

**CHECKLIST FOR SCHOOL REVIEW COMMITTEE'S RECONSIDERATION OF
INSTRUCTIONAL AND LIBRARY MATERIALS (FICTION AND OTHER LITERARY FORMS)**

Title _____ Author _____

A. Purpose

1. What is the purpose, theme or message of the material? How well does the author/producer/composer accomplish this purpose?

2. If the story is fantasy, is it the type that has imaginative appeal and is suitable for children?
_____ Yes _____ No

For young adults? _____ Yes _____ No

3. Will the reading and/or viewing and/or listening to material result in more compassionate understanding of human beings? _____ Yes _____ No

4. Does it offer an opportunity to better understand and appreciate the aspirations, achievements and problems of various minority groups?

_____ Yes _____ No

5. Are any questionable elements of the story an integral part of a worthwhile theme or message?
_____ Yes _____ No _____ N/A

B. Content

1. Does the material contain sexually explicit content as defined in VA Code Sec. 22.1-16.8 and 2.2-2827, meaning (i) any description or (ii) any picture, photograph, drawing, motion picture film, digital image or similar visual representation depicting sexual bestiality, a lewd exhibition of nudity, as nudity is defined in VA Code Sec. 18.2-390, sexual excitement, sexual conduct or adomasochistic abuse, as also defined in Sec. 18.2-390, coprophilia, urophilia, or fetishism.

The following definitions from Virginia Code § 18.2-390 apply:

- a. "Nudity" means a state of undress so as to expose the human male or female genitals, pubic area or buttocks with less than a full opaque covering, or the showing of the female breast with less than a fully opaque covering of any portion thereof below the top of the nipple, or the depiction of covered or uncovered male genitals in a discernibly turgid state.
- b. "Sexual conduct" means actual or explicitly simulated acts of masturbation, sexual intercourse, or physical contact in an act of apparent sexual stimulation or gratification with a person's clothed or unclothed genitals, pubic area, buttocks or, if such be female, breast.

- c. "Sexual excitement" means the condition of human male or female genitals when in a state of sexual stimulation or arousal.
- d. "Sadomasochistic abuse" means actual or explicitly simulated flagellation or torture by or upon a person who is nude or clad in undergarments, a mask or bizarre costume, or the condition of being fettered, bound or otherwise physically restrained on the part of one so clothed.

Yes No

- 2. Does the story depict sexually explicit language as defined in Virginia Code Section 18.2-390?
 Yes No
- 3. Does a story about modern times give a realistic picture of life as it is now?
 Yes No
- 4. Does the story avoid an oversimplified, positive or negative, view of life? Yes No
- 5. When factual information is part of the story, is it presented accurately? Yes No
- 6. Is prejudicial appeal readily identifiable by the potential reader? Yes No
- 7. Are concepts presented appropriate to the ability and maturity of the potential readers?
 Yes No
- 8. Do characters speak in a language true to the period and section of the country in which they live? Yes No
- 9. Does the material offend in some special way the sensibilities of women or a minority group by the way it presents either the main character or any of the minor characters?
 Yes No
- 10. Is there a preoccupation with sex, violence, cruelty, brutality and aberrant behavior that would make this material inappropriate for children? Yes No
- 11. If there is use of offensive language, is it appropriate to the purpose of the text for children?
 Yes No N/A
- 12. Is the material free from derisive names and epithets that would offend minority groups?
 Yes No Young adults? Yes No
- 13. Is the material well-written or produced? Yes No
- 14. Does the story give a broader understanding of human behavior?
 Yes No
- 15. If yes, does it do so without stressing differences of class, race, color, sex, education religion, or philosophy in any adverse way?
 Yes No
- 16. Does the material make a significant contribution to this history of literature of ideas?
 Yes No

- 17. Are the illustrations appropriate and in good taste? Yes No
- 18. Are the illustrations realistic in relation to the story? Yes No
- 19. Have you read this book or viewed or listened to this material in its entirety?
 Yes No

Additional Comments:

Recommendation by School Review Committee for Treatment of Challenged Materials

Date

Signatures of Review Committee

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

ADOPTED: July 1, 1995

REVISED: July 8, 2019

REVISED: May 8, 2023

REVISED: December 11, 2023