



ABHM Book Club Discussion

June 15th, 2022

Voices of Milwaukee Bronzeville by Dr. Sandra Jones (2021)

How to Use this Guide:

[America's Black Holocaust Museum](#) staff created this guide to assist in reading and discussion of *Voices of Milwaukee Bronzeville* (2021). 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 Milwaukee's Bronzeville.

Suggested Questions for Discussion:

1. What does Dr. Jones mean by "they made a way out of no way" when talking about Black people in the Bronzeville neighborhood (pg. 43)? What does this mean to you?
2. What role did places like Lapham Park, the Milwaukee Urban League, the Regal and Roosevelt Theaters, St. Mark AME Church, etc. play in this community? Why were these places so important?
3. According to the book, what did people living in the Bronzeville neighborhood value? How did neighbors relate to one another? How did they spend their time?
4. *Voices* also tells the story of redlining, segregation, restricted covenants, and the devastating effects of "urban renewal." How did these racist policies impact the neighborhood and the residents?
5. What are some of the themes from the "Building Community" chapter of *Voices*? What kind of picture of Bronzeville does this chapter paint? What are the key takeaways?
6. The Bronzeville neighborhood has been called "now bygone" - is that true? How does Milwaukee and the world see the neighborhood today? What does the NYT feature say about the future of this community?
7. Do you live in or near Bronzeville today? Have you visited? Will you? Do you know someone who has similar stories about the historic Bronzeville neighborhood?