

How to be Antiracist by Ibram X Kendi

1. What assumptions or expectations did you bring to this book? Did anything challenge or surprise you?
2. Kendi argues that there is no neutrality—one is either racist or antiracist. How does this binary challenge the way we typically think about racism? Do you find this framing helpful, uncomfortable, or both?
3. Kendi emphasizes the role of policy in maintaining or ending racism. How do you see the relationship between personal actions and systemic change?
4. Intersectionality is central to Kendi's analysis. Which examples of overlapping identities stood out, and how did they deepen your view of antiracism?
5. Kendi shares moments when he himself held racist ideas and learned to unlearn them. Have you ever had to confront beliefs or behaviors in yourself that you now understand as harmful or exclusionary? What did that process look like?
6. Kendi claims racist ideas often justify racist policies, not the reverse. Do you agree? Can you think of examples that support or complicate this?
7. Kendi distinguishes between protest and demonstration—protest reacting to injustice, demonstration showing what justice looks like. What role do each of these play in building a more equitable and antiracist society? How have you engaged with or been affected by either?
8. What role does education play in becoming antiracist? How can we move beyond awareness to meaningful action?
9. Kendi writes, "The most threatening racist movement is not the alt right's unlikely drive for a White ethnostate, but the regular American's drive for a 'race-neutral' one." What do you think he means by this? How does this challenge colorblind ideologies or the desire to avoid discomfort?
10. Reflecting on the book's message, what is one thing you want to think about or do differently moving forward? Where do you see the opportunity for growth—in yourself or in your community?