

From: Arthur Bobrove
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 10:21 PM
To: Ethnic Studies
Cc: [email redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The Proposed Revised Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum

Dear Instructional Quality Commission of the California Board of Education,
I want to commend your effort to make some improvements in the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum (ESMC), but I am nevertheless still concerned by the imposition of the offensive, one-sided political ideology that has been retained in this proposed draft of California's Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum.

Let me begin by expressing my dread at the worsening polarization in our American Society. Every effort should be made to mitigate it and, in no way, potentially enhance it. The very title of the book on which the ESMC is based, , "Education at War" by Arshad I. Ali, instills an emotional and subjective element, not to mention its very contents. I believe that you would agree, that educational material should be as objective as possible in order to avoid further polarisation.

I do not want to imply that Professor Ali has a specific agenda, but "Education at War" in effect, encourages teachers to "develop solidarity and create linkages" with anti-Zionism, BDS, and anti-Israel narratives, as an example. It is imperative that the guiding values and principles of ESMC be revised to ensure that they cannot be used to justify promoting any hateful situations in the classroom.

I urge you to revisit the textbook in question and any other questionable resources, and make further revisions to the ESMC to ensure that there is to be critical and objective thinking and learning.

I am a physician who practices medicine at the Palo Alto Veterans Administration Medical Center. I have two grandsons who attend School in Palo Alto and am very concerned that they receive an education free of bigotry and hate.

Thank you,

Arthur M. Bobrove, MD

Medicine,

Stanford University and Palo Alto VA Medical Center

Clinical Professor of