



CHAPTER 16: Grassroots Feminist Activism in Africa: The One Billion Rising Movement
Guided Notes

CHAPTER SUMMARY:

Write 3-5 sentences to explain the main points of the chapter.

CONVERSATION:

Write a one-sentence description for each of the contributors to this chapter.

Write 3 main points from each contributor's response.

PARTICIPANT: Sahaletou Yelebo, Togo

TOPIC: *The commitment to women's rights*

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TOPIC: *Gender dynamics in Togo*

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TOPIC: *Coordination of the One Billion Rising campaign in Togo*

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PARTICIPANT: **Lucinda Evans, South Africa**

TOPIC: *How Lucinda became an advocate for women's rights*

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TOPIC: *The persistence and resilience behind funding and the impact of policy making*

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TOPIC: *The challenges of being a hands-on advocate versus being an academic*

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TOPIC: *The Vagina movement*

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TOPIC: *Philiza Abafazi Bethu, an inclusive family center that collaborates with local authorities*

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TOPIC: *Working with One Billion Rising*

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QUESTION: *You mentioned that you've got a small group of folks that you work with, but when you march you are able to gather many more people. What are some of the most effective tactics that you found for rallying people and bringing in more voices?*

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PARTICIPANT: *Colani Hlatjwako, Eswatini*

TOPIC: *Introduction*

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TOPIC: *Including Women's Voices in Governance*

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TOPIC: *Current Struggles & Corruption*

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TOPIC: *One Billion Rising*

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TOPIC: *Transitioning to Grassroots Movements and Women's Empowerment*

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TOPIC: *Feminist Grassroots Activism*

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TOPIC: *Advocacy for Women's Status*

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TOPIC: *Solidarity*

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TOPIC: *Global Day of Action*

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TOPIC: *Working with the Government*

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QUESTION: *In a country that doesn't respect women and their voices, sometimes it takes men's voices to get people to listen, do you have many men that back your cause? What do you do to get them more involved so they can speak out and say these women's voices need to be heard?*

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QUESTION: *As the Regional Director, how do the different countries work together to really influence and support each other across borders? Is there influence from other countries that can help pressure the governments around them to really kind of support women and LGBT rights?*

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Be prepared to answer the following discussion questions/questions for further research. Write a few points that could be used to support your answers from the chapter summary, chapter discussion, and your own knowledge/research.

- 1. Why is feminism regarded as the foundation of grassroots movements?**
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
- 2. Why and when is it important to involve men in feminist activist movements? Why is it important to include men in advocacy for behavior change, especially in patriarchal societies?**
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
- 3. What are the benefits of working with the government to effect change? How could women's movements reach the policy-making level, creating sustainability and making gender issues a government priority?**
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
- 4. Why is cooperation and solidarity among African women necessary to achieve gender equality on the continent?**
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
- 5. How can academia better support grassroots movements and be more inclusive to communities who lack academic standing, but need their lived experiences validated?**
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

TAKE ACTION:

Write a few ways you can take action regarding grassroots feminist activism in Africa.

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CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION

If you were to talk to Sahaletou, what would you ask?

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If you were to talk to Lucinda, what would you ask?

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If you were to talk to Colani, what would you ask?

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Pick one participant and do some more research regarding their work.

Participant: _____

Notable Facts:

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Who is another individual knowledgeable about this topic that you know of and would like to see speak/hear their story?
