

From: Rabbi Rashi Simon
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2021 1:17 PM
To: Ethnic Studies
Subject: [EXTERNAL] State-sponsored racism in California

Dear Sir/Madam

ETHNIC STUDIES CURRICULUM

I was dismayed recently to learn that the proposed above-mentioned curriculum contains anti-Semitic canards. Rather than refute or discredit racist ideas, this curriculum perpetuates and indeed endorses them. I would go so far as to say that it even breaks new ground in uniquely associating Jewishness with privilege—a novel and pernicious canard which is surely gall and wormwood to those who suffered the most heinous persecution in Nazi Germany, Soviet Russia and elsewhere, still within living memory.

I will not rehearse the examples of this which have been expertly exposed by scholars, and have no doubt been brought to your attention. I come to simply add my voice to those anti-racism champions who have raised the alarm about this toxic, dangerous and offensive message.

I would be grateful to learn of your thoughts and intentions in this regard.

Yours Faithfully

rabbi rashi simon