

## Women of WASSUP (WOW) Podcast – Black History Month Special

Please read up/research/have examples for the following discussion points (these also are in the order which we will talk about them on the podcast):

- 1) Black History Month in general – outline – why you think it is so important for us to celebrate black history in the UK? What are the key issues that you think young women should be engaging with/have an awareness of in relation to black history month?
- 2) Significance of Black History month in 2020 - BLM movement, successes, how to keep the momentum going? Global pandemic, how that has affected black women in particular, examples and stories? Post #MeToo era and the significance for black women? Any other 2020 phenomena that will have had an impact on black women? TikTok trends, Twitter moments, legislation, political changes, global and UK policy changes, other campaigns. How can we be better allies? What can we all be doing to make sure that we are addressing the issues of race in the UK?
- 3) WASSUP Women's experience - How we define black women, how black women define themselves, how contradictory that can be, why we think that is? How black women's bodies are treated, why we think that is? How black women's beauty is defined? What that means to us? How does it make us feel? What can we do to promote our message and bring about positive change? What adversity do WASSUP women experience, how this differs due to race, why we think that is? How can we as a collective try to improve on this? How do we make sure we are diverse/representing for all groups, how this looks? How we can do better?
- 4) Black Female Empowerment – \*Black Girl Magic\* who inspires us? What are they doing? How do they fight for the cause? Who do we look up to? Who are the significant black women that we feel are important for others to celebrate and know? Personal, celebrity, historical figure, politician, scientist, anyone – who are the women we need to shout about and praise not just during BHM but also every day, what makes them inspiring, special, significant, beautiful, intelligent, powerful, successful? Positivity and uplifting examples, all think of one/two each to shout out and praise!
- 5) Any suggestions of content for our listeners to learn more? Podcasts, films, TV, books, notable people who are pushing the message – POSE – discuss episode, importance of issues that it represents, our thoughts, how it made us feel? Reflecting on the black-trans experiences of the characters, how important it is for their stories to be told.

### Research and reading

<https://www.insider.com/inspiring-black-women-making-history-in-2020>

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2020/7/compilation-inspirational-black-women-to-know>

<https://www.harpersbazaar.com/uk/culture/g34273854/5-black-women-shaping-the-future/>

<https://www.safespacesforblackwomen.com/> Leyla Hussein OBE

Zadie Smith, IWeigh campaign,