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

**Subject:**

## The Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum

The word could also destroy. Simone Alizon recalled:  
"Our words are not your words." Ramp does not  
equal platform. Number does not equal name.  
Segregation or selection does not equal choice.  
Barracks does not equal building. And today words  
have the power. And it is so destructive.  
On the Internet, in discussion, on forums, in comments.  
In the media, titles, captions. In the groups of notions,  
where the people who are poor, cringing, running  
away . . . are presented as people with germs  
and diseases. In the language of political debate,  
in demagoguery, in populism. In brutal opinions of those  
who, supposed to serve, want to lead.  
The words of hatred poison the imagination  
and stupefy consciousness. Maybe this is why so many  
remain silent while confronted with evil.  
Almost the entire world remained silent last year,  
confronted with the genocide in Burma.  
The words of hatred create hatred. The words  
of dehumanization dehumanize. The words of menace  
increase the threat. We have already started paying  
for this. Raphaël Esrail wrote: "The camp is not just  
a memory. For the majority of us, its reality is  
omnipresent in our everyday life." I have never heard  
a more terrible warning. The warning against our  
own words.

Piotr M. A. Cywiński  
Director of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum (2019)

This is at the Auschwitz exhibit upon leaving. Read it carefully. Heed its words and lesson of what Hatred  
Bigotry Intolerance and Discrimination did.

You can not leave out Antisemitism and The Holocaust in your curriculum. You must teach the facts to students so this never ever happens again.

Never Forget.

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