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West Bend Library Book Meeting

Resident Filed Complaint Over Books About Teenage Homosexuality

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WEST BEND, Wis. -- There was a meeting over controversial books in the West Bend public library Thursday night at Silverbrook Middle School.

Some West Bend residents met to discuss what to do with books that address teenage homosexuality.

Parents were asked not to bring their children because of the nature of the discussion.

The meeting was originally scheduled earlier in the month, but the turnout was so big that it had to be rescheduled and moved to a larger location.

A husband and wife filed a complaint that there is not a section of books with opposing viewpoints to homosexuality.

They claimed that children as young as 11 have access to dozens of books, more than 50, and websites about homosexuality and what they called crude and explicit language. They believe that the books should be moved into the adult section.

About 150 people came out to the meeting and they spoke their minds.

"To think that it's made available to young people as well as old people in a public library that's publicly funded to me as a taxpayer it makes me want to spit," Harvey Holler said.

This young adult zone is for sixth graders on up and these sexual choices are not appropriate for sixth grader," said Reverend Bruce Dunford.

But not everyone agreed that the books should be banned.

I don't agree with the books but it's the library and research is research. If you want to start your own Christian library do it, provide those options, but stay out of the public library," Marcia Alder said.

When you're quoting scriptures to me don't cherry pick them. Use the whole Bible love patience,

forgiveness and everything that comes with it," said Kristina Smithers.

Sparks continued to fly throughout the meeting.

"If homosexuality is an orientation or preference issue these days what's down the road, incest, bestiality kids and where will it ever end," Deano Schweiger said.

There are a couple other books I'd like to ban too. There's this book that's got a lot of incest, sexuality, pedophilia. It's called the Bible" said Graham Killeen.

The West Bend Community Memorial Library director was scheduled to attend the meeting but she was not there. Library officials said they were not at the meeting because the complaints changed.

A spokesperson for the library hopes to address the issue sometime next month; the board will make the final decision.

Previous Stories:

March 4, 2009: [West Bend Meeting Over Books About Homosexuality Postponed](#)

March 3, 2009: [West Bend Books Up For Debate](#)

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