

Some have tried to create new laws at the local level to restrict library collections. [An ordinance was under consideration by the Cass County Council](#) requiring libraries to certify that their collection contained no “sexually explicit” content accessible to minors. However, as we’ve seen throughout the book ban discourse, the vagueness of terms like “sexually explicit” leaves the door open to banning everything from romance novels to books about health to picture books containing LGBTQ+ characters. Fortunately, this particular ordinance has been dropped, but similar laws could be proposed in the future anywhere around the state.

Now that June is here, some libraries have been targeted by “Hide the Pride” initiatives, in which [individuals target Pride-themed book displays, removing books featuring LGBTQ+ people](#). The books may be hidden in another area of the library, checked out and not returned, or simply stolen. For library staff, [Book Riot offers ideas for planning Pride Month displays](#) in the face of recent pushback to inclusion in libraries. Keep in mind that these techniques may not be limited to Pride displays; books about race and history are also frequent targets of book ban efforts.

[Intellectual Freedom Toolkit](#)

Resources for library staff, educators, and librarians: [Intellectual Freedom Message Center](#)
Resources for promoting intellectual freedom: [Advocacy Resource Funds](#)
Support as you take action to protect First Amendment rights.