

**From:** Martha Larsen

**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2020 11:09 AM

**To:** Ethnic Studies

**Cc:** Superintendent; [email redacted]; AROC

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Ethnic studies must include information on Palestine . This is human rights

Please see that Arab American studies continue to be included in the CA Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum (ESMC). This model curriculum will boost the teaching of ethnic studies in high schools throughout California and will include Arab-American studies and sample lessons on Palestine.

For almost a year, teachers, activists, students, and community members have been urging the California Department of Education and its Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) to keep the model curriculum intact. I am opposed to the well-funded right-wing campaign aimed specifically at eliminating the Arab American content. They have tried to brand any mention of Palestine as anti-Semitic. It is not antisemitic to defend human rights, and to include Palestinian history and current movements in ethnic studies...

I support Palestinian human rights and freedom. I am opposed to anyone including those in the Jewish community who are using false charges of antisemitism to block the inclusion of Arab-American studies and sample lesson plans which mention Palestine. The history and current struggles in Palestine must be included.

Martha Larsen

San Francisco , CA

*Give us bread, but give us roses too.* [Slogan of women woolen mill workers -Bread and Roses Strike, Lawrence , MA 1912.]

*But when the melancholy fit shall fall . . Then glut thy sorrow on a morning rose.* - John Keats.