

**From:** Noah Cohen

**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2020 2:43 PM

**To:** Ethnic Studies

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] concern over ECMC

Dear Instructional Quality Commission of the California Board of Education,

I, Noah Cohen, am grateful for some improvement in the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum (ESMC), but I am still concerned by the currently proposed ESMC.

Here are my issues:

1. Does not reflect California's shared values, nor the values laid out in AB 2016
2. Partly based on the book *Education at War*, which encourages "solidarity" and "linkages" with BDS, and anti-Israel narratives, harmful to many Jewish students
3. The few references to Jews are misleading and offensive
4. Needs to include Mizrahi and other Jews of color

As a middle school history teacher at a local private school, I am aware of how important standards are in guiding me in what material I am expected to cover, as well as the various perspectives students need to hear in order to draw educated conclusions. It's imperative that young people have a clear, honest, and unbiased account of all ethnic studies perspectives.

I ask you to make revisions of the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum to address these concerns.

Thank you,

Noah Cohen