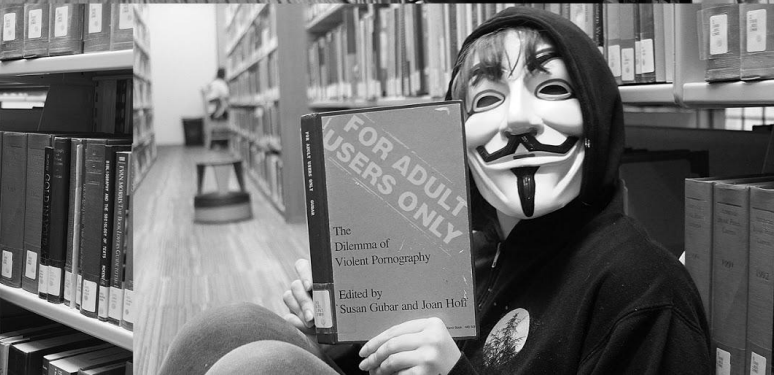
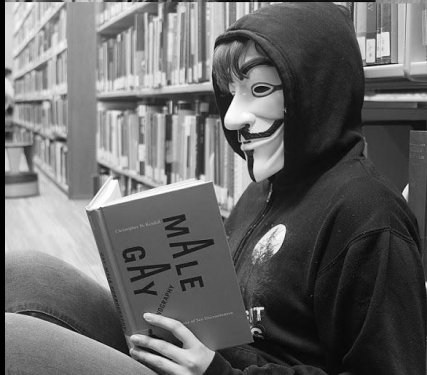


True Face

abstract

In this photo project, participants were asked to choose books from the Chapman Library that they normally would not want to be seen reading in public. Because of the anonymity provided by the Guy Fawkes mask and black hooded sweatshirt, social concerns about reading perceived illicit material were no longer threats. This collection explores the tradeoff being made between censored content or censored identity. It illustrates the power that identity holds over our willingness to revolt against the status quo.

The commentary of each reader regarding his or her choice of book is displayed next to each image.



NO GODS, NO MASTERS

“Even when individuals are encouraged to question the powers present in their lives, there are boundaries which cannot be crossed. It is forbidden to imagine life without ever-present authority, and those who do so are quickly denounced as radical, dangerous, and shallow.”



ON BULLSHIT

“This book is about argumentation. Effective debate skills are important to change power in a democracy, but, with such a shocking title, this book might not be my first choice to read in public.”



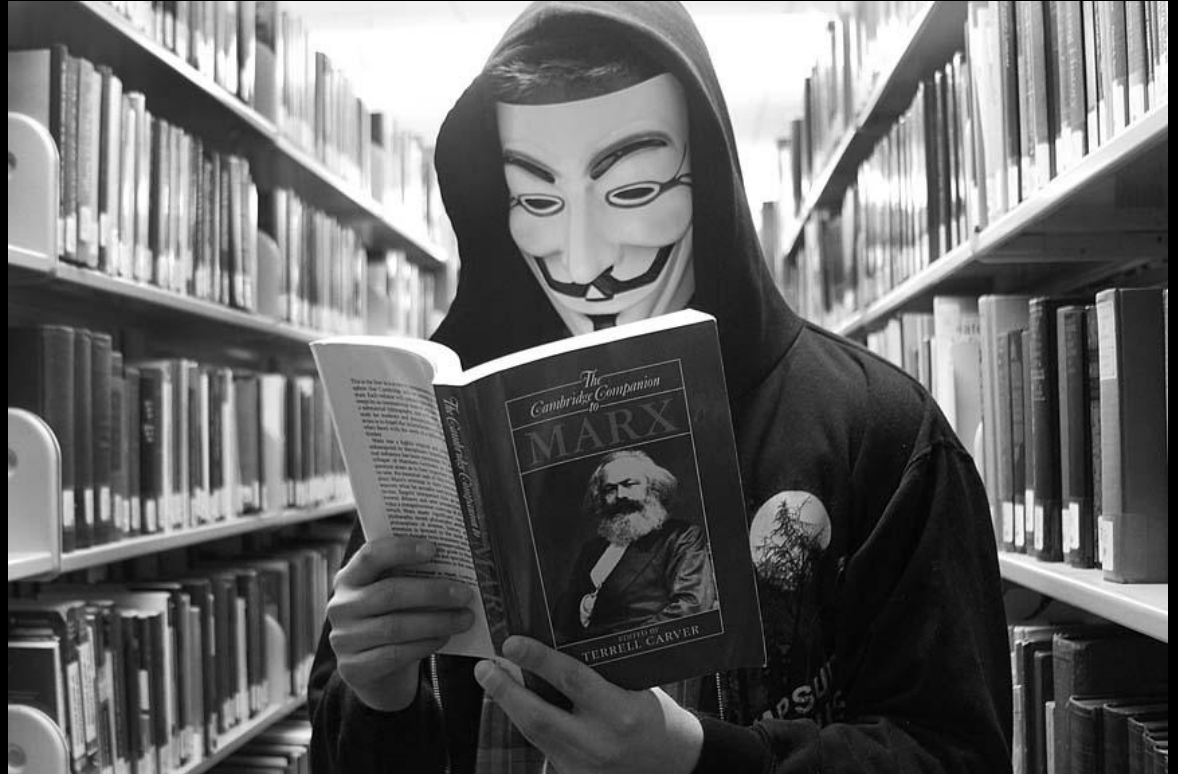
BOUND AND GAGGED

“I chose a book on bondage because of the fascination and discomfort I feel towards the subject. It is a book I would prefer to read anonymously not only because it seems taboo socially in many ways, but also because of my lack of experience with bondage and sex. As much as I am fascinated by it and want to know more, it is a territory I will never feel comfortable with personally.”



THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO MARX

“Man, I don’t want to be seen reading this! HUAC still exists, right? And Richard Nixon’s still in office? Good thing I have this mask to keep me safe from ol’ Tricky Dick while I read this communist propaganda.”

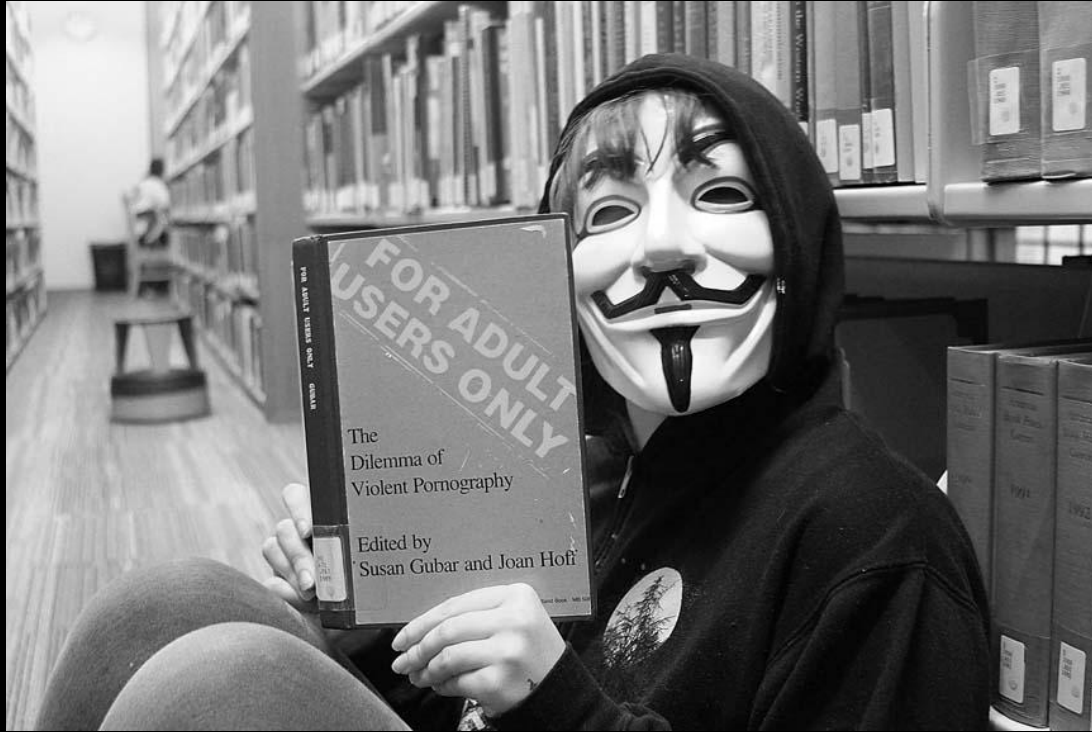


Gay male Pornography

“As a member of the LGBT community, I value my privacy. I’m not out in every area of my life, and thus a book discussing LGBT issues would be something I prefer to read in private. This particular book is anti-pornography (straight or gay) because it views it as perpetuating sexism and homophobia. This idea of censorship would also be considered radical in certain spectrums of my social life.”



FOR ADULT USERS ONLY



“This is an area of study that fascinates me, but not a topic I would generally want associated with my social identity. While sex and violence permeates every aspect of our social media, we’re still expected to be shy about enjoying either, especially not together.”

THE EXPLODING UNIVERSITY

“The free speech movement arose out of the students’ realization of their power as the main composite and purpose for universities. This book was written to challenge the idea of the university itself. As students here at Chapman we also have the power to undermine the attempts by our university to control our actions and thus our educational experiences. Such thoughts are typically seen as scheming and aggressive; this is not necessarily the case. Such power is inherent in our identity as students and whether or not we use it, is important for us to know, as well as for the university to remember, what we can do.”



COMPILED BY

NICOLE CONNOLLY

JOSEPH DYE

KATEY PHILLIPS

CRISTIANA WILCOXON

SETH YUND