

From: Wedad Schlotte

Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 4:51 PM

To: Ethnic Studies <EthnicStudies@cde.ca.gov>

Cc: AROC [email redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Ethnic Studies: Comments on Item 8 History–Social Science Subject Matter Committee (SMC)

Dear The Instructional Quality Commission:

- Our children are once again being left to fend for themselves in an increasingly racialized and polarized political climate. California should be a sanctuary, not a place of danger for our students and their families.
- Young people in particular face the consequences of Islamophobia and anti-Arab racism. Arab and Muslim youth are simultaneously invisibilized and targeted.

Please vote to reinstate ethnic studies of a Arab Americans.

Support Inclusion of Arab Americans in CA Ethnic Studies Program.

Respectfully, Here are our coalition demands:

- Include the Arab American lesson plan submitted to the California Department of Education by members of the original Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum (ESMC) advisory committee.
- Re-insert Arab American studies in its rightful place—within Asian American studies.
- Align all lesson plans to the guiding principles of ethnic studies, which are anti-racist, decolonial and liberatory.
- Reject debunked definitions of antisemitism that equate criticism of Israel with antisemitism.

Thank you

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Regards

Wedad