

From: [email redacted]

Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 12:41 PM

To: Ethnic Studies; [emails redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Include Antisemitism and the Middle Eastern-American Experience

My name is Bob Gordon.

In 1993, I moved to California from a state with very few Jews, very few people of color and very little understanding of one another.

As a gay Jewish man, I sought out an environment of diversity, with respect for that diversity.

I would like to thank the California Department of Education for working so hard to improve the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum.

I would like to see the next draft of the curriculum include the lesson plan, "[Antisemitism and Middle Eastern-American Jews](#)" produced by the organization, JIMENA: Jews Indigenous to the Middle East and North Africa, as it will provide students with high-quality instruction on contemporary issues of antisemitism, bigotry, and the Middle Eastern-American Jewish experience.

2018 California Hate Crime Statistics noted that Anti-Jewish events increased by over twenty percent while Anti-Muslim bias events decreased by more than forty percent. As a Jewish person who has experienced anti-Jewish hatred, I believe our students deserve to learn about both Islamophobia and Antisemitism in an ethnic studies framework.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Bob Gordon, San Francisco