

Public Input Template–2020 Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum May 2019 Draft

(Download and use to provide specific recommendations)

Include the chapter of the model curriculum, the page number, and line number(s) to ensure that the California Department of Education and Instructional Quality Commission can reference the content of the document when reviewing your comments. Please email this document as a Word document to ethnicstudies@cde.ca.gov. You may contact Kenneth McDonald, Education Programs Consultant, at kmcdonal@cde.ca.gov with any questions regarding this template or the public input process.

Chapter of Model Curriculum	Your Name and Affiliation	Comment (include page and line numbers where applicable)
Chapter 2: sample course modules and general	<i>Pat Libby</i> <i>Pat Libby Consulting, patlibby.com</i>	<p>Public Input Template—2020 Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum</p> <p>Please make comments on following page.</p> <p>Page numbers: 4957;5030;5138;5160;5802</p>
		<p>Comments pertaining to this document as well as general comments:</p> <p>It is difficult being a Jew in America today. Simply put: White Supremacists see us as gun targets (as a case in point, I greet an armed guard who searches my handbag every time I attend religious services) while the far-left progressive movement seeks to vilify American-Jews by assuming that all of us are in lock-step with all the actions of Israel (this is as absurd as saying that all Americans agree with the actions of the Trump administration). I too am a progressive, however, I do not endorse how this curriculum portrays the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians in such a one-sided manner.</p> <p>Over the years I have been called “dirty Jew” (while being physically assaulted by a neighbor for no apparent reason other than my Jewishness) I have been asked earnestly if I had horns (by a devout Christian) and have been told by people who did not know that I was Jewish (on several occasions within a professional context) that Jews are “cheap.”</p> <p>This is what it is like to be a Jew in America.</p> <p>Yes, Jews are able to “blend” in America because of our skin color, however, that can often be uncomfortable. For example, America joyfully shuts down to celebrate Christmas as if it were a national holiday. Last year I politely removed and boxed Christmas ornaments that were placed on the streetlight in front of my home by a neighborhood association. For many Jews Christmas is a time when we feel isolated in our own communities.</p> <p>Finally, there is a widespread lack of recognition of the cross-cultural existence that many American Jews live. Our homes are filled with our own ethnic foods</p>

Public Input Template–2020 Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum

Page 3 of 3

		<p>and artifacts that pertain to our heritage and religion. Those of us who are religious, engage in religious practices that require us to master a language other than English, and we engage in many rituals that are foreign to most Americans.</p> <p>In closing, I would ask you to think carefully about how you teach what it means to be an oppressed people in the United States. It does no one benefit to pit one people against another.</p>
--	--	---

California Department of Education, June 2019