



**The Austin Public Library**  
**323 4th Ave NE, Austin, MN 55912**

Re: July 27<sup>th</sup> Event – Drag Queen reading to children.

Dear Julie Clinefelter, Library Director, *and* to the Library Board:

**CC: Sara Steinhoff, Library Secretary – Please make copies for all Library Board Members. Thank you.**

I am requesting that you add an item to your agenda for your next School Board Meeting, on June 12, 2023. Please add this [July 27] topic to your Comments/Discussion time: Drag Queen reading to children. As concerned citizens, we hope that you will not only “discuss” the event but “cancel!” it before it occurs.

I am writing this letter on behalf of a recently formed social action group, **STAND4RIGHT**. The group was initially formed by Austin resident, **Sam Brunton\*** whom you heard speak at your library meeting on May 8, 2023. In addition to Mr. Brunton, about a dozen local Austin citizens spoke against the “**July 27<sup>th</sup> Event – Drag Queen reading to children.**” Included among those who spoke: Pastor Dale Christiansen, Pastor Mike Billat, Pastor Richard Chinander, and me. Unfortunately, you chose to “ignore the elephant in the room” and ignore us.

The reason that I mentioned the clergy present at your meeting is that the first and most important reason to not permit a Drag Queen to speak to our children at your library is biblical. As Christians, we know that God loves all people, as do we; however, God cannot love all people’s behavior when it breaks His laws. One behavior that is a sin, and offends God, is men acting like women (effeminate).



So, for the purposes of this letter, we will define **effeminate** (for men) as lifestyle choices in defiance of a person’s God-given gender. The word translated as “**effeminate**” is also used for male prostitutes (Deuteronomy 23:17; 1 Kings 22:46). Biblically, the Greek word translated “**effeminate**” means “soft and delicate.” In First Corinthians 6:9, this word is listed separately from homosexuality, indicating that they are not synonymous. An “**effeminate**” man in this verse is one who has rejected his masculinity and identifies himself as a female. He may or may not be sexually active but has chosen to act intentionally as a “soft and delicate” person, rather than embrace his God-given male identity. He takes on the characteristics of a female (make-up, and more).

The other reason that I mention the Bible is found in Matthew 18:6 – “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for them to have a great millstone fastened around their neck and to be drowned in the sea.”

It’s one thing for someone to read an appropriate children’s book to a child, dressed as a character in that story; but it is an entirely differently matter for an LGBTQ advocate to read pro-LGBTQ agenda-based stories to innocent children. These children are unable to process the information that they are given in a manner that does not leave them anxious, confused, or afraid. Such activities promote controversial ideas such as: “**A child may have been born with the wrong gender body. God must have made a mistake when He created you. A child can choose to be any gender they want to be.**” Statements, such as these, hidden in a child’s book, cause children to doubt their own worth as a person.

Scientifically and biologically a person’s gender is either male or female, period. Why have some members of our society decided to try and change this basic truth? Could this be due to the LGBTQ agenda wanting to change society for their own purposes? Some even fear that the gay and lesbian community is grooming our children at a very young age to show youngsters that such unique behavior is normal. Are we, the members of

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the Austin community, being manipulated by this group through an event at our own Public Library? Are we not, as parents and as a community, supposed to protect our children? Or are we to just "go with the flow" of "times are changing" and wait until it's too late to do anything about the brain-washing effects this sweeping LGBTQ agenda has on our children? This behavior is manipulative, not normal, nor is it acceptable to most of the people in the Austin community. Another idea that has slowly slipped into our society is "living together" instead of getting married. Living together is fornication and is clearly stated in the Bible as a sin.

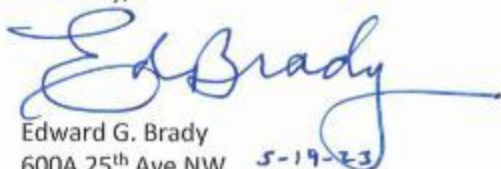
Other reasons to cancel this Drag Queen July 27<sup>th</sup> event before it occurs were mentioned by the citizens present at your Board Meeting held on May 8, 2023. They voiced these complaints: The Library is a public facility and is supported by tax dollars. It may be acceptable for Drag Queens to read books for onlookers at privately owned establishments, but not in a public tax supported facility. Parents and grandparents want their children to come to the Library frequently, trusting that they are in a safe environment. The public display by a man dressed as a woman is inherently confusing to children and inappropriate. These Drag Queen library events may be okay with cities like New York City, but they do not represent the traditional, conservative morals and values of the small community of Austin, MN. The phrase, "I'm going to the Library" should be welcomed by parents, not feared.

To resolve the problem I, as a representative of the Austin **STAND4RIGHT** social action group, respectfully request that the **Austin Library Board Members** discuss this event at your next meeting on June 12, 2023. Please make sure that "Drag Queen reading to children" is on the agenda. Members of our social action group will be in attendance at that meeting. We hope that your discussion comes to the same conclusion that we hold important to the future of our children: We want this event cancelled before it occurs, and all similar future events be banned from occurring at our local library. This letter is not "against" the library, it is "for" morally appropriate events for the children in our Austin community. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Allow me to close this letter with a suggestion. This idea could be the answer to this issue for the **Austin Public Library**, and the citizens of our community. Whether you replace "Drag Queens reading to children" with "Senior Citizens reading to children," or not, please Cancel the drag queen event. *Thanks.*

**"REPLACE DRAG QUEEN STORY HOUR WITH SENIOR CITIZEN STORY HOUR. BRING IN GREAT GRANDMAS AND GRANDPAS FROM SENIOR LIVING HOMES TO READ TO THESE KIDS."**

Sincerely,



Edward G. Brady  
600A 25<sup>th</sup> Ave NW

5-19-23



CC: Sam Brunton\*

Replace drag queen story hour with senior citizen story hour. Bring in great grandmas and grandpas from senior living homes to read to these kids.

