

HF 2121: Iowa's Plan to Ban Heterosexuality from the Classroom

I applaud the Iowa Legislature's bold effort to ban discussion of "sexual orientation" in schools. Since heterosexuality is, by definition, a sexual orientation, faithful enforcement of this bill will finally spare Iowa students from centuries of inappropriate content.

To comply, Iowa schools must remove:

Little House on the Prairie — Charles and Caroline Ingalls' marriage is an explicit heterosexual relationship.

Grant Wood's American Gothic — a man and a woman together? On a farm? Deeply suggestive.

The Music Man — Harold Hill and Marian the Librarian engage in courtship. Orientation-forward and unacceptable.

Iowa and U.S. history must also go: Herbert and Lou Henry Hoover's marriage, lessons on family farms and "generations" (how do legislators think generations happen?), and any reference to veterans returning home to their wives.

School life will need revision as well: Mother's and Father's Day, teachers mentioning spouses, school plays with romances, and prom king and queen (royalty and heterosexual implication—double violation).

To ensure compliance, schools should replace "mom and dad" with "Adult Care Unit A and B" and describe historical figures as "Iowans who lived together in a legally ambiguous arrangement."

If this sounds absurd, it's because the bill is. Either all sexual orientations are banned—or the law is pretending one is "neutral" while labeling others "political." Thanks for your accidental commitment to banning The Music Man and most of Western civilization.