Jacob Yevdayev 670

Have you ever read a book about a time in history and been really interested? Well companies now are wanting to change history to “modernize” it. I believe that changing or sanitizing books is useless and terrible. They say that they will take a careful look at what they are changing, but they make many changes without a careful look. For example a writer has said himself “ Roald Dahl is no angel but this is absurd censorship.”

Should publishers want to sanitize “A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" which people want to do, you will be erasing or changing an important era in New York history just because people aren't happy or feel offended. Lastly if you change To Kill a Mockingbird you will be changing something even more important such as United States History particularly Jim Crow South.

 Rushie said “ Roahl Dahl is no angel but this is absurd censorship.” What he means is in the books that Roald Dahl has created they are making absurd or useless changes such as changing fat to enormous which to me it feels like fat is better than enormous. Should the book published texts keep changing to make it less funny or offensive,kids will start to care less and forget about his books in total.

 Sanitizing A Tree Grows In Brooklyn would be a changing a record of an important time in New York history and how people lived back then while New York was still up and coming. For example in the article, Why Sanitizing Books is Worse than Banning Them by Grace Elezibith Mathew it says “ Maybe my sons won't read A Tree Grows in Brooklyn or To Kill a Mockingbird. But if they do they will read them whole.” In the same article it says, “ A classic book is an entity, like a historical building, whose existence is inextricable from its totality. To Kill a Mockingbird isn't just a novel but a living thing, rooted in the historical moment in which it was published and in the years since through which it has been loved, hated, contemplated and adapted for the stage and screen.” Lastly in this article it says there are lots of great novels to choose from that don't hold such radioactive material.

 But why do companies choose to change books or ban them? Well for example a company wants to change "fat" to "enormous" out of one of the best books ever Willy Wonka and The Chocolate Factory. Yes,changing "fat" to "enormous" might be less offensive to **SOME** people but to me I believe it's a useless change and basically means the same thing. There are more changes that I believe are useless such as changing the word "female"to "woman" which makes absolutely no sense. Then there's changing a great flock of ladies to a great group of ladies which is partially understandable.

 In conclusion, I think sanitizing books is completely useless and terrible. Some changes might improve people's ideas of a specific book, but most are useless and basically mean the same thing such as the change of female to woman. Sure there is some offensive language, but if you allow people to change written history in books, what will people change next?