

LESSON 5

BLACK WOMEN AND FEMMES

BLACK LIVES MATTER

BACKGROUND FOR TEACHERS

It is important for teachers to be aware of the #SayHerName movement when talking about Black Women. This movement is a social movement that seeks to raise awareness for black female victims of police brutality and anti-black violence in the United States.



ESSENTIAL QUESTION

Why are these principles surrounding black families integral to the Black Lives Matter movement?

- Black Women





LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- I can understand the history of the invisible voice of black women.
- I understand and can advocate for the principles of Black Lives Matter.



LESSON DEVELOPMENT

LAUNCH:

Print these  [quotes \(https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/122235/files/14922288/download?wrap=1\)](https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/122235/files/14922288/download?wrap=1)  [\(https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/122235/files/14922288/download?wrap=1\)](https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/122235/files/14922288/download?wrap=1) and ask students, preferably female, to read them in chronological order. Ask the students to think about the development of the black feminist movement as they do us. You may choose to display the quotes as women read and it would be good to ask after each quote is read, What is this woman saying about the fight for equality for black women?

When all the quotes have been read ask the students to compare the quotes. How have things changed over time? How have they stayed the same? Then introduce the principle of today's lesson.

TERMINOLOGY:

Explain to students that every day of the Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action is based on specific themes from the principles. Today's theme is :

- **Black Women-** Building a Black woman affirming space free from sexism, misogyny and male-centeredness

ACTIVITY:

Print the following quotes with each quote being on its own piece of paper. Then place the quotes around the room or at different tables (one or two quotes at a group) and have students construct meaning answering so what (think: What is the author saying? What does he/she want? What does he/she mean?) Quotes include:

- "Black women face the dual penalty of racism and sexism. We must call a spade, a spade to get this addressed."- Valerie Wilson
- "Black women are going to have to take more leadership. I think we are prepared because we bring a tenaciousness with us. We do not fear losing friends, allies, or jobs." Maxine Waters
- "Your crown has been bought and paid for. Put it on your head and wear it." Maya Angelou
- " We've got to have a legacy of leadership. We've got to bring along with us a generation of black women who are going to confront twenty-first century realities." Jewell Jackson McCabe
- "Every company should answer this question. 'How are you preparing a space for black women to succeed?'" Minda Harts
- "I imagine myself standing on the shoulders of this great pyramid of black women. We've done great things and will do more." Kathryn Finney
- "Black women have had to develop a larger vision of our society than perhaps any other group. They have had to understand white men, white women, and black men. And they have had to

understand themselves. When black women win victories, it is a boot for virtually every segment of society.” Angela Davis

- “When black women stick together, we are the most powerful force in the universe.” Alfre Woodard
- The tweet by Kerry Washington below:



There are multiple possibilities but the expected outcome is that any are praising those women who have come before them and looking forward to creating change in the future.

DISCUSSION:

Discuss the following questions starting in a small groups and then unpacking some or all as whole class:

- Why it is important to elevate or lift the voices of Black women when discussing the Black Lives Matter movement?
- What can we as a society do to make change happen for black women?
- How do we empower black women and ensure their voices are heard?



LESSON CLOSURE

Teacher brings the conversation to a close, thanking students for being honest and vulnerable, summarizing the strengths within the conversation, and referencing the principles from today as well as the rest of this week.



RESOURCES



[Black Lives Matter Posters](https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/122235/files/14922286/download?wrap=1)

(<https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/122235/files/14922286/download?wrap=1>)



[Kerry Washington Tweet](https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/122235/files/14922289/download)

(<https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/122235/files/14922289/download>)



[Feminist Quotes](https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/122235/files/14922288/download?wrap=1) ([https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/122235/files/14922288/download?](https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/122235/files/14922288/download?wrap=1)

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