

From: Wild Blue Planet  
To: "[ethnicstudies@cde.ca.gov](mailto:ethnicstudies@cde.ca.gov)"  
Sent: Friday, August 15, 2019, 11:58pm  
Subject: Comment Period: Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum

This email is to register my extreme discontent and disagreement with much of the material focusing on Judaism, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and U.S. foreign policy that might be directed toward Israel.

Much of the curriculum's material is INCORRECT, ONE-SIDED, BIASED and IGNORANT. I understand that anti-Israel, pro-Palestinian individuals were enrolled to build this curriculum, which is extremely troubling and frankly embarrassing. It makes the curriculum's authors--have frankly the California Dept. of Education--look stupid, incompetent, and racist.

My mother was a teacher with LAUSD for over 35 years. A college graduate from an illustrious New York college, she went back to get her Master's Degree in Counseling--while I was growing up--so that she could serve her students even more than as just a teacher. Mom would come home every day with mostly uplifting stories about her students and school experiences. A Jewish woman whose parents and grandparents either escaped from, or died in, the Nazi Holocaust in Russia, Poland, & Lithuania, I never heard one complaint from her about anti-Semitic or anti-Israel rhetoric being taught, discussed, or written into school curriculum in any way, shape, or form at any of the schools where she taught over the decades.

My oh my, how things have changed.

As people of the Jewish faith in the United States are currently victims of the highest number of hate crimes and/or threats of hate violence, your proposed curriculum will only serve to fan the flames of hatred against this group of people. In addition, it is absurd--not to mention suspicious--that Jews are omitted from your proposed teaching list of five ethnic groups who are victims of discrimination and hatred. Not only is it irresponsible and morally wrong to omit the highest ranking ethnicity in this category, but it suggests that the authors of such curriculum are intentionally intending to discriminate against members of the Jewish faith.

The Jewish children who attend California high schools will no doubt be put at risk should this anti-Semitic curriculum go forward. Not only will they be put in a very uncomfortable, socially awkward position, but their very well-being and lives may be put in danger. Whether these children will be aware that untruths are being taught by their teachers and spread through the youth population by the educational system they once trusted, or whether the false information will serve to confuse them (as it is contrary to the facts they have learned from their parents, rabbi, and temple), this proposed curriculum will result in no-less-than negative consequences for Jewish students, both in school and at home. The overseers of California's school curriculum have no right to create this type of harmful, frightening environment for an entire ethnicity of students and their families.

What's even more absurd is that Jewish home or property owners--who support the public school system with their property taxes--will in effect be paying hard-earned money toward something that will ultimately hurt their families and their country.

I cannot imagine that this would go over well and without legal intervention.1

Please reconsider your Ethnic Studies program and rewrite it in a way so as not to politicize California's school curriculum, nor demonize any specific ethnic group or country.

Sincerely,

J. L. Allen

Ulysses S. Grant High School (Van Nuys) graduate