Fascism, Book Banning, and Non-Violent Direct Action Rachel Robison-Greene

1 – Should parents have ultimate control over what their children read? Should they have ultimate control until the child reaches a certain age? Why or why not?

2 – According to John Stuart Mill, freedom of expression (whether spoken or written) is crucial in the pursuit of truth and progress. Mill argues that even if something that someone says or writes is wrong or offensive, we can learn from them. They might be right about some things, and if not, refuting their statements helps us to better understand and defend our own beliefs. What do you think Mill would say about book banning? Do you agree with Mill, or do you think that some ideas should be censored?

3 – What is the purpose of public libraries? Should they have a say in the types of written materials that their patrons can access?

4 – Can you think of any forms of disruptive, but non-violent, protest that might effectively disrupt efforts to ban certain books?