



CARE, Me & White Supremacy Book Discussion July 7 through July 28, 2021

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this book discussion. We know that some of us will not attend every session. We encourage you to be fully present at the sessions you do attend. We encourage you to start journaling using the guided journal you were provided after the first session, (not mandatory).

Our goal is to make this a transformational experience that will have us doing things a bit different after this collective experience.

We believe that the guidelines we have been using throughout the CARE Racial Equity Series and The Things to Consider, should suffice as our guidelines for this book discussion.

Zoom Link for all sessions:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86855296873?pwd=ZVRHMjkrMHNaZitRbVNoMEhYSTNydz09>

Meeting ID: 868 5529 6873 Passcode: 913032

Session 1 (July 7) Start Journaling

Me and White Supremacy, pages 1-74

You & White Fragility, Tone Policing, White Silence, White Superiority and White Exceptionalism

Session 2 (July 14)

Me and White Supremacy Part 2, pages 75-123

You & Color Blindness, Anti-Blackness Against Black Women, Black Children & Men, Racist Stereotypes, and Cultural Appropriation

Session 3 (July 21)

Me and White Supremacy Part 2, pages 125-170

You & White Apathy, White Centering, Tokenism, White Saviorism, Optical Allyship, and Being Called Out/Called In

Session 4 (July 28)

Me and White Supremacy Part 2, pages 171-210

You & White Feminism, White Leaders, Your Friends, Your Family, Your Values, Losing Privilege and Your Commitments

Guidelines to create a “Safe Enough” space for Dialogue

- ❖ Speak from our own experiences and perspectives.
- ❖ Listen generously to the experiences and perspectives of others, creating supportive space for each person to learn.
- ❖ Actively resist making assumptions about one another.
- ❖ Refrain from fixing, saving, advising, or correcting each other.
- ❖ Be mindful of “taking space and making space” to ensure everyone has opportunities to speak and to listen.
- ❖ Expect and accept non-closure because the work of disrupting racism is ongoing.
- ❖ Be willing to be challenged to disrupt racist patterns, both by the activities and discussions and by other participants.
- ❖ Respect the confidentiality of personal information and stories shared here.

Things to consider

- A strong opinion is not the same as informed knowledge.
- There is a difference between agreement and understanding. When discussing complex social and institutional dynamics such as racism, consider whether “I don’t agree” may actually mean “I don’t understand.”
- We have a deep interest in denying the forms of oppression that benefit us. We may also have an interest in denying forms of oppression that harm us. For example, people of color can deny the existence of racism and even support its structures. This denial may keep them from feeling overwhelmed by the daily slights or protect them from the penalties of confronting white people on racism. However, regardless of the reason, this denial still benefits whites at the group level, not people of color.
- Racism goes beyond individual intentions to collective group patterns.
- We do not have to be aware of racism for it to exist.
- Our racial position (whether we identify as white, a person of color, or multiracial) will greatly affect our ability to see racism. For example, if we swim against the “current” of racial privilege, it is often easier to recognize, while it’s harder to recognize if we swim with the current.
- Putting our effort into protecting rather than expanding our current worldview prevents our intellectual and emotional growth.