

From: barry

Sent: Friday, August 9, 2019 4:40 PM

To: Ethnic Studies

Subject: HOW DARE YOU PROPOSE; Anti Semitic additions to Cali's Curriculum ??? Say it aint so !!!

This is obviously a "Form" I copied , but my concern is great enough to write you, and everyone I know, asking, Has Trump's hate filled racist agenda reached the Jew haters of California, who are now "Coming Out of The Closet", probably, as usual, swearing they aren't anti Semites , "Just Critics of Israel, " busily writing these clearly anti-Israel changes to the curriculum? But then, how come you're not out campaigning against /educating about/denouncing Russia and Putin, or the million Muslims in concentration camps in China, or Iran or Venezuela or the hundreds of thousands starving and being slaughtered in Africa , or,or, or any other place of horrors, ... "just happen to be fixated on singling out little Israel. "How dare those Jews fight back for survival". Just which SOB wrote these Needed Additions/changes and why ???

Chapter of Model Curriculum	Your Name and Affiliation	see the pages/sections specifically included below
<i>general.</i>	<i>Barry Edelson, CEO CODETA Project [an educational non profit] author of "Those Damned Jews" about the myriad accusations against Jews</i>	<i>Anti Semitism disguised as Education?</i> <i>Has California reached a NEW LOW IN ATTACKING JEWS?</i>
Glossary		<i>Page 2, lines 29-40</i> – This section features a definition which clearly promotes the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) Movement against Israel. It claims the purpose of BDS is to “establish freedom for Palestinians living under apartheid conditions.” It then parrots more one-sided BDS talking points, offering no critical perspectives about this campaign of hate, including that its true purpose, as stated by its co founder is to end the existence of Israel .

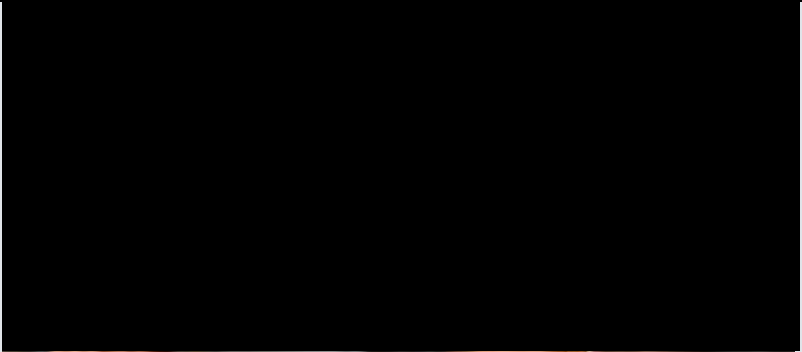

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		<div data-bbox="871 305 1669 657" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="911 690 1176 725" data-label="Section-Header"> <p>BDS StandWithUs</p> </div> <div data-bbox="911 738 1593 802" data-label="Text"> <p>Learn about how efforts to isolate Israel fuel hatred and conflict rather than justice and peace.</p> </div>
Chapter 2		<p><i>Page 234, lines 4956-4958</i> – This section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourages teachers to highlight BDS and a pro-BDS group called Direct Action for Palestine but no voices critical of their perspectives (p. 234). • Promotes a false equivalence between Israel's efforts to stop terrorists from entering communities to murder innocent people, and U.S. policies on the border with Mexico.

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Chapter 2		<p><i>Page 237, lines 5024-5032</i> – This section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use unclear language that implies “Israel-Palestine” as a whole is an Arab country.
Chapter 2		<p><i>Page 242, lines 5157-5161</i> – This section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Frames the Palestinian narrative of the 1948 War as fact, with no alternative perspectives.
Chapter 2		<p><i>Page 256, lines 5477-5494, pages 264-270, lines 5692-5830</i> – These sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage teachers to use an anti-Israel poem which insinuates Jews control the media and use it to manipulate the public - a common, and quintessential, antisemitic slur.
General		<p>The Introduction of the proposed curriculum states that “[t]he implementation of Ethnic Studies presents an opportunity for teachers to...enable students to develop a deep appreciation for cultural diversity and inclusion, and aids in the eradication of bigotry, hate, and racism.” Despite this stated goal, the curriculum does not feature a single lesson about the Jewish community or antisemitism, mentioning Jews only in passing. With antisemitism rising and ignorance about the Jewish people still a significant problem in our society, the exclusion of Jews</p>

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		and antisemitism from this curriculum is deeply disappointing and educationally deficient.
General		<p>The biased sections and omissions listed above run counter to the stated purpose of the curriculum, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 1(a): The State of California is committed to providing excellent educational opportunities to all its pupils; • Section 1(f): The state's educational standards should be guided by core values of equity, inclusiveness, and universally high expectations; and • Section 1(g): The state is committed to its efforts to provide all pupils with excellent educational opportunities, without regard to race, gender, ethnicity, nationality, income, sexual orientation, or disability. <p>Additionally, California Education Code § 233.5(a) provides:</p> <p>"Each teacher shall endeavor to impress upon the minds of the pupils the principles of morality, truth, justice, patriotism, and a true comprehension of the rights, duties, and dignity of American citizenship, and <i>the meaning of equality and human dignity, including the promotion of harmonious relations</i>, kindness toward domestic pets and the humane treatment of living creatures, to teach them to avoid idleness, profanity, and falsehood, and to instruct them in manners and morals and the principles of a free government." (Emphasis added).</p>

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		<p>The rise of antisemitism within our culture, which has been accompanied by an increasing general threat to freedom, human dignity and harmonious relations, is evidenced by the recent attacks of Jews in synagogues in Pittsburgh and Poway, as well as against other American citizens in El Paso and Dayton. The curriculum's failure to address antisemitism as a form of bigotry thus falls short of the above directive.</p> <p>Furthermore, the California Education Code's Prohibition of Discrimination</p> <div data-bbox="873 820 1669 938"> <p>Codes Display Text</p> </div> <p>states, in relevant part, that “[n]o person shall be subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion... in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution that receives, or benefits from, state financial assistance, or enrolls pupils who receive state student financial aid.”</p> <p>Similarly, the California Education Code's Prohibition Instruction includes a provision on Prejudice</p>

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		<div data-bbox="873 339 1669 457" data-label="Text"> <p>Law section</p> </div> <p data-bbox="873 532 1997 784">that states, in relevant part, that “[a] teacher shall not give instruction and a school district shall not sponsor any activity that promotes a discriminatory bias on the basis of race or ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, nationality, or sexual orientation...” This provision, like the Prohibition of Discrimination mentioned above, illustrates the problems inherent in the proposed curriculum, and are not an exhaustive list of the provisions of the California Education Code with which the proposed curriculum appears to be in conflict.</p> <p data-bbox="873 899 2013 1187">The model curriculum not only fails to address antisemitism as a form of bigotry but actually includes thinly veiled antisemitic rhetoric and promotes the discriminatory BDS movement. Additionally, the model curriculum simultaneously fails to provide balance with regard to Israel or any education at all about Jews. Therefore, it effectively discriminates against Jewish and Israeli students in violation of the education code. Additionally, by marginalizing Jewish and Israeli students, the model curriculum violates the three above-referenced declarations of the California state legislature in enacting the legislation.</p> <p data-bbox="873 1302 1602 1336">We note the critical LA Times’ review of the curriculum</p>

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		 <div data-bbox="873 654 1669 902">  <p>Editorial: California's proposed new ethnic studies curriculum is jargon...</p> <p>California's proposed new ethnic studies curriculum is an impenetrable melange of academic jargon and PC bromides.</p> </div>	<p>and hope that the values of inclusion prevail over hatred, division, and misinformation. In closing, we strongly urge you to review and revise the curriculum to remove bias and to educate students about American Jews as an ethnic group, including those who fled the Holocaust, oppression in the Middle East, and discrimination in the former Soviet Union. Furthermore, we call on you to create safeguards that will prevent similar bias and omissions in this and other California state curriculums going forward.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration of this critical issue.</p>