

419 WORDS CENSORED BY FEMINIST EDITORS

from *The Language Police* (2003)

Diane Ravitch

“This is a compilation of words, usages, stereotypes, and topics banned by major publishers of educational materials and state agencies. They have been collated from various bias guidelines that editors, writers, and illustrators use when preparing textbooks and tests. This list would be even longer if I had been able to obtain the bias guidelines from every publisher, state testing agency, and professional association. The first section is a dictionary of banned words, along with the recommended alternative when there is one. Each entry ends with a reference to its source, which is identified by its initials; the sources will be found at the end of this document. The sections that follow contain lists of banned usages, stereotypes, and topics.”

Ravitch, 171

Listed below are some of the banned words, without explanations or alternatives, for which see Ravitch. The reason for the ban in most cases is that the word might offend someone, Feminists in particular--the editors themselves. Most of the banned words are called “sexist.” Editors moved around in publishing houses; hence many editors of textbooks also selected and edited novels. The ban on these particular words is evidence of a unisex agenda and prejudices against males, non-feminist women, traditional gender roles, marriage, religion, literature and Indians.

Michael Hollister (2015)

BANNED WORDS

Able-bodied
Able-bodied seaman
Abnormal
Actress
Adam and Eve
Afflicted
Aged
Airman
America
Americans
American policy
American economy
Anchorman
Arthritic patient
Authoress
Average working man
Aviatrix
Babe
Backward
Backwoodsman
Ball and chain
Barbarian
Baseman
Batsman
Beast
Bellman
Best man for the job
Better half

Biddy
Birdman
Birth defect
Bitch
Black
Blacks
Blind, the
Blind as a bat
Blind leading the blind
Boatman
Bookworm
Border patrolman
Boyish figure
Boys' night out
Brave
Brotherhood
Brotherhood of man
Bubbler
Buck
Busboy
Bushman
Businessman
Businesswoman
Busman
Busybody
Cabin boy
Cameraman
Career girl
Career woman
Cassandra
Cattleman
Caveman
Chairman
Chick
Chief
Chief Sitting Bull
Chippewa
Cleaning woman
Clergyman
Codger
Coed
Colored
Confined to a wheelchair
Congressman
Costume
Councilman
Courageous
Cover girl
Cowboy
Cowgirl
Craftsman
Craftsmanship
Crazy
Creature
Credit to her/his race
Cripple

Crippled
Cro-Magnon man
Crone
Crotchety
Cult
Culturally deprived
Culturally disadvantaged
Dame
Dark Continent
Deaf and dumb
Deaf-mute
Defective
Deformed
Delivery boy
Deliveryman
Devil
Dialect
Differently abled
Dirty old man
Disabled, the
Dissenter
Distaff side
Dogma
Doorman
Down's syndrome
Draftsman
Drunk
Drunken
Drunkenness
Duffer
Dummy
Dwarf
Early man
East
Eastern
Economically disadvantaged
Egghead
Elderly, the
Eskimo
Exceptionalities
Exotic
Extremist
Factory foreman
Fair sex
Fairy
Fanatic
Fat
Fatherland
Feeble-minded
Fellowship
Fellow worker
Feminine wiles
Filly
Fireman
Fisherman
Forefathers

Foreman
Founding Fathers
Four eyes
Fraternity
Fraternize
Freak
Freshman
Frontiersman
Gal
Gal Friday
Girl Friday
Garbage man
Gay
Geezer
Geriatric patient
Gimp
Girl
Girlish laughter
Girls, the
God
Golden Agers
Gringo
Groundsman
Grow to manhood
Handicap
Handicapped, the
Handicapped person
Handyman
He
Headman
Hearing-impaired
Heathen
Heiress
Hell
He-man
Henpecked husband
Heretic
Heroine
Hispanic American
Homosexual
Hordes
Horseman
Horsewoman
Hottentot
Houseman
Housemaid
Housewife
Hussy
Huts
Idiot
Imbecile
Inconvenienced
Indian giver
Insane
Inscrutable
Inspirational

Insurance man
Invalid
Jewess
Journeyman
Jungle
Junk bonds
Junkman
King Philip
Kinsman
Ladies, the
Lady
Lady doctor
Lady lawyer
Ladylike
Lame
Landlord
Landlady
Latin American
Laundress
Laundryman
Layman
Lazy
Letterman
Limping along
Lineman
Linesman
Little person
Little woman, the
Longshoreman
Lumberjack
Lumberman
Lunatic
Maid
Mailman
Majority group
Male nurse
Male secretary
Man
Mankind
Men
Man's achievement
Man and wife
Manhood
Manhunt
Maniac
Manly
Man-made
Mannish
Man-of-war
Man on the street
Manpower
Man-sized job
Masculine drive
Massacre
Maven
Mental deficiency

Mentally ill, the
Mentally retarded
Middle East
Middleman
Midget
Milkman
Minority group
Mister, the
Mongoloid
Mother Russia
Mothering
Motherland
Mrs., the
Mulatto
Mute
Mysterious
Myth
Native
Navajo
Newsboy
Newsman
Niggardly
Night watchman
Nobleman
Normal
Office boy
Old
Old folks
Old hag
Old lady
Old maid
Old maidish
Old man
Old witch
Old wives' tales
Ombudsman
One-man band
One-man show
Orient
Oriental
Overcoming a disability
Pagan
Paper boy
Papoose
Paralytic
Paraplegic
Past one's prime
Peculiar
Physically challenged
Plainsman
Poetess
Policeman
Pollyanna
Polo
Pop
Postman

Postmaster
Postmistress
Pressman
Primitive
Primitive man
Profoundly deaf
Provider, the
Public-relations man
Red man
Redskin
Regatta
Repairman
Retard
Retardate
Retarded, the
Right-hand man
Roaming the land
Rocking-chair brigade
Salesman
Saleswoman
Satan
Savages
Schoolgirl
Schoolboy
Sculptress
Seaman
Seamstress
Sect
Senile
Senility
Senior citizen
Serviceman
Showman
Sickly
Sightless
Sioux
Sissy
Sissified
Slave
Sneaky
Snow ball
Snow cone
Snowman
Sob sister
Soda
Songstress
Sophisticated
Soul food
Spastic
Special
Spinster
Spinsterish
Spokesman
Sportsman
Sportswoman
Sportsmanship

Squaw
Statesmen
Steward
Stewardess
Stickball
Stone deaf
Strange
Straw man
Subgroup
Substandard English
Sufferer of cerebral palsy
Suffragette
Swarms
Swarthy
Sweet young thing
Third World
Tomboy
Tote
Tribe
Tribesman
Turning a deaf ear
Underdeveloped
Unfortunate
Ushette
Victim
Victim of blindness
Waitress
Wandering the land
Warlike
Warrior
Weak sister
Weaker sex
Weatherman
West
Western
Wheelchair bound
White
Whites
Whole
Wife, the
Wild
Woman doctor
Woman driver
Womanish
Women's work
Women's libber
Workingman
Workman
Workmanlike
Workmanship
Yacht
Yes-man

Michael Hollister (2016)