

From: Karen Pasternak Straus
Sent: Sunday, August 11, 2019 10:02 PM
To: Tony Thurmond Ethnic Studies
Subject: Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum

Dear Instructional Quality Commission of the California Board of Education,

I am distressed by the deep,y flawed and 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.

I find it unconscionable that Jews have been excluded from ethnic groups mentioned, and that Anti-Semitism has been excluded from hate crimes/discrimination even though half of religious-based hate crimes in the United States are against Jews. How can the BDS movement, which seeks to erase the state of Israel, be included with no balancing perspective? I come from am immigrant family that has worked hard to earn a place in the US — and does not control the media (nor even any significant assets.) I love both our country and Israel, respect the Palestinian people and am pained by their suffering but, and believe that there can be peace with with a two state solution. I do not feel fairly represented in the curriculum and fear the damage that could be done by the current proposal!

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

Thank you,
Karen Straus
Oakland, ca

Sent from another highly connected device with that dreadful AutoCorrect feature. Please excuse the bloopers!