



**CHAPTER 9: Black Lives Matter
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: Samaria Rice, Cleveland, US

QUESTION: *Please tell us a bit about the day Tamir was murdered.*

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QUESTION: *Will you talk about your foundation and how you decided to start that.*

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QUESTION: *Could you talk a little bit about how important it is that it's a Pan-African education, and an Afrocentric Cultural Center?*

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Describe Afrocentrism and Provide an Example.

QUESTION: *We've been learning a lot about white saviors. So as far as intervention goes - how do we do it [as white people]? Do you want our help?*

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QUESTION: *How have you and your family cared for yourselves and each other during this process, such a painful part of your life?*

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QUESTION: *One of the community engagement initiatives of the Tamir Rice Foundation has to do with voting rights and voter turnout. How will the foundation continue to aid in the fight against voter suppression, and to increase voter turnout?*

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QUESTION: *What in your mind, does true freedom look like? What would that look like, as a community? And what thoughts do you have on these new calls for dismantling police systems versus police reform?*

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QUESTION: *In your activism, have you found something that works better than others? Protests, letter writing, one on one conversations, or just whatever you can do?*

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QUESTION: *What kind of bureaucratic pushback or red tape have you had to deal with from partners and public office, as well as those in nonprofits while trying to elevate your efforts with the Tamir Rice Foundation on the fight for justice. Do you see a civic directed solution to changing that bureaucratic culture that inserts itself into change making when that process has grown beyond the grassroots capacity?*

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PARTICIPANT: Megan Castillo, Los Angeles, US

QUESTION: *What is the Mission of Black Lives Matter?*

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QUESTION: *Can you speak to the idea of defunding the police that we see connected with the BLM Movement, especially in the US?*

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QUESTION: *How should we respond when someone may comment with safety concerns about who should respond if a situation escalates and weapons such as guns or knives are involved?*

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QUESTION: *Can we get to a point where we're not having to send cops to armed robbery cases and stuff like that?*

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QUESTION: *How can we start to make tangible changes if the system in place is not ready?*

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Who was George Floyd?

QUESTION: *What do you think made the George Floyd incident made a difference?*

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QUESTION: *How can we hold cops accountable for these actions?*

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QUESTION: *Can you break down why we cannot compare the Black Lives Matter movement protests to the Capitol riots in Washington DC on January 6th 2021?*

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QUESTION: *What does Black Lives Matter have in store? Can you give us a little idea of what you're doing right now?*

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QUESTION: *What is some advice that you can give to your white allies?*

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PARTICIPANT: Terrell Kahn Douglas-Williams (Kahnscience)

QUESTION: *Was there a specific event in your life or in the world that inspired you to write this piece (Definition of Nigger Unabridged Part 1)? How do events in the world or in this country affect the way you write?*

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QUESTION: *Tell me about your decision to give the poem this title. Was there a strategic motivation behind repeatedly using this slur? Also, can you explain the thought process behind the definitions?*

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QUESTION: *What's your favorite line or section of this poem?*

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QUESTION: *I'm paraphrasing, but we know the Nina Simone quote about the duty of an artist is to reflect the times. Is that something you deeply believe? If so, have you always felt this way? If not, can you explain why you disagree?*

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QUESTION: *You briefly mentioned the concept of intersectionality at the beginning of the poem. That's something I've touched on as well in my work. Can you speak about why it was important to mention that in your work and why we should all view these issues through an intersectional lens?*

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QUESTION: *I thought it was interesting how you ended the poem with the words “Politically Correct.” What made you decide to end it with those words?*

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QUESTION: *The last thing I wanted to ask is about your other medium. I remember you taking photographs during the protests in Atlanta in 2020. Can you tell me a bit about that experience and why you chose to capture those images?*

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The Use of the N-Word

In 3-5 sentences, write a reflection on Terrell’s poem, “Definition of Nigger Unabridged Part 1”

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 the Black Lives Matter Movement and anti-racism work still relevant if we have abolished slavery and de jure segregation?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

2. Why should we defund the police, aren't they here to keep us safe?

a.

b.

c.

3. How can I help the Movement and be a good ally?

a.

b.

c.

4. BLM has triggered a severe backlash with some claiming that its emphasis on Black lives means that it neglects White lives or police lives. Thoughts?

a.

b.

c.

TAKE ACTION:

Write a few ways you can take action regarding Black Lives Matter.

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CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION

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

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

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If you were to talk to Terrell, 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?
