

From: Leena Lozon

Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 7:33 PM

To: Ethnic Studies; [emails redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Arab-American Studies

Hello,

I'm emailing you in support and the importance of the CA Arab-American Ethnic Studies curriculum.

As a long time student in California I think it's appalling that anyone would want to take away Arab-American studies, especially as a Palestinian student. It's not fair for us to be singled out especially in very crucial learning settings and curriculum. It's not anti-Semitic to include Palestinian studies because they are a people with history that should be taught. You would be silencing my people and their crucial history and singling out the Palestinian minority students like me within the California education system. For reference, the Palestinian struggle is all about human rights and Palestinians (like myself) are considered semites as well. So how can you parade inclusivity and the importance of ethnic studies when you silence Palestinian people like me and their ethnic history?

Arab-American studies is important in general because in the post-9/11 era, exacerbated by Trump's Muslim ban, Arab American students are desperately in need of curriculum that reflects their histories and current realities.

Don't silence Arab-American history especially when it's needed in ethnic studies.

Sincerely,

A long time and proud CA student