

Arrowhead Union High School  
LITERATURE TEXT ADOPTION RECOMMENDATION

DEPARTMENT Language Arts

SCHOOL YEAR 2005-2006

CLASS Modern Literature

REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS Dave Watry, Gred Budzien, Andy Freeburg,  
Darcie Vacek

RECOMMENDED TEXT

Why Gender Matters  
By Leonard Sax, MD, PhD  
Double Day Publishers  
2005

OTHER TEXTS REVIEWED

Lessons in Taxidermy  
The Night in Question

**RATIONALE FOR LITERATURE TEXT PURCHASE** (check all that apply)

Previous texts are worn  
Previous texts are outdated  
There was a change in curriculum  
 Text rotation  
Other Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

The following has been taken into consideration in the selection of this literature text.

CONTENT

Meets state and national standards  
 Meets local Power Standards  
 Aligns with course curriculum  
 Integrates with other content areas  
 Reflects a cultural and pluralistic society  
 Appropriate for age group  
 Provokes critical discourse  
 Reflects board policy for selection of materials

***Please explain any areas not checked and/or elaborate on the qualities of the book chosen.***

Arrowhead Union High School  
TEACHER'S RATIONALE FOR LITERATURE IN THE CURRICULUM

DEPARTMENT Language Arts

CLASS Modern Literature

GRADE LEVEL(S) 11-12

TEACHER COMPLETING FORM Greg Budzien and Diane Judd  
Approximate date(s) a book will be used: X Semester 1 Semester 2

This book will be (check one or more):

X studied by the whole class.

studied by small groups.

placed on a reading list.

recommended to individual students.

part of a larger study of (explain):

other (explain):

Ways in which the book is especially appropriate for students in this class:

Gender assumptions and stereotypes are analyzed through science and anecdotes in this novel. Any student is familiar with these generalizations and can benefit from knowing the truth behind them.

This book is especially pertinent to the objectives of this course since it is a relevant issue to the Arrowhead community with the creation of gender courses.

Ways in which the book is especially pertinent to the objectives of this course or unit:

This is a thought provoking read that gets kids intrigued not only to read but also to question the issue of gender in their own experiences. It challenges the assumptions we make about gender and its affects on developing children, and combines scientific evidence with anecdotal quips to keep the reader involved in the book.

Indicate types of concepts in this book that might be questionable to some readers:

Some gender stereotypes are made in order for Dr. Sax to offer ways to break them down.

Recommendation for parent notification: Yes X No

Special problems that might arise in relation to the book and some planned activities that handle this problem:

NONE

Some other appropriate books an individual student might read in place of this book:

Raising Cain: Protecting the Emotional Life of Boys by Dan Kindlon and Michael Thompson

Summary of the book:

Forget everything you think you know about gender differences in children.

Forget "boys are competitive, girls are collaborative." In recent years, scientists have discovered that differences between girls and boys are more profound than

anybody guessed. It is an analysis that encourages readers to think about gender's affect in our lives.

Reviews and/or awards of the book or author:

It has been featured on the Today show

Reviewed by Scientific American, National Review Online, and Publisher's Weekly

Other reviews include Time Magazine, The New York Times and The Boston Globe.

***Once approved, a copy of the Rationale for Literature in the Curriculum should be posted on the AHS web page.***

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Department Chair/Department Liaison Signature Date

This form must be completed and on file with the district administrator before purchasing materials.

4/05