

From: Melissa Baumwald
Sent: Friday, August 9, 2019 7:22 PM
To: Ethnic Studies
Cc: Tony Thurmond
Subject: Rewrite ESMC!

Dear Instructional Quality Commission of the California Board of Education,

I am deeply distressed by the proposed, unbalanced Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum. I support the idea of teaching an ethnic studies class, but urge you to make major revisions or a significant rewrite of the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum, consistent with the recommendations from the California Legislative Jewish Caucus letter, Stand With Us, Jimena, Amcha and others.

In our 9 years in a California public schools district, my children have all encountered some form of anti-semitism in their public schools, from swastikas to one boy insisting he "loves Hitler and hates Jews".

Given the rise of anti-semitism at California public and some private universities, my kids have already determined they will not feel safe on these campuses and will need to apply elsewhere.

From what I understand about the:

- Anti-Semitism has been excluded from hate crimes/discrimination even though half of religious-based hate crimes in the United States are against Jews
- The divisive BDS movement, which seeks to erase the state of Israel, is included with no balancing perspective
- The curriculum presents a clearly one-sided discussion of the Arab-Israeli conflict that denigrates both Israel and Jews
- The curriculum includes a song with language that suggests Jews control the media!

Why is an ethnic studies curriculum, meant to teach students about marginalized communities, be used to promote a campaign of hate against Israel and to further marginalize students like my children.

I ask you to make major revisions or a significant rewrite of the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum to address these concerns.

Thank you,
Melissa Baumwald