

Censorship Challenge Report – Quarter 2 FY2014

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This has been a quarter of big, messy, ongoing challenges. The highlights of October-December of 2013 include

- a positive resolution to five of the eight challenges listed at the end of the report (!);
- a legal follow-up to the January 2012 banning of the [Ethnic Studies Curriculum in Tuscon Schools](#) as NCTE signed on to an amicus curiae brief with ALA, NCAC, and others (<http://www.ncac.org/NCAC-Joins-Brief-in-Lawsuit-Challenging-Arizonas-Ethnic-Studies-ban>; paste url into your browser);
- Judy Blume’s winning the [NCTE/SLATE Intellectual Freedom Award](#) and agreeing to pitch in as a last-minute speaker for the Opening General Session of the NCTE Annual Convention when Tony Danza couldn’t come;
- the third North Carolina challenge this school year, this time to [Isabel Allende’s House of the Spirits](#), for which [Allende has written a defense](#) and which will face its third “trial” this month;
- the continued use of and challenges to Common Core Standards text exemplars and a scholar working with ALA to investigate this trend;
- continued and enhanced work with the [National Coalition Against Censorship](#) and the [Office of Intellectual Freedom of the American Library Association](#).

Below is a chart comparing the Quarter 2 FY2014 and the Quarter 2 FY2013 challenges and numbers of challenged texts. A few things to know as you compare the numbers are the following:

- *Number of challenges = number of individuals who reported challenges.*
- *Number of works challenged is usually higher because often challenges involve more than one work.*
- *Censorship Challenge Reports by quarter are posted on the [NCTE website](#).*

October 2013	November 2013	December 2013	Q2 FY2014 Totals
4 challenges, 4 texts	2 challenges, 2 texts; 1 sign on to amicus curiae; 1 request for information	2 challenges, 1+++ texts	8 challenges, 8++++ texts; 1 sign on to amicus curiae; 1 request for information
October 2012	November 2012	December 2012	Q2 FY2013 Totals
4 challenges, 4 texts; 1 request for information	4 challenges, 11 texts	3 challenges, 3 texts	11 challenges, 18 texts; 1 request for information