

# ACLU of Utah weighs in on book banning in Canyons schools

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SANDY, Utah (KUTV) — Utah’s chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union weighed in on a controversy simmering in the Canyons School District, which recently opted to pull nine books from school library shelves in response to a parent’s complaint.

“Constitutional protections cannot be simply ignored,” said a statement from the ACLU shared Monday. “As we investigate complaints related to the Canyons School District, the ACLU of Utah remains committed to ensuring the First Amendment rights of Utahns are respected.”

Some argued that the district’s policy on library materials appears contrary to the actions taken, but district spokesman Jeff Haney has told media outlets that the policy itself is under review. The existing policy states that books under review should remain available to students until a challenge to the material is investigated and completed, but the nine books have been removed from shelves in Alta, Brighton, Jordan and Corner Canyon high schools. The ACLU’s statement went on to detail the last time they successfully challenged the proposed censorship of a book from school libraries in Utah. That was in 2012, when they sued the Davis School District for removing *In Our Mothers’ House*, a book about same-sex parents from library shelves. Davis schools opted to settle the case three months later.

The [nine books removed](#) for review are:

- [The Bluest Eye](#), by Toni Morrison
- [L8R G8R](#), by Lauren Myracle
- [Beyond Magenta](#), by Susan Kuklin
- [Out of Darkness](#), by Ashley Hope Perez
- [Lolita](#), by Vladimir Nabokov
- [The Opposite of Innocent](#), by Sonya Sones
- [Lawn Boy](#), by Jonathan Evison
- [Gender Queer](#), by Maia Kobabe
- [Monday’s Not Coming](#), by Tiffany Jackson

