

Library Director's response to Reconsideration Request
Doing It Right by Bronwen Pardes, 2013
Letter Excerpt

Mission Statement

The mission of the Corpus Christi Public Libraries (CCPL) is to improve literacy, enhance knowledge, and create a sense of community by making useful information easily accessible to the Corpus Christi area.

- *Doing It Right* by Bronwen Pardes enhances knowledge by equipping young adults with information so they can make wise decisions. The book encourages readers to involve parents or trusted adults when making important decisions on sex. The book also gives important information regarding consequences of sexual decisions and includes a wide variety of topics in response to questions asked by teens. The book does not tell readers what to do but gives information without judgement.

Selection

B. Diversity is pursued by attempting to meet the needs of all ages, backgrounds, and educational levels, by providing as many subject fields as possible, and by providing alternative perspectives on unpopular or unorthodox as well as popular materials. The collection represents various opinions and viewpoints on all issues of general concern and should broadly reflect the various ethnic and social groups in the City.

- Sexual health, consent, and being responsible for your sexual decisions is a general concern that broadly reflects all groups within the city. The author is clear that a maturity level is necessary for some decisions and to consult with parents and trusted adults.

D. Patrons are free to choose what they want from the collection, and to reject what they don't like, but not to restrict the freedom of others to choose. It is our goal that within the collection

everyone can find something that brings them joy but we are aware that it won't be the same thing for every one of our users. Decisions about what materials are suitable for particular children should be made by the people who know them best – their parents or guardians. The selection of materials for adults is not constrained by possible exposure to children or teenagers. Library staff is available to assist children and parents in finding the materials that are best suited to the individual child.

- The cover of the book is clear on the topic so patrons can choose not to select the book if they are not ready for that conversation. "Maybe you're thinking about it. Maybe it's years away...The more you know, the easier it is to make safe – and smart – decisions about sex." - From the inside jacket cover of the book. The author is clear and often repeats that a maturity level is necessary for some decisions and to consult with parents and trusted adults.

E. Quality is pursued by applying professional discretion and standards established by the library profession and through the use of appropriate selection aids, including book reviews, bestseller lists, etc.

- Reviewed in Horn Book, Kirkus, Library Media Connection, School Library Journal, and VOYA journals. The book was recommended for purchase and received positive reviews.

Criteria:

- Public interest or demand
 - Information on safe sex, consent, and being responsible with your sexual health is important and of public interest.
- Relevance to the community
 - Sex education is a universal topic.
- Contemporary significance
 - Sex education will always be a contemporary subject.
- Enduring value
 - Although the book was published in 2017, the information is still valid and relevant.
- Treatment of subject for intended audience
 - The author stressed the importance for readers to speak to a parent or trusted adult. The importance of safety, taking sex seriously, and waiting until you're ready is stressed throughout the book. The book is clearly intended for mature teens and young adults.
- Creative, literary, or technical quality
 - The information was factual, and the author well educated on the subject.
- Professional or literary reputation of the author, publisher, or producer
 - The author is a sexual health educator with a master's degree in human sexuality. This degree is directly related to the topic of the book.

After carefully reviewing *Doing It Right* by Bronwen Pardes, we found the book meets several Collection Development Policy selection and criteria requirements. Based on the recommendation of the reconsideration committee, the book will be moved to the adult nonfiction collection as the book covers topics that a wide range of ages will be interested in reading.