

ATTACHMENT I

PATRON'S REQUEST FOR EVALUATION OF LIBRARY RESOURCES

We appreciate your interest in the materials which have been selected for inclusion in the collection of the Newport Beach Public Library. If you have a concern about a specific item, we would appreciate your assistance in addressing the matter. The staff will evaluate the material and forward a recommendation to the Library Services Director ("Director"). This completed form and corresponding response from the Director will be included in the Board of Library Trustees agenda packet.

Print Name Haley Jenkins Date 8-30-24



Resources on which you were commenting:

- Book
- Magazine
- Newspaper
- Audiovisual Resource
- Content of Library Program
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

1. Title Grandad's Pride
2. Author/Producer Harry Woodgate
3. What brought this title to your attention?

My daughter grabbed it off the shelf because she saw a rainbow on the spine and cover...

4. Have you seen or heard reviews of this material?

Yes.

5. Please comment on the resource as a whole.

This book is written and illustrated to capture the attention of small children. It sends confusing messages and has highly inappropriate sexualized illustrations. The library has a copy of the author's first book, Grandad's Camper which is much more mild/appropriate

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RECEIVED: SEP 09 2024	RESPONDED: OCT 15 2024	BLT MEETING: OCT 21 2024

for children, while still delivering similar messages with the same characters. This book goes outside of the boundaries of what is age-appropriate.

6. Please note your **specific** concerns.

◦ 5 pages in, there is a gay couple in BDSM gear embracing and making out.  
◦ The next page features a man holding a sign with a pink triangle that says "Silence = death"  
◦ The Grandad States that pride demands that "everyone should be treated with equality and respect" but a few pages later, a

7. What resource(s) would you suggest, to provide additional information on this topic?

- Any resource that explains why children should not be exposed to sexualized materials at an early age.

8. What action are you requesting the Library to consider (remove, relocate, add, other)?

I understand this is a book made for children, so it's strange to move to an adult section, but it can be relocated upstairs to the history / gay rights section. Please move away from children.

Please fill out this form in its entirety and return to **Central Library Administration Office, Attention: Administrative Assistant** (1000 Avocado Avenue, Newport Beach) or by email to [libraryadmin@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:libraryadmin@newportbeachca.gov). You may also drop it off at one of the branches so it can be forwarded to the Central Library. Please use the back of this form if additional space is needed.

Thank you for taking the additional time to complete this form. Your request for evaluation will be given careful consideration and a response provided.

Newport Beach Public Library  
Newport Beach, California

Corrected - October 10, 2006  
Revised - November 16, 2010  
Revised - August 20, 2018  
Revised - August 17, 2020  
Reviewed - August 15, 2022  
Revised - September 18, 2023  
Revised - October 16, 2023  
Revised - January 16, 2024



Woman is holding a sign that says "break the cis-tem" as in being what they label "cis-gender" is a bad thing.

- I am sure that small children that read picture books should not be looking at characters in sexual fetish gear making out, or seeing a grandfather being dressed in drag with a make-up and wig, or be told to "break the cistem."
- Again, the author has a similar book already in the library, with similar, but more age-appropriate messages, and the same characters. This is not about any hatred of the gay community. This is about what is acceptable to show to children. When Newport Beach slowly accepts books with these pictures and messages, it becomes a slippery slope to where sooner or later, anything goes.





October 15, 2024

Ms. Haley Jenkins  
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Jenkins,

Thank you for taking the time to express your concern for the book "Grandad's Pride", written and illustrated by Harry Woodgate. We received your completed Request for Evaluation of Library Resources form and have evaluated the material based on the Newport Beach Public Library Policy NBPL 2, *Collection Development Policy* (Policy).

Collection development is based on specific criteria for selection, and the title meets many of these criteria including community interest and demand, recommendations from professional journals, reputation and qualification of author, suitability of format, and suitability of subject and style to intended audience. Furthermore, additional guidelines are considered when evaluating children's materials, which include age-appropriate subject matter and illustrations, and consideration of the varied interests, abilities and, maturity levels of the children served. This process ensures a balanced and thoughtful approach.

The book is a sequel to award-winning author and illustrator Harry Woodgate's "Grandad's Camper", which is in the children's picture book collection of the Newport Beach Public Library. Woodgate is a Stonewall Book Award Honoree and, as an illustrator, Woodgate won the British Book Awards Children's Illustrated Book of the Year. "Grandad's Pride" has received multiple accolades, including a 2024 Lambda Literary Award Finalist for LGBTQ+ Children's Books, a 2024 Rainbow List Top 10 Titles for Younger Readers, and the 2024 Gerontological Society of America's Book Award for Best Children's Literature on Aging.

The Newport Beach Public Library uses established tools, such as reviews from trusted sources, to evaluate whether a book is appropriate for its intended audience. The book received favorable reviews from Publisher's Weekly and School Library Journal and a starred review from Kirkus Reviews indicating it is of particularly high value. These professional review sources profile the book as suitable for children ages 3-8 or in first through fourth grades, while the Library's purchasing vendor recommends the book for ages 3-6.

Furthermore, Accelerated Reader, a student reading achievement and assessment tool, established the book level as 3.6. This means the book is written in a way that is understandable to individuals who have reading comprehension skills typical of a student near the middle of third grade. Accelerated Reader also takes into account qualitative factors that include levels of meaning, structure, language conventionality, clarity, and knowledge demands. These elements determine an

Interest Level. The Interest Level relates to content and age appropriateness and is based on students' abilities to comprehend the purpose and content of the text as a whole. The Interest Level for "Grandad's Pride" is rated for Lower Grades, or for students in kindergarten through third grade.

The format of "Grandad's Pride" aligns with the children's picture book category. It is a book that combines pictures and text to tell a story and is intended for children. There are 17 other public libraries in Orange County that include "Grandad's Pride" in their collection. All 17 have the book in their children's picture book collection.

The author's accolades and book's award honors, regarded professional reviews, and peer library holdings serve as evidence to the literary, artistic, and intellectual merit of the item as well as the suitability of format. The Children's Collection is intended to "[serve] the informational, educational, social, spiritual, and emotional learning needs, developments, and recreational reading requirements appropriate for child patrons (through sixth grade)", and the reading age spans preschool through fourth grade, which accounts for the variety of maturity levels of children served.

It is the intent of the Policy that we seek to provide "breadth and depth" within our collections as well as various points of view to meet the diverse interests, needs, and backgrounds of the community. In addition, "use of library materials is an individual and private matter. Parents and caregivers have the primary responsibility to guide and direct the use of library materials by the minor children under their care and supervision." Patrons are free to either select or reject materials for themselves and not restrict the freedom of others to read or inquire. The title in question checks out often as does the author's previously published picture book showing interest and demand. This reflects that tastes are individualized and subjective.

After careful consideration of the book, Policy, and professional evaluation, "Grandad's Pride" will remain in the children's picture book collection of the Newport Beach Public Library. Per the Policy, "[i]f a patron disagrees with [this decision], the patron may appeal to the Board for final resolution" in accordance with the application for appeal and procedures attachment within the policy.

Again, we do appreciate your use of the Newport Beach Public Library and that you took the time to contact us with your concerns.

Sincerely,



Melissa Hartson  
Library Services Director

Attachment: Library Policy NBPL 2, *Collection Development Policy*

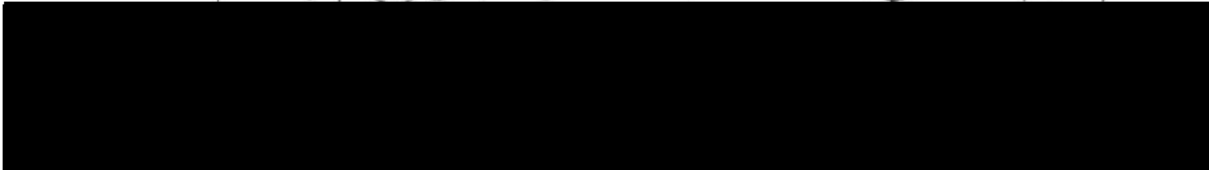


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Print Name Hailey Jenkins Date 9/24/24



Resources on which you were commenting:

- Book
- Magazine
- Newspaper
- Audiovisual Resource
- Content of Library Program
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

1. Title How Do You Make A Baby?

2. Author/Producer Anna Fiske

3. What brought this title to your attention?

- Another local mom found this on the shelf and was disgusted by it. Showed it to our mom's group.

4. Have you seen or heard reviews of this material?

Not until I saw this book.

5. Please comment on the resource as a whole.

The book has a lot of information on where babies come from. However, there is better material out there, that NBPL already owns. This has very poor illustrations, like a 6 year old drew them, and inappropriate questions for children.

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6. Please note your **specific** concerns.

\* One of the pages in the beginning asks children to look at various pictures, and find "Who is having sex here?" like a sick game. There is a line that needs to be drawn between a book giving information, and a book with cheap, very poorly

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7. What resource(s) would you suggest, to provide additional information on this topic?

- NBPL already has many resources on this topic.  
- It's Perfectly Normal was just approved a few meetings ago.

8. What action are you requesting the Library to consider (remove, relocate, add, other)?

Please move this book to an adult section. There is a nonfiction section for adults that has sex as a topic. Place that here. Adults can grab it in that section to be

read to children. DO NOT purchase any further books that ask kids to look for "who is having sex?"  
Please fill out this form in its entirety and return to **Central Library Administration Office, Attention: Administrative Assistant** (1000 Avocado Avenue, Newport Beach) or by email to [libraryadmin@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:libraryadmin@newportbeachca.gov). You may also drop it off at one of the branches so it can be forwarded to the Central Library. Please use the back of this form if additional space is needed.

Thank you for taking the additional time to complete this form. Your request for evaluation will be given careful consideration and a response provided.

Newport Beach Public Library  
Newport Beach, California



- Corrected - October 10, 2006
- Revised - November 16, 2010
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- Revised - September 18, 2023
- Revised - October 16, 2023
- Revised - January 16, 2024



drawn illustrations, asking children to find pictures of people having sex. That is wrong! Where does NBPL draw the line? Or is there no line of what is acceptable for children?

- NBPL already has various resources (Chair Chase R

Commented on this when we discussed *It's Perfectly Normal*) Why does this specific book ~~need~~ need to be on the shelf. Aren't there others with the same information, but done in a more presentable, appropriate way?

- Another page has more cartoonish pictures with a man and a woman kissing naked, with the word "hello!" pointing to the man's penis, and the words "come in!" pointing to the woman's vagina.

- Again, a book can inform without using inappropriate, dumbed down cartoons. NBPL should seek to find high quality books to inform and entertain young readers. This book is not that.



October 16, 2024

Ms. Haley Jenkins  
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Jenkins,

Thank you for taking the time to express your concern for the book "How Do You Make a Baby?", written and illustrated by Anna Fiske and translated by Don Bartlett. We received your completed Request for Evaluation of Library Resources form and have evaluated the material based on the Newport Beach Public Library Policy NBPL 2, *Collection Development Policy* (Policy).

Collection development is based on specific criteria for selection, and the title meets many of these criteria including reputation and qualification of author and illustrator, recommendations from professional journals, suitability of format, and suitability of subject and style to intended audience. Furthermore, additional guidelines are considered when evaluating children's materials, which include age-appropriate subject matter and illustrations, and consideration of the varied interests, abilities, and maturity levels of the children served. This process ensures a balanced and thoughtful approach.

The book's author, Anna Fiske, has received several foreign children's literature awards. "How Do You Make a Baby?" was nominated in the Children's Books category for the Brage Prize, Norway's annually awarded literature prize. The book is included in the author's How-series of titles, all of which have been translated into multiple languages. However, this is the only title in the series available in the United States market. "How Do You Make a Baby?" received mixed reviews from The Horn Book, Kirkus Reviews, Publisher's Weekly, and School Library Journal. These professional review sources profile the book as suitable for children ages 7-12 or in kindergarten through fourth grades, while the Library's purchasing vendor recommends the book for ages 8-12. It is categorized as a children's nonfiction book. Upon review of Orange County library collections, no other library in Orange County has this book in its collection. This may indicate a lack of demand, diminished relevancy, and/or availability of preferred alternatives in nearby communities.

It is the intent of the Policy that we seek to provide "breadth and depth" within our collections as well as various points of view to meet the diverse interests, needs, and backgrounds of the community. In addition, "use of library materials is an individual and private matter. Parents and caregivers have the primary responsibility to guide and direct the use of library materials by the minor children under their care and supervision." Patrons are free to either select or reject materials for themselves and not restrict the freedom of others to read or inquire. The title in question has very few checkouts as compared to other children's nonfiction titles on this subject. This may further suggest a lack of ongoing demand or need for this title.

It is also the intent of the Policy to provide a “contemporary, relevant collection [that meets] the informational, educational and recreational needs of the entire community.” The title in question is coming due for review to assess continued relevance and accuracy within the collection. This process is established in the Policy’s Collection Maintenance provisions.

Collection Maintenance considers several factors to ensure the quality and relevance of the collection. These factors include whether an item is “worn, outdated, superseded or obsolete.” A title with lower usage combined with the age of the title may additionally indicate that relevance to the collection has diminished and/or that alternative resources may be preferred.

After careful consideration of the book, Policy, and professional evaluation, “How Do You Make a Baby?” by Anna Fiske will be withdrawn in accordance with the Collection Maintenance provisions of the Policy. Per the Policy, “[i]f a patron disagrees with [this decision], the patron may appeal to the Board for final resolution” in accordance with the application for appeal and procedures attachment within the policy.

Again, we do appreciate your use of the Newport Beach Public Library and that you took the time to contact us with your concerns.

Sincerely,



Melissa Hartson  
Library Services Director

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