

Banned Books List Official Information Request (December 2020)

Request

Could you please attach a complete list of banned books in New Zealand. Please note that I don't want any film or other media, just books and/or manuscripts and/or pamphlets.

Response

Please note that this response was made in December 2020. As such, these spreadsheets reflect the list at the time of response and may not be an accurate reflection of the current banned books list. Please [contact the Information Unit](#) if you would like a copy of the list.

I have attached two spreadsheets which together include all banned books in New Zealand. Note that the Classification Office started operating in 1994, and replaced the previous Indecent Publications Tribunal as the authority responsible for classifying text-based publications such as books. In most cases, decisions by the Indecent Publications Tribunal are still in force today.

- The IPT banned books 1964-1994 spreadsheet includes all books banned by the former Indecent Publications Tribunal. These are still in force unless otherwise indicated in the spreadsheet.
- The OFLC banned books to 19 November 2020 spreadsheet includes all books banned by the Classification Office since opening in 1994.

No pamphlets have been banned by the Classification Office. The IPT banned two pamphlets:

- IPT83-1070 (6 of 7) - Centurians Sales Pamphlet - 23/06/1983
- IPT83-1070 (7 of 7) - Centurians Video Tape Sales Pamphlet - 23/06/1983

There are no publications listed as 'manuscripts'. We are not aware of any manuscripts being classified or banned, but there is a chance that manuscripts would have been categorised as 'books' in which case they would be captured by the lists provided.

I hope this information is useful. If you are concerned that your request under the Official Information Act has not been dealt with appropriately you have the right to complain to the Office of the Ombudsman:

Freephone 0800 802 602

Email: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz

Attachments:

- [Copy of IPT banned books 1964-1994](#) (XLS, 198 KB)
- [Copy of OFLC Banned books to 19 November 2020](#) (XLS, 52 KB)