

What to do about it

To avoid funding anti-trans lawsuits, avoid purchasing Potter.

Beyond that, everyone is going to have a different answer. Our experiences with literature can be deep and life-altering. That's a good thing! It's also why this hurts.

If nothing else, keep in mind that Harry Potter parties and other promotions can now come off as – at best – insensitive, and hostile at worst to trans youth and adults.

Should we pull these books from library shelves? Absolutely not. But teachers and librarians don't need to promote them beyond what other stories and authors receive.

As a public librarian myself, I've never told a kid that Harry Potter books are bad or that they shouldn't read them. **This situation isn't on the kids.**

How much is on adults trying to satisfy our own nostalgia by keeping these Hogwarts stories on a uniquely special pedestal?

Sometimes the best thing we can do with any school is to graduate and move on.



Readalikes

No book is a replacement for another, but there is SO MUCH more magic and wonder out there in series like *Witchlings* by Claribel A. Ortega and all the series under the Rick Riordan Presents imprint.

Ask a teacher or librarian for more!

References

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What's the deal with...

Boycotting Harry Potter

A friendly explanation



The Author

Why have so many Harry Potter fans stopped putting money in J.K. Rowling's pocket? Because she proudly spends it on **harming kids**.

In the late 2010s, Rowling started showing signs of opposition to transgender rights. In June 2020, Daniel Radcliffe – who played Harry Potter – published a letter in support of trans fans of the series.¹ He wrote:

78% of transgender and nonbinary youth reported being the subject of discrimination due to their gender identity. **It's clear that we need to do more to support transgender and nonbinary people, not invalidate their identities, and not cause further harm.**

Two days later, Rowling posted an essay saying, "I'm deeply concerned about the consequences of the current trans activism." She painted trans youth as victims of peer pressure and the inclusion of trans adults as an invitation for sexual predators into women's spaces.²

The Kids

Transgender means having a different gender identity than what was assigned at birth. Gender identity forms around age 3–4 and can change over time. Most youth became consciously aware of their trans identity by age 11.³



Lack of support and outright bullying causes harm to trans youth, including higher rates of depression and suicide.

On the other hand, even one accepting adult can greatly reduce these risks.⁴

For many trans people, the fictional world of Hogwarts was a warm, welcoming place. A world to grow their love of reading and connect with a broad fandom.⁵ Rowling's comments have soured that joy, but this goes beyond disappointment in a former hero.

The Money

Rowling receives money from all Harry Potter related purchases.

In 2022, she was asked, "How do you sleep at night knowing you've lost a whole audience from buying your books?" She responded: "I read my most recent royalty cheques and find the pain goes away pretty quickly."⁶

This all escalated in 2024 when Rowling began publicly funding anti-trans legal actions. She donated £70,000 to the group 'For Women Scotland' to help fight trans inclusion before the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom. This resulted in a loss of legal protections under Equality Act 2010 in Scotland.⁷

In May 2025, she announced the J.K. Rowling Women's Fund which offers private legal funding to fight against transgender inclusion.⁸

In July 2026, Amnesty International UK reported on 117 anti-rights organizations. Rowling invited those named in the report to apply to her private fund for assistance. The report was retracted.⁹ **Our fan money has become an anti-rights war chest.**