

The New Jim Crow Virtual Book Study and Discussion

Chapter 6

1. *Who's at the Table?*

History suggests that it is crucial to the success of social movements that the people on behalf of whose behalf the movement speaks and acts need to themselves have a seat at the table when movement decisions are made and the character and culture of the movement is developed. **Are prisoners and former prisoners finding a seat at the table in this movement? Why or why not?**

2. *Commitment and Sacrifice*

Do you think that building this movement will demand the same level of sacrifice as the struggle for freedom called forth during the civil rights era? What would help you prepare for this work? Are you part of a community that is knit tightly enough to support you and/or join you in a serious discussion of bold action? If not, what steps can you take to create or locate yourself in such a community? What are you willing to do now?

3. *First Steps*

Dr. King once urged advocates not to be afraid if they were unable to draft a clear road map for bringing about change. He said you don't need to see the whole staircase in order to take the first step. **What do believe are the first steps? What specific actions can we take, individually or collectively, in our schools, places of worship, communities, etc., to engage in movement building? Do we need to create new organizations and coalitions, or are the existing organizations adequate to the tasks that lie ahead?**