

July 9, 2026

Dear Members of the Library Board,

I am writing to you as both a parent and an educator to respectfully ask that the Board consider creating a clearly labelled section within the children's and young adult collections for books whose primary focus is LGBTQ+ themes.

First, I want to express my appreciation for our public library. It is a wonderful community resource, and my family has always valued the opportunities it provides for children to develop a love of reading and learning.

My daughter is an avid reader. By third grade, she was already reading at a ninth-grade level, and she spends a great deal of time browsing the library independently. As parents, my husband and I encourage her curiosity and love of books.

My request is not about removing books, restricting access, or preventing anyone from reading materials that reflect their own interests and experiences. I believe every individual deserves respect and the freedom to make personal choices. Rather, **my concern is that books centered on topics of sexuality and gender identity are often interspersed throughout children's fiction and young adult collections without a clear way for families to identify them.**

Parents have different beliefs about when and how to introduce these subjects to their children. I believe parents should have the opportunity to guide those conversations according to their own family's values and their child's level of maturity.

For that reason, **I respectfully ask the Board to consider establishing a clearly labelled section or another transparent organizational system for books whose primary focus is LGBTQ+ topics.** This approach would preserve full access to these materials for those who wish to read them, while also giving parents the ability to make informed choices for their own children.

Public libraries serve families with many different beliefs, backgrounds, and perspectives. A policy that promotes transparency and parental choice can respect that diversity while continuing to uphold the library's commitment to providing access to information for everyone.

Thank you for your time, your service to our community, and your thoughtful consideration of this request. I appreciate the work you do to make our library a welcoming place for all families, and I hope you will consider this proposal.

Respectfully,



Vasiliki Georgacopoulos
370 Golfview Court
Bloomington, IL 60108

Proposal

I respectfully ask the Library Board to consider one or more of the following options:

Option 1: Clearly Identified Collection

- Create a designated section within the Children's and Young Adult departments for books whose primary focus is LGBTQ+ themes.

Option 2: Catalog Transparency

- Include consistent subject tags within the online library catalog so parents can easily identify books that focus primarily on sexuality or gender identity before checking them out.

Option 3: Shelf Identification

- Add a small, neutral shelf marker or informational label that helps families recognize books whose primary subject matter involves LGBTQ+ themes.

Benefits

This proposal would:

- Preserve access to all library materials.
- Respect intellectual freedom.
- Support parental involvement in children's reading choices.
- Increase transparency without restricting availability.
- Allow families from diverse backgrounds to make informed decisions consistent with their own values.

Guiding Principles

This proposal is based on the following principles:

- Every person deserves dignity and respect.
- Public libraries should continue providing access to diverse viewpoints and experiences.
- Parents have an important role in determining when and how to introduce complex subjects to their children.
- Transparency benefits all families regardless of their beliefs.

Request

I respectfully ask the Library Board to:

1. Place this proposal on the agenda for discussion at a future Board meeting.
2. Invite public comment from community members.
3. Review current shelving and cataloging practices.
4. Consider whether additional transparency measures could better serve families while maintaining full access to library materials.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and for your continued service to our community.

Sincerely,



Vasiliki Georgacopoulos

370 Golfview Court

Bloomington, IL 60108

Dear President Donald Trump,

I love to read. I'm good at it too. In 3rd grade I was at a ninth grade reading level. I am currently going into 6th grade and am 11 years old.

My family and I often visit the library. I thoroughly look through the books on the shelves to try to find some great books for me.

Multiple times though I've come across LGBTQ+ books which have disturbed me. I don't want to read that kind of material, but those kind of books are hidden among the child fiction books which I look through.

I understand the topic of LGBTQ+ from a chat I have had with my mom, but some children who have not could encounter LGBTQ+ books by mistake, and could not be ready to handle the LGBTQ+ information given from the summary.

It is not only unfair to those children, but it's also unfair to children who are LGBTQ+ trying to find some books about them, but can't find any easily.

For these reasons and more I'd like to propose that a new law should be made to put books about LGBTQ+ in its own category or shelf. Then children who would rather not read them can, and children who are LGBTQ+ can easily find books about kids like them easier.

I think if all public libraries had that law installed, it would make the United States of America an even better place.

Sincerely,
Proud American Citizen,
Nicolette Georgacopoulos