If the State of Utah and its school boards insist on censoring “sensitive” material in our public schools, then they must start with the bible and Book of Mormon.

Replete with violent, graphic, degrading descriptions as well as age-inappropriate stories, the bible meets the very definition provided in H.B. 374 of being “pornographic” and “obscene.” Descriptions of sperm, menstruation, intercourse, rape, incest, masturbation, homosexuality, fornication, adultery, sadism, sexual mutilation and “harlots” and “whores” abound. Sordid tales of incest, rape, voyeurism, pimping, plural marriages, concubinage and more are told, often approvingly, within its covers. Beyond-lewd descriptions, such as found in Ezekiel 23:20–21 and Revelation, Chapter 17, among other passages, cannot even be printed in a family-friendly newspaper. Likewise the Book of Mormon in Moroni 9 describes Nephites raping and murdering prisoners of war, as well as mention of polygamy and concubinage (Jacob 2).

Find documentation of the many X-rated biblical passages in ffrf.org/X-rated and disturbing passages about the biblical deity’s violence, genocides, infanticides, obscenity, racism, sexism, slavemongering and sadism at unpleasantgod.ffrf.org.

Thoughtful people abhor the banning of books, as does the Freedom From Religion Foundation.

Utah cannot adopt one standard for so-called “holy books” and another for all other books. Since public school districts cannot engage in viewpoint discrimination they must carry out Utah’s misguided, dangerous “Sensitive Materials” law in a content-neutral way. If books are being removed for graphic and sexual content, so must the X-rated bible and Book of Mormon be pulled from school libraries. Instead, the Utah Legislature should stop the folly of book banning. The freedom to read and judge for oneself is an inherent part of the First Amendment and a bedrock principle of education.

Join the Freedom From Religion Foundation

FFRF is the nation’s largest association of freethinkers (atheists and agnostics) with more than 40,000 members, and works as a state/church watchdog

ffrf.us/bans  1.800.335.4021

Or ask for information, including a sample of our newspaper, Freethought Today