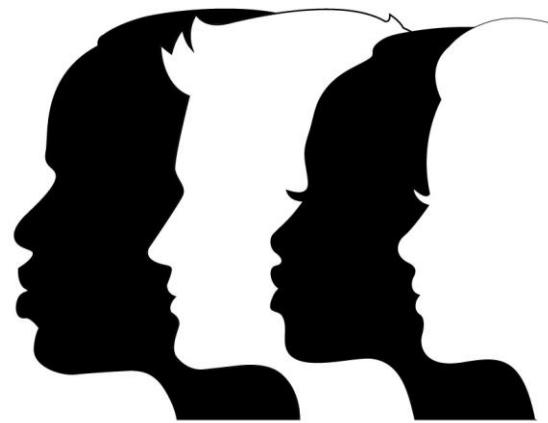


Welcome to the second meeting of the...



White Allies Network

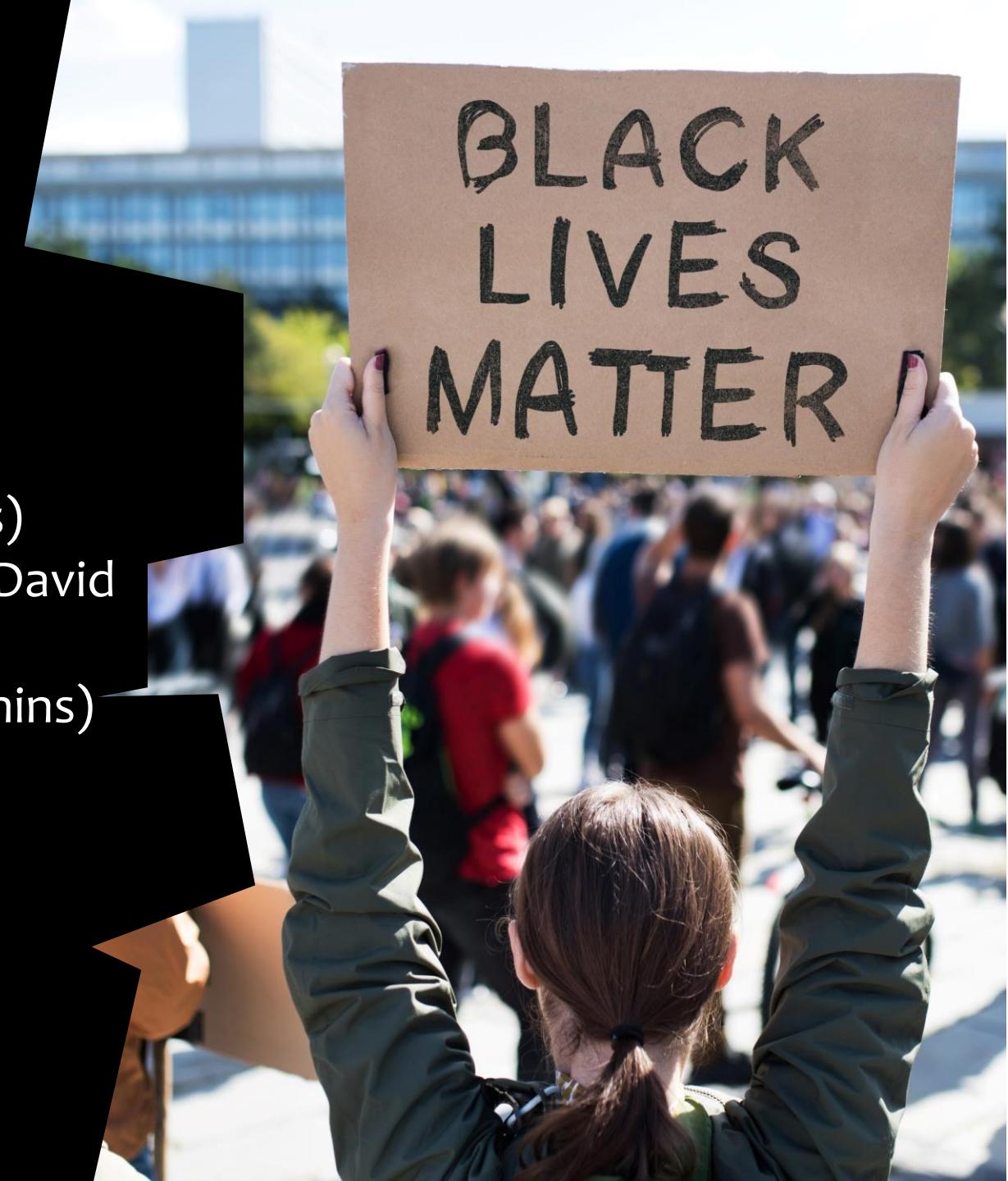
Aspiring to be true allies against racism

8-9.30pm, Thursday 2nd September 2021

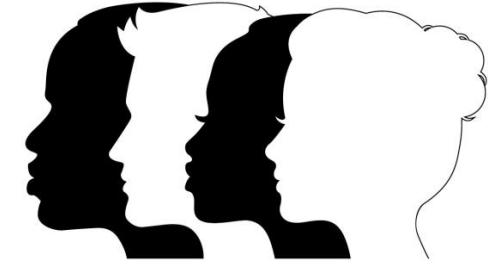
Facilitator: Adrian Lock

Our agenda...

- A reminder of our purpose
- A reminder of our '10 Qualities'
- Three short videos
 - Who owns history? - Clive Myrie (5 mins)
 - The history you don't learn at school – David Olusoga (7 mins)
 - Where are you from? – Afua Hirsch (4 mins)
- Breakout room discussion
- Sharing from breakout rooms
- Next time...

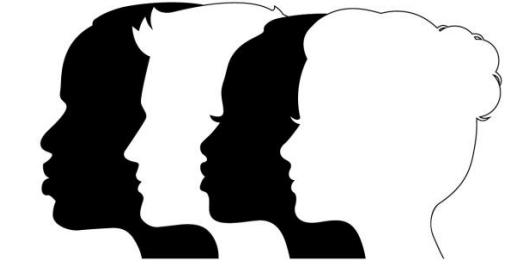


‘Aspiring to be true allies against racism’



The White Allies Network aims to help us :

- **Become true allies of people of colour**
- **Learn about ourselves**
- **Learn about people of colour**
- **Develop ideas for action** that we can take individually, collectively and in partnership with others



Ideas for sessions

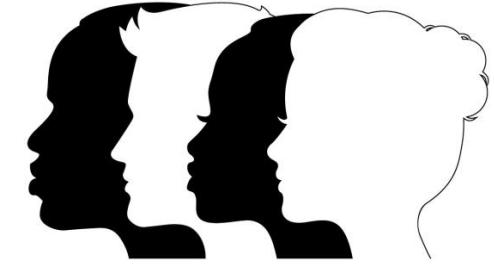
- **A) Educating ourselves**

- Histories – All our yesterdays... UK history – the contribution of ethnic minorities over time towards the UK today
- Filling in the gaps in our whitewashed histories – what do we most need to know?
- What is the lasting legacy of empire on Africa, Asia, America and the Caribbean?
- Understanding the consequences and impact of racism when I don't experience it
- Going deeper – inward as well as outward work. Suggestion: work through Layla Saad's book *Me and White Supremacy*

- **B) Action – Individual/Personal**

- Inner work, and how that translates into individual actions
- What impact can we have in our various roles and circles of influence on society?
- When should we challenge each other, how and why?
- Build relationships with those of other people groups o
- Work hard not to put everyone's differences in one blob – ensure South and East Asian voices/experiences are heard as well as those from African, Caribbean and Jewish origin
- What does it really mean to be there for people dealing with racial trauma?
- How do we have conversations with our black friends to ask if they're ok
- Mentoring – could this help? If so, how can we get involved?

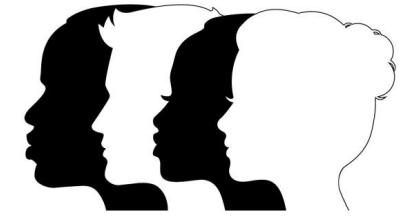
Ten Qualities of our spaces



We commit to be...

- 1. Respectful and non-judgemental** - we're at different stages of learning
- 2. Ignorant** - allowed to own our ignorance and to let others own theirs – towards learning
- 3. Careful** - thinking before we speak, considerate in our contributions
- 4. Personal** - able to speak my truth
- 5. Emotional** - holding back from rationalising away each other's feelings or experiences.
- 6. Sensitive** to each other's needs - building relationships first: different levels of sharing
- 7. Not wallowing** in white guilt – guilt as a prompt to action
- 8. Accepting of each other** if we stumble
- 9. Confidential** - to the space in which something is shared
- 10. Courageous** – open to challenge and be challenged

New Steering Group Members...

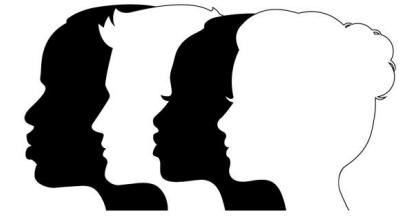


Claire Mathys
Policy and Strategy
Consultant
Impact Policy



Naomi Luff
Youth Coach/Mentor

New Council of Reference Members...



Irene Ng
Freelance Creative



Josephine Namusisi-
Riley
Project Lead at
Citizen UK
Founder,
White Allies UK



All our yesterdays – filling in
the gaps in our histories

Part 1
Our journey begins

Who owns history?

Clive Myrie

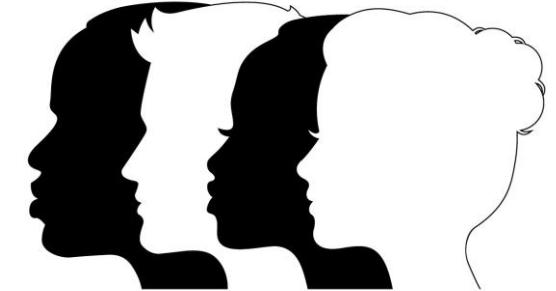
BBC NEWS SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

5 minutes 8 seconds

July 2020

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av-embeds/53314928/vpid/p08k1dmt>

‘Who owns history?’



“The experiences of victor and vanquished are part of the same story – can there be a past we all embrace?”

“British colonialism defines who we all are. It’s left a family album of different peoples and races. It is our story. Every single moment.”

- Clive Myrie

Questions for reflection:

- 1) Can there be a past we can all embrace? A history we can all agree?
- 2) Most people in the UK with a Caribbean heritage sign the name of their ancestor’s slave owner, not the name of their ancestor. How would you live with that truth if you were in that position?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ut5gtrezN4E>

T H E ' A L T H I S T O R Y '
Y O U D O N ' T L E A R N A T S C H O O L

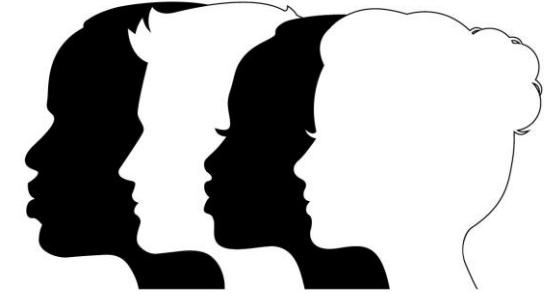
with David Olusoga

7 minutes 13 seconds

June 2019



‘The “Alt History” you don’t learn at school...’



“You can’t go forward until you can understand your past”
- unnamed contributor

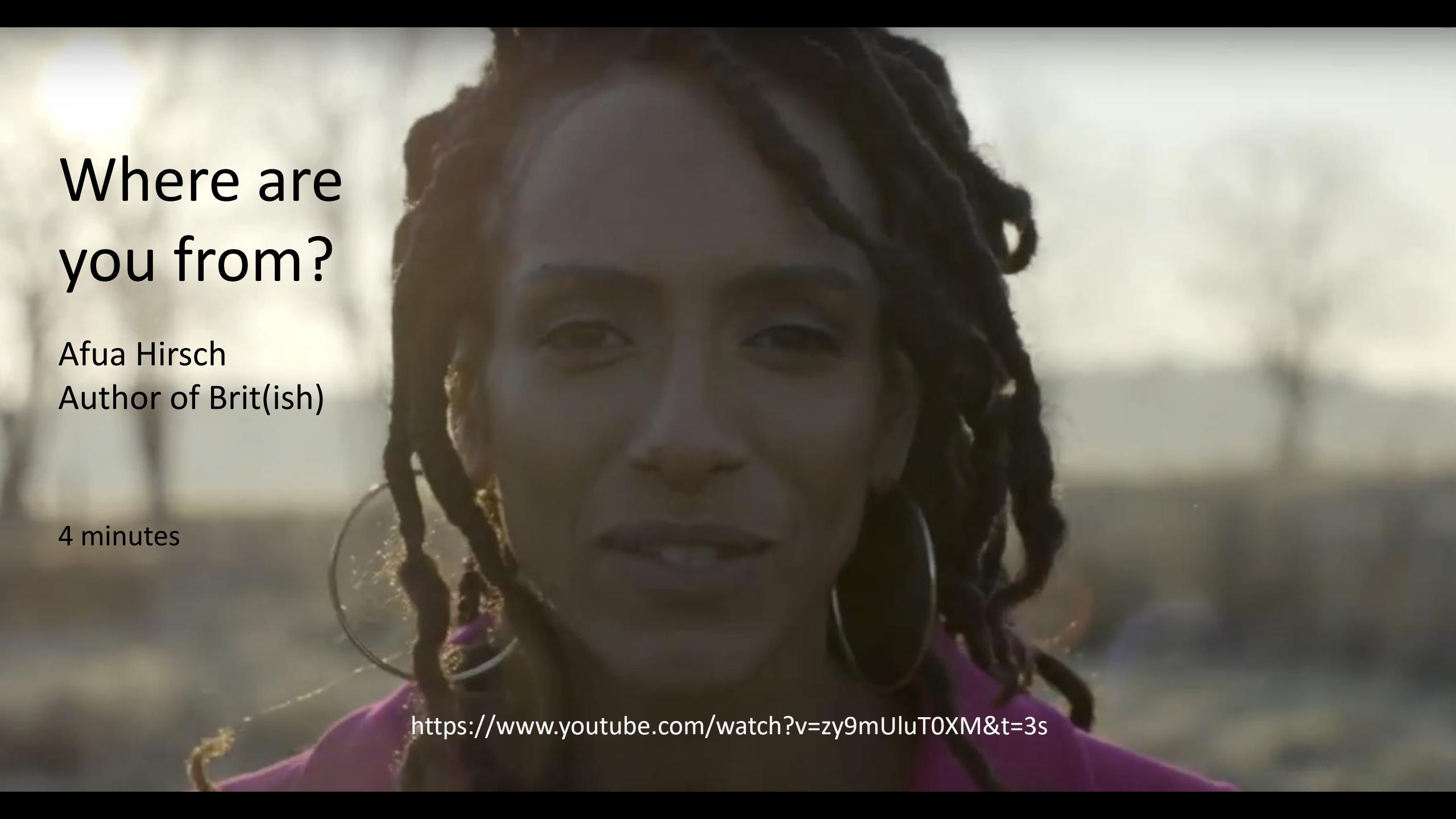
Questions for reflection:

- 1) How aware were you that there were black people living in the UK since Roman times? That there have been ‘Black British’ people in the UK for 2000 years?
- 2) What difference does it make to your sense of identity as a white person to embrace that fact?

Where are you from?

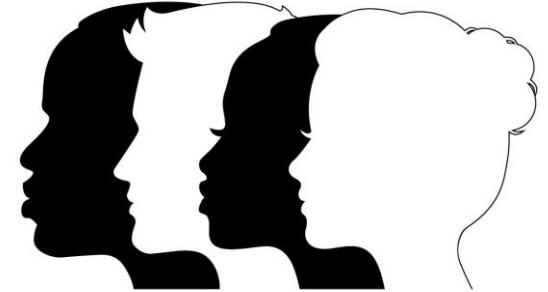
Afua Hirsch
Author of *Brit(ish)*

4 minutes



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zy9mUluT0XM&t=3s>

‘Where are you from?’

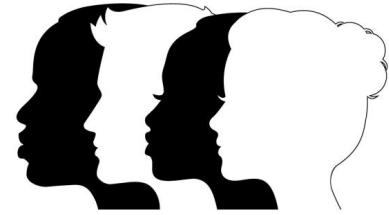


“I’m black, mixed race and British. Where are you from?”

Questions for reflection:

- 1) Knowing what you know now about your ancestors being immigrants, that Africans were here before the Anglo Saxons, how would you describe where you are from?

Breakout group discussion



Safe spaces for honest conversations – please self-select:

Breakout Groups 1,2,3 – for those that identify as white

Breakout Group 4 – for those that identify as people of colour

Questions for discussion

- Question 1. What struck you most from the videos we've viewed tonight and the personal stories you've heard?
- Question 2. What difference should these insights into British history and our collective histories make as we aspire to be true allies against racism in the UK and beyond?

(You have 30 minutes)



Thank you for coming!

- Do sign up as a Member at www.whiteallies.net to be kept in touch with events and resources and for free access to a growing hub of resources to help us become true allies against racism.

- Next Event for your diaries –Wednesday 20th October 8-9.30pm
- All our yesterdays – filling in the gaps in our histories - Part 2
- Sathnam Sanghera – author of Empireland – How Imperialism shaped modern Britain

padlet

Adrian Lock + 1 - 7h

Towards a fairer world - Racism and me...

A growing hub of resources that educate us about racism and spur us on to a fairer society. 'Let justice roll like a river and righteousness like a never-falling stream' - Amos 5:24

Black, Brown and Yellow stories

Black and Asian history in the UK (also see British colonial history/slave trade)

Black History Worldwide

Black, Brown and Yellow Worldviews

Racism today in the UK

Whiteness

British colonial history /slave trade (also see Black history in the UK)

Chinese comedian Ken Cheng talks about racism (podcast: 13m 34s)

Black Britons who shaped history (article)

Maroons - a brief history (wikipedia)

- early resistance and revolt by slaves in the Caribbean.

How Africa Shaped the Christian Mind (book)

THOMAS C. ODEN

HOW AFRICA SHAPED THE CHRISTIAN MIND

Restorers the African Seed of Western Christianity

Historical narratives of British South Asian Lives (video - 5:21)

Dr. Years in India

Historical Narratives of British South Asian Lives

Shelfies

Theologian Thomas C. Oden offers a portrait that challenges prevailing notions of the

African vs Western Psychology (article)

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

Abstract

PDF

African_Vs_Western_Psychology

by Nhlakanipho Macmillan Zikalala 2017

DECOLONISATION OF THE AFRICAN MIND AND INTELLECTUAL LANDSCAPE

DECOLONISATION OF THE AFRICAN MIND AND INTELLECTUAL LANDSCAPE

KEY CONCEPTS

ABSTRACT

PDF

The author talks from his book: 'Empireland: How imperialism has shaped modern Britain' (video: 33:17s)

How US politics are shaped by 'whiteness' (article)

JOE

WE PRETEND THAT IT ISN'T

YouTube

Alaka: "The lies we tell ourselves"

Joe interviews Alaka on the warped picture of Africa and black people that we perpetuate. 5 Jun 2020

The lies we tell ourselves (video 5m 11s)

How The Politics Of White Liberals And White Conservatives Are Shaped By Whiteness

by Hakeem Jefferson and Koji Takahashi 10 May 2021 for FiveThirtyEight

SATHNAM SANGHERA: Is racism undermining the 'war on woke'

YouTube

Is racism underpinning the 'war on woke' - Sathnam Sanghera

Interview by Krishna Gurumurthy for Channel 4 News 29 Jan 2021

The Big White Lie that invented racism (article)

GEORGE FLOYD

businessdailyafrica.com

Big white lie that invented racism

By DOUGLAS KIERENI, Business Daily, 16 October 2020

The Mau Mau uprising (article)

BBC NEWS

