

Meenan, Evan

From: Jiron, Justin
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 12:04 PM
To: Ron Hoague; George, Sarah
Subject: RE: Reporting complain against High School

It would be difficult to satisfy the definition of "harmful to minors" as that is defined by the statute. The material has to appeal to the prurient, shameful or morbid interest of minors, be patently offensive to the prevailing standards of the adult community as a whole and lack serious literary, artistic value. Pretty high bar to meet.

From: Ron Hoague <rhoague@essex.org>
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 11:38 AM
To: George, Sarah <Sarah.George@vermont.gov>
Cc: Jiron, Justin <Justin.Jiron@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Reporting complain against High School

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That's exactly what I presumed. I agree this is something she should address with the school board. Thanks very much for the quick reply. Have a nice weekend.



Ron Hoague | Chief of Police
ESSEX POLICE DEPARTMENT
145 Maple Street | Essex Jct., VT 05452
Ph. 802-857-0093

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From: George, Sarah <Sarah.George@vermont.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 11:09 AM
To: Ron Hoague <rhoague@essex.org>
Cc: Jiron, Justin <Justin.Jiron@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Reporting complain against High School

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Hi Chief,
Thanks for reaching out on this. We would absolutely not prosecute this. I don't think it meets the criteria, I do not think its harmful to minors, and as you stated, there is not an individual displaying it. She could report her concerns to the school board if she wishes but I think its great that the school is recognizing this super common confusion amongst teens and providing information to them about what it may mean. I have a lot more I could say about it but I'll leave it at that.
Hope that helps.
Sarah

From: Ron Hoague <rhoague@essex.org>
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 10:59 AM

To: George, Sarah <Sarah.George@vermont.gov>
Cc: Jiron, Justin <Justin.Jiron@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: Reporting complain against High School

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Good morning! I received the below email last night. Before I give her a response and decide how we should handle this, I was hoping you could have one of the attorneys look at this and tell me if this meets the statute and the likelihood of prosecution. My initial inclination is no to both as the statutes include the wording 'which is harmful to minors' (open to interpretation) in addition to there not being an individual person who is displaying or distributing the material but rather an institution.

I know you all have many other priorities so please give this the attention it deserves. Thanks for everything.



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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 28, 2021 8:34 PM
To: Ron Hoague <rhoague@essex.org>
Subject: Reporting complain against High School

CAUTION: EXTERNAL MAIL. DO NOT CLICK ON LINKS OR OPEN ATTACHMENTS YOU DO NOT TRUST

Hello Chief,

I am contacting to report a complaint against Essex High School for making obscene, pornographic material available to minors in its library. In particular, the book Gender Queer. I am attaching word doc containing the images and text within the book from the Essex High School Library shelf. Can you investigate? I have the book in my possession.

I believe these images and its verbal content violate Vermont's Obscenity laws.

I prefer my name to remain anonymous because I do not want myself or my child targeted for reporting this. But this is not okay and is against Vermont laws. So if they think it's acceptable to break the Vermont laws linked below, what others do they break? They are being negligent in their duty of care of minors they are supposed to be educating.

[REDACTED]

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/13/063/02802a>

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