



ABHM Book Club Discussion Guide

July 25th, 2024 at 6 PM CT

Stamped by Jason Reynolds & Ibram X Kendi

How to Use this Guide:

[America's Black Holocaust Museum](#) staff created this guide to assist in reading and discussion of *Stamped* (remix version). Please feel free to print a copy and keep it with your book as you lend to friends and others who are interested. Do not expect to get through all of the questions during the upcoming meeting nor in one sitting. Perhaps consider them as conversation starters or an invitation to reflect more deeply about this book.

Suggested Questions for Discussion:

1. Ibram X. Kendi introduces the book by telling us about his own changing ideas on race in America. Did your understanding of race change after reading this book and if so, how? What is an antiracist, assimilationist, and a segregationist? Do you agree with the authors' definitions? See pages xiii, xv, 3, 17, 46, 61, 191, 241, and 24.
2. This book is suitable for all ages, but is aimed primarily at young people. Did you feel that this book did a good job at connecting with you and explaining the history behind racism in a suitable manner?
3. The authors mention several well known movies and books including *Tarzan*, *Planet of the Apes*, and *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Were you aware of the racially charged undertones behind some of this media? If not, does knowing alter your perspective on them? How does media such as movies, books, plays, etc. play a role in the spreading and/or discrediting of racist ideas? See pages 87, 88, 93, 96, 121, 123, 132, 136, 161, 186, and 197.
4. What has been the importance of Black writers (ex. Dr. Cameron, W. E. B. Du Bois, etc) in exposing racist history and institutions? How have Black women (Angela Davis, Sojourner Truth, etc) and Black LGBT+ individuals (ex. James Baldwin) challenged traditional understandings of systemic oppression?

5. How does Dr. Cameron's life exemplify being an antiracist? What actions can we take to be an antiracist? What are some examples of antiracism within our own communities?
6. How are Reynolds and Kendi complicating our understanding of famous historical figures (Thomas Jefferson, Lincoln, Du Bois, Booker T. Washington, etc.)? Were you familiar with some of their contradictions and changing perspectives? See pages 42, 58, 100, 118, and 122.
7. Why does Reynolds say this is not a history book when it so clearly is? How has history been hidden and how can we reclaim it as antiracists? How does history give us the tools to be antiracists? See pages 1, 11, and 16.
8. In what ways have Black Americans played a role in shaping politics after the passing of the 13th Amendment? Has the government returned the favor by protecting Civil Rights, freedom, and equality? What are the limitations and importance of the Civil Rights Act and the various Supreme Court cases that aimed to improve civil rights? See page 177.
9. A key component of humanity is the inherent diversity of ideas and experiences. What have been some points of contention between various Black civil rights leaders/groups and intellectuals? How has the diversity of ideas and experiences shaped the black freedom struggle? How have young people specifically contributed to discussions about resistance and protest? See pages 187 and 188.