

From: alana herron
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2019 9:13 PM
To: Ethnic Studies
Subject: Concern about Antisemitism implicit in Ethnic Studies Curriculum from a history teacher in San Francisco-

Chapter of Model Curriculum	Your Name and Affiliation	Comment (include page and line numbers where applicable)
<i>Write “General” if your comment isn’t about one specific chapter.</i>		<i>From Alana Herron, San Francisco Unified Middle School Teacher.</i> Please realize that the proposed Ethnic Studies Curriculum is biased against Israel, and do not allow teachings that are filled with hatred.
Glossary		<i>Page 2, lines 29-40</i> – This section features a definition which clearly promotes the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) Movement against Israel. It claims the purpose of BDS is to “establish freedom for Palestinians living under apartheid conditions.” It then parrots more one-sided BDS talking points, offering no critical perspectives about this campaign of hate, including that its true purpose, as stated by its co-founder and leading activists, is to end the existence of Israel, the only Jewish state.
Chapter 2		<i>Page 234, lines 4956-4958</i> – This section: YII Encourages teachers to highlight BDS and a pro-BDS group called Direct Action for Palestine but no voices critical of their perspectives (p. 234). YII Promotes a false equivalence between Israel's efforts to stop terrorists from entering communities to murder innocent people, and U.S. policies on the border with Mexico.
Chapter 2		<i>Page 237, lines 5024-5032</i> – This section: • Use unclear language that implies “Israel-Palestine” as a whole is an Arab country.
Chapter 2		<i>Page 242, lines 5157-5161</i> – This section: • Frames the Palestinian narrative of the 1948 War as fact, with no alternative perspectives.
Chapter 2		<i>Page 256, lines 5477-5494, pages 264-270, lines 5692-5830</i> – These sections:

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage teachers to use an anti-Israel poem which insinuates Jews control the media and use it to manipulate the public - a common, and quintessential, antisemitic slur.
General		The Introduction of the proposed curriculum states that “[t]he implementation of Ethnic Studies presents an opportunity for teachers to...enable students to develop a deep appreciation for cultural diversity and inclusion, and aids in the eradication of bigotry, hate, and racism.” Despite this stated goal, the curriculum does not feature a single lesson about the Jewish community or antisemitism, mentioning Jews only in passing. With antisemitism rising and ignorance about the Jewish people still a significant problem in our society, the exclusion of Jews and antisemitism from this curriculum is deeply disappointing and educationally deficient.