Of Mice and Men, by John Steinbeck  
Stacks - PS 3537 .T3234 O2 1970b  
Banned and challenged because the work is “indecent” and contains “profanity”.

Native Son, by Richard Wright  
Stacks - PS 3545 .R815 1991a (Early Works)  
Challenged because of "sexually graphic and violent" content.

The Satanic Verses, by Salman Rushdie  
Stacks - PR6068 .U757 S27 1989  
Banned in several countries for being critical of Islam.

Song of Solomon, by Toni Morrison  
Reserve Room - 3 hour loan - PS3563 .O8749 S6  
Complainants claim the books is "filth," "trash," and "repulsive."

What is Banned Books Week?  
Launched in 1982, Banned Books Week draws attention to the problem of censorship and celebrates the freedom to read. This year, Banned Books Week will be held from September 30th to October 6th. Libraries and bookstores around the country are hosting events and creating displays of challenged books.

What books have been banned and/or challenged?  
Below, you will find a selected list of titles available at the John Jay Library that you can borrow.

1984, by George Orwell  
Stacks – PR6029 .R8 N647 2009  
Challenged in Jackson County, Florida for its “pro-communist and… explicit sexual” content.

Beloved, by Toni Morrison  
Stacks – PS3563 .O8749 B4 1987  
Challenged for its violent and sexual content.

Brave New World, by Aldous Huxley  
Stacks - PR 6015 .U9 B65 1946  
Frequently challenged because the work contains adults themes such as sex, drugs and suicide.

Where can I get more information?  
Visit www.bannedbooksweek.org for event listings. Also visit www.ala.org/advocacy/banned/bannedbooksweek for a list of additional banned books.

Karen Okamoto
Gone with the Wind, by Margaret Mitchell
Stacks - PS 3525 .I972 G6 1968
Challenged because it contains racially charged language.

The Catcher in the Rye, by JD Salinger
Stacks - PS3537.A426 C315 1991
Frequently challenged for its “obscene” content.

The Color Purple, by Alice Walker
Stacks - PS 3573 .A425 C6 1982
Repeatedly challenged for a range of reasons, including the work’s sexual content and “rough language”.

The Lord of the Flies, by William Golding
Reserve Room - 3 day loan - PR6013 .O35 L6 1997
Challenged because of profanity, its sexual content, and denigrating statements about minorities, God, women and people with disabilities.

Go Tell It on the Mountain, by James Baldwin
Challenged because of recurring references to rape, masturbation, violence and the negative treatment of women.

The Grapes of Wrath, by John Steinbeck
Stacks - PS 3537 .T3234 G8 1967b
Complainants state that the "book is full of filth".

In Cold Blood, by Truman Capote
Stacks - HV6533 .K3 C3 1994
In 1999, a parent’s complaint about sex, violence and profanity sparked controversy in a Savannah, GA, high school.

Invisible Man, by Ralph Ellison
Reserve Room - 3 hour loan - PS3555 .L625 I5 1995
Content considered violent and sexually explicit.

To Kill a Mockingbird, by Harper Lee
Stacks - PS3562 .E353 T6 2002
Claimed to promote racial hatred and said to contain profanity and adult themes such as “sexual intercourse, rape, and incest”.

In 1979, challenged because of its references to women as “whores”.

Catch-22, by Joseph Heller
Stacks - PS3558 .E476 C3 1996
In 1979, challenged because of its references to women as “whores”.

The Lord of the Flies, by William Golding
Reserve Room - 3 day loan - PR6013 .O35 L6 1997
Challenged because of profanity, its sexual content, and denigrating statements about minorities, God, women and people with disabilities.

Go Tell It on the Mountain, by James Baldwin
Challenged because of recurring references to rape, masturbation, violence and the negative treatment of women.