

From: Richard Eidman
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 8:12 AM
To: Ethnic Studies
Subject: [EXTERNAL] AB - 2016

Dear Soomin Chao,

I am writing to protest the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum Draft currently being adopted by California school boards.

To quote the California Legislative Jewish Caucus, I “cannot support a curriculum that erases the American Jewish experience, fails to discuss anti-Semitism, reinforces negative stereotypes about Jews, singles out Israel for criticism and would institutionalize the teaching of anti-Semitic stereotypes in our public schools.

I have a Masters in Psychology and understand the impact of this bill would be far ranging for changing attitudes and reinforcing systemic racism, and hatred that our country, and the world have worked to eradicate. 6 million Jews perished because of teachings such as these. I believe history needs to be taught in balanced fashion, which means hearing and attempting too understand everybody’s story. Ignoring one minority to discuss others

We are all living in a democracy that encourages and prizes free speech and sharing of factual information. As the experience of Nazi Germany has taught us, systemic hatred is reinforced by teaching it to our youth.

The curriculum for AB-2016 violates everything I have ever experienced in a U.S., and democratic country's school curriculum.

I implore you to not support this agenda and to promote more balance in the way we teach our next generations of students. Please remember this quote regarding the Nazi’s:

First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a socialist.

Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out— because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.

Pastor Martin Niemöller

Thanks,

Thanks,

Rich Eidman
President
Seymour & Associates Inc.
Executive Recruitment- Display Industry Experts