

From: Margot Lurie

Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 7:06 AM

To: Ethnic Studies

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Curriculum chapter: "Guiding Values and Principles of Ethnic Studies."

Dear California curriculum managers,

As a native Californian, educated in our public school system, I write to express lingering concerns over the new curriculum. While the revision is a positive step, there are remaining flaws that denigrate and devalue the Jewish community, representing a skewed and ahistorical perspective.

Take chapter 1, "Guiding Values and Principles of Ethnic Studies." These Guiding Values and Principles directly reference and are partly based on a book called Education at War. The relevant section of the book effectively encourages teachers to "develop solidarity and create linkages" with anti-Zionism, BDS, and anti-Israel narratives, which would be deeply harmful to many Jewish students in the classroom. This is a skewed historical narrative that does not represent the truth.

I urge you to revisit this chapter and confront the biases inherent in it.

Yours in gratitude,

Margot Lurie

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