

Public Input Template–2020 Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum May 2019 Draft

(Download and use to provide specific recommendations)

Include the chapter of the model curriculum, the page number, and line number(s) to ensure that the California Department of Education and Instructional Quality Commission can reference the content of the document when reviewing your comments. Please email this document as a Word document to ethnicstudies@cde.ca.gov. You may contact Kenneth McDonald, Education Programs Consultant, at kmcdonal@cde.ca.gov with any questions regarding this template or the public input process.

Chapter of Model Curriculum	Your Name and Affiliation	Comment (include page
General	Matthew Isaac	I come from a school where we have two Jewish clubs on campus. We are lucky enough to have a strong community of Jews, and it is not uncommon to hear of a friend celebrating the Sabbath on a Friday night. We have a plethora of Jewish kids, but antisemitism remains an issue. Antisemitic "jokes" and comments are all too common. Nearby schools have been emblazoned in spray-painted swastikas and racist posters. I am 16 years old, going into my junior year of high school, and will likely be directly affected very little by curriculum changes that happen within the next 2 years. That being said, the power of education on young minds is profound and the youth of California take strongly after their schooling. If their textbooks cannot define antisemitism, they will not be able to either. If their teachers may only educate on one side of a complex issue, they will be restricted to that point of view. It is of paramount importance to young minds to do them the service of opening and expanding their minds rather than putting them through a factory conveyer belt. Give kids the opportunity to think for themselves by encouraging them to challenge their viewpoint and long-held beliefs. It's their right.

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