



# SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS

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# Just Communities in feverish search for support

— Scott Steepleton  
December 14, 2018 5:57 AM

**SANTA BARBARA** Hoping to sway opinion about claims in a federal lawsuit that the so-called "cultural competency training" Just Communities Central Coast provides the Santa Barbara Unified School District is anti-male, anti-Caucasian and anti-Christian, the group is feverishly soliciting letters of praise.

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As reported Wednesday in the News-Press, a parents group calling itself Fair Education Santa Barbara asserts in a six-count lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles that the district has, since 2013, spent more than \$1 million on Just Communities programs and material it calls discriminatory — and more expenditures are coming.

Some material in question labels whites as European descendents "who have historically held positions of dominance and social power in Western society," while "people of color" is used as a monolithic term of "solidarity" for blacks, Asians, American Indians, Latinos and other non-whites.

The plaintiff seeks to suspend immediately Just

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Communities from working with the district.

In response to the suit, Just Communities' executive director, Jarrod Schwartz on Thursday launched an email campaign looking for people willing to tout the group.

"The district is dedicated to fighting this and their lawyers have stated that one of the most important things for us to do is to obtain as many letters of support as possible as quickly as possible," he writes in the email, a copy of which was forwarded to the News-Press.

The deadline is Monday.

Responses sought include "any view you have whether JCCC's program is anti-Caucasian, anti-male and anti-Christian, and the basis for that view," noting that if the responder is "white, male, Christian or any combination, it would be important to name those identities explicitly."

Recipients are also told their responses "must be absolutely truthful" and that they may at some point be asked to "sign statements under penalty of perjury."

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