

**From:** Sherry Kroop  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2019 7:21 AM  
**To:** Ethnic Studies  
**Cc:** Kenneth McDonald  
**Subject:** 2020 Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum May 2019 Draft

Dear Committee

I am writing to express my outrage and total disapproval of this proposed curriculum. As a mother, grandmother, Jewish woman and social liberal who embraces tolerance and acceptance of all races, ages, religions, sexual identities and ethnicities, I find this curriculum to do the exact OPPOSITE of its stated intent. Despite this stated goal, the curriculum does not feature any lessons on antisemitism, a problem which is ever rising in our society

right now.

It is obvious that this curriculum, with its anti Semitic slant and lack

of balance is a deliberate attempt to fan the flames of hatred against Jews,

thus creating a climate of hatred, rejection and bullying against Jewish

students in our California public schools.

My reasons are as follows:

Implying that "Israel-Palestine" (no such country) is an Arab country

*Page 234, lines [4956-4958](#)* – This section:

- Encourages teachers to highlight BDS and a pro-BDS group called Direct Action for Palestine but no voices critical of their perspectives (p. 234).
- 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.

*Page 242, lines [5157-5161](#)* – This section:

- Framing the Palestinian narrative of the 1948 War as fact, with no alternative perspectives.

this Is is particularly outrageous:

*Page 256, lines [5477-5494](#), pages 264-270, lines 5692-5830* – These sections:

- That teachers are encouraged 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.

**For all of these reasons, I say California resident and voter, as well as a former educator myself, I am asking that this curriculum Be modified to represent American Jews as an ethnic group, including those who fled the Holocaust, oppression in the Middle East. Furthermore, I call on you to create safeguards that will prevent similar bias and omissions in this and other California state curriculums going forward.**

**Thank you for your attention to this request**

**Very truly yours**

**Sherry Kroop**

