

From: shavit melamed
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 10:08 PM
To: Ethnic Studies <EthnicStudies@cde.ca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Judaism within Ethnic Studies Curriculum

Ethnic Studies Program Coordinators,

I URGE YOU TO EDIT PROCLAMATIONS REGARDING JEWS WITHIN CALIFORNIA'S PROPOSED ETHNIC STUDIES PROGRAM.

Elements of the recent proposed ethnic curriculum proclaim that Jews "[gain] racial privilege" and that "anti-Jewish prejudice decreased" since the end of the Holocaust **perpetuate antisemitic conspiracies** about Jewish power systems.

Hate crimes towards Jews are incredibly frequent- the FBI has hate crime statistics that prove this. **In the last month, our nation faced a riot on the Capitol building during which a significant number of attendees donned antisemitic and neo-nazi symbolism on attire and tattoos.**

Similarly, claims that Jews ALL are white-passing and "assimilate" (by abandoning their Judaism) are harmful and untrue.

Education has power as a resource to expose many for whom exposure to Jews may come solely through this change in curriculum. I urge you to reconsider your proclamations towards Jews/Judaism, past and present, within this curriculum. Please be intentional in presentation, and **reach out to a number of Jewish scholars** who can help improve this curriculum.

Thank you for your consideration,
Shavit Melamed