

From: Elliot Helman

Sent: Thursday, July 2, 2020 3:27 PM

To: Ethnic Studies

Cc: Superintendent; [emails redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] INCLUDE ARAB AMERICAN STUDIES IN CA ETHNIC STUDIES CURRICULUM

I am the proud parent of a kid who attended San Francisco Unified School District from preK to high school and is now attending out-of-state university. I have also worked as a sign language interpreter within in SFUSD schools for over 20 years.

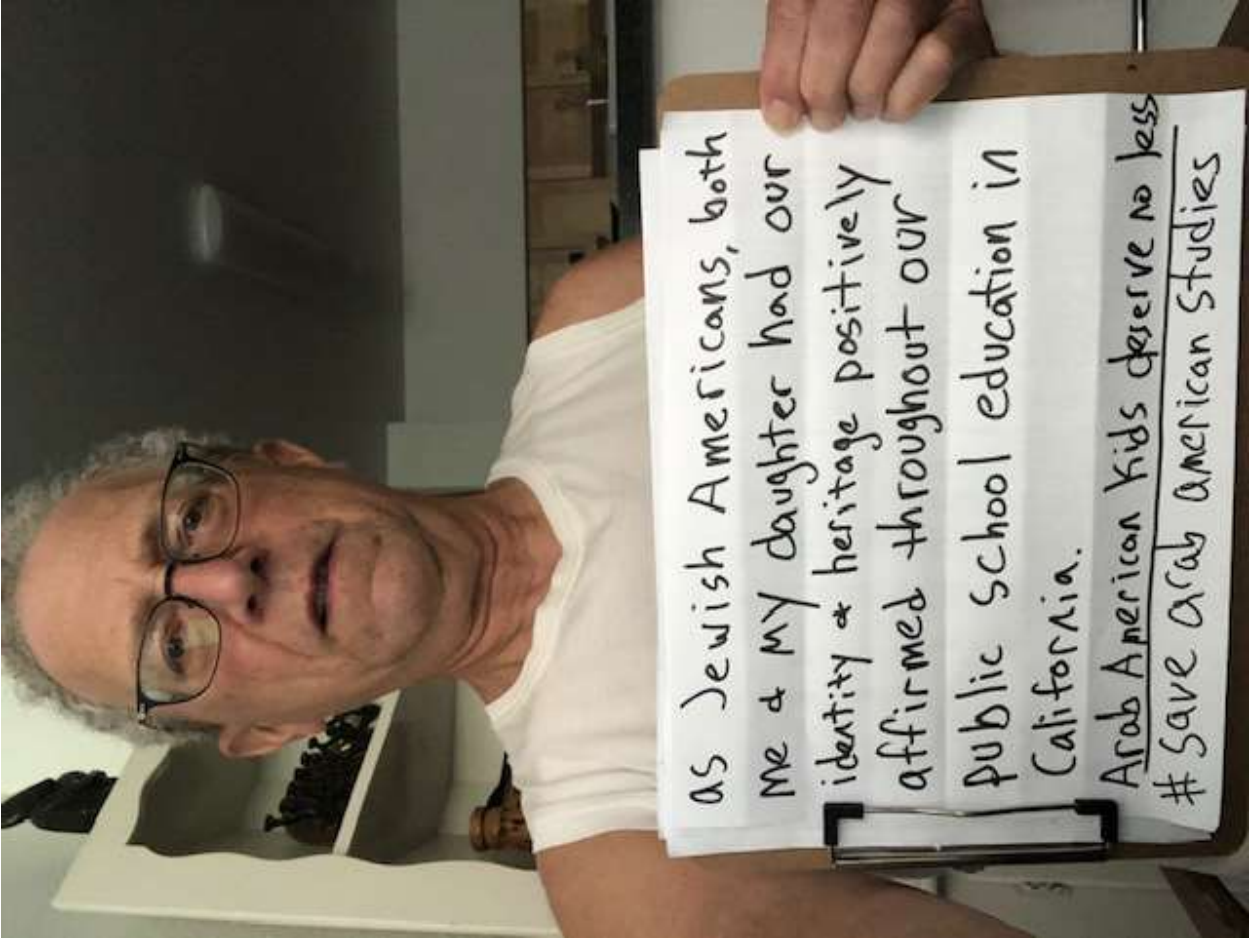
I am writing in support of including Arab American Studies within the Asian American Studies rubric. I feel that it is important to include the struggles for recognition and acceptance that all people in our society undertake. Especially now, in this time of heightened Islamophobia and xenophobia, all of us must support members of those communities bearing the burden of exclusion and marginalization.

Moreover, as a Jew, I feel that it is incumbent on me to stand in support of the struggles that Palestinian people are going through right now; both those who remain in their homeland and those who have been displaced and are currently living throughout the diaspora.

I ask that not only Arab American Studies be included in Ethnic Studies but that any changes to the curriculum be made only in consultation with experts in those specific fields of study.

Thank you.

Elliot Helman
San Francisco

A man with short, curly grey hair and glasses is smiling and holding a white sign. He is wearing a white t-shirt. The background shows a kitchen with a white cabinet and a dark countertop.

as Jewish Americans, both
me & my daughter had our
identity & heritage positively
affirmed throughout our
public school education in
California.

Arab American kids deserve no less
#Save Arab American Studies