

From: Lynne Blumenthal
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 8:26 AM
To: Ethnic Studies; Superintendent
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum Draft

Dear Superintendent Thurmond and Chairman Soomin Chao,

I am writing to you as a retired clinical social worker who spent her career working with children and families. I have grave concerns about the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum Draft that is currently being adopted by the California school boards. The reason I am concerned is because it fails to discuss anti-Semitism which is plaguing our society today. Moreover, it reinforces negative stereotypes of Jewish people and in doing so will encourage more hatred and anti-Semitism. By singling out the Jewish state of Israel for criticism, it fails to educate children about the complexity of the issues. It will only encourage more anti-Semitism and perpetuate hatred of the Jewish people.

I hope that you can address my concerns by redoing the draft with a more fair stance towards the Jewish people so that children can learn tolerance and celebrate cultural differences.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Lynne Blumenthal