregarded it. Some scenes were rushed; the ending left more questions than answers; there were different points of view that could've cleared things up but wound up not adding much to the story; and characters were not developed enough to really form a bond with.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	The book is fine on a bookstore shelf, but I don't believe there's any place for it in a classroom setting.
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	I recommend this book not be included.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Morris, Belinda

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author:

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	Not sure of purpose. Story for those who enjoy suspense, murder mysteries.
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	No
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	No
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	19+
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	No
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	Adult reading for those who enjoy suspense, murder mysteries. Kidnapping, murder, rape are not topics appropriate for young minds. As a high school student, I would not have been able to handle this book. I know many young people currently who would not be able to handle this content. Not sure of what the literary value is of this book,
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence,	Yes

	cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	
8.	For young adults?	Not Applicable
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	No
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	Mystery of a crazy, madman.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	This book is prime example of violence becoming the norm in our society. Readers are "seeing" murder, rape, gore, & abuse repeatedly. Allowing the book to be read and reported on condones and normalizes unlawful and immoral character traits. Students' brains are being desensitized to terrible acts of violence.
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	This book does NOT belong on high school instructional list. The Cellar should not be used in classroom or on the school reading list.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Trela, Tori

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	This text is teen-thriller of sorts. It is a narrative that follows multiple perspectives and character developments. As the story unfolds, the reader begins to understand similar events from different character viewpoints. Other than this writing style exposure through the reading of this text's design, the text is a pervasive thriller that is surrounded by kidnapping, abuse, and violence. It is a fictionalized narrative, but not unlike the real-life horrors a reader could find in the world.
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	Not Applicable
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	Yes
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	12th Grade (17 to 18 years old)
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	Yes
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500	Because the novel is written in language and syntax of a teen

	character maximum)	reading level, a teenage mature audience is appropriate for this book; however, the content of the book does not have much literary merit. It is my opinion that the only saving grace is the character viewpoints writing style by the author. Again, the book is very specific to a traumatic event and is fictionalized; however, it does mimic horrific true crime stories that have broken in the news before.
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children?	Yes
8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	No
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	I believe that the message could be considered hope and strength will help to overcome a tragic situation. The girls had to work together and with the hope and love of characters on the outside of the cellar helped to release them from the grasp of the abuser. This book reminded me of a streaming network TV program or a movie I had seen. It is a popularized way to publish and is like eating candy. It is not a book I would have chosen and it felt trendy and overdone when reading.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	I think this book has a place for a certain audience in the library, but the only merit it has for literature study is the narrative perspective change and style. Additionally, perhaps characterization study in line with these perspectives.
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	I don't believe this book/text should be an educator's first choice as an instructional resource. It should remain available in the library for mature readers.



Parent Reviews of Considered Instructional Materials

The information below is submitted by each IRC Committee member as a review of the instructional material being considered.

Committee Member Name: Hill, Lisa

Resource Title: The Cellar

Author: Natasha Preston

#	Question	Response
PURPOSE		
1.	What is the overall purpose of the material or resource? (500 character maximum)	Fiction text. Psychological thriller for young adults. It is classified as a high-low book. High interest and lower level text to support students with reading difficulties.
2.	Does this material offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements, and problems of other populations or groups?	Yes
APPROPRIATENESS		
3.	Is the resource appropriate for the level of students for whom it is intended?	Yes
4.	If marked no, for what age would you recommend this resource?	
CONTENT		
5.	Are the concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the reader/listener/viewer?	Yes
6.	Add any comment you feel justifies your response from the previous question. (500 character maximum)	
7.	Is there preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality, or other behavior that would make this material inappropriate for	Not Applicable

	children?	
8.	For young adults?	No
9.	Does the story attempt to offer a broader understanding of human behavior?	Yes
10.	To you, what is the overall message the story is attempting to convey? (500 character maximum)	The text is a psychological thriller meant to peak the interest of students who may not be able to read texts at their grade level. This text gains the attention of the reader at the beginning of the text. The message is achieved and conveyed and appropriate for the target audience.

REVIEWS & EVALUATIONS

11.	Do you have any additional comments about the instructional resource? (500 character maximum)	
12.	What is your recommendation for the treatment of this instructional resource?	This book is considered a high low reading book. This type of reading is suggested for older students who are not yet skilled readers. This type of book hooks the reader immediately and is written at a lower level for students who are not skilled readers. Books of this type allow all students to feel like accomplished skilled readers.