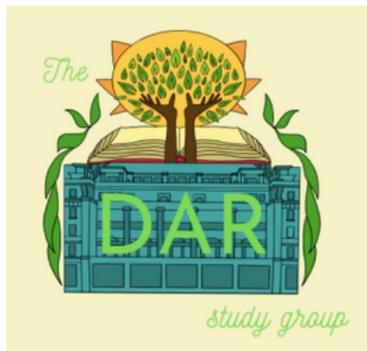


The Decolonisation and Anti-Racism (DAR) study group presents...

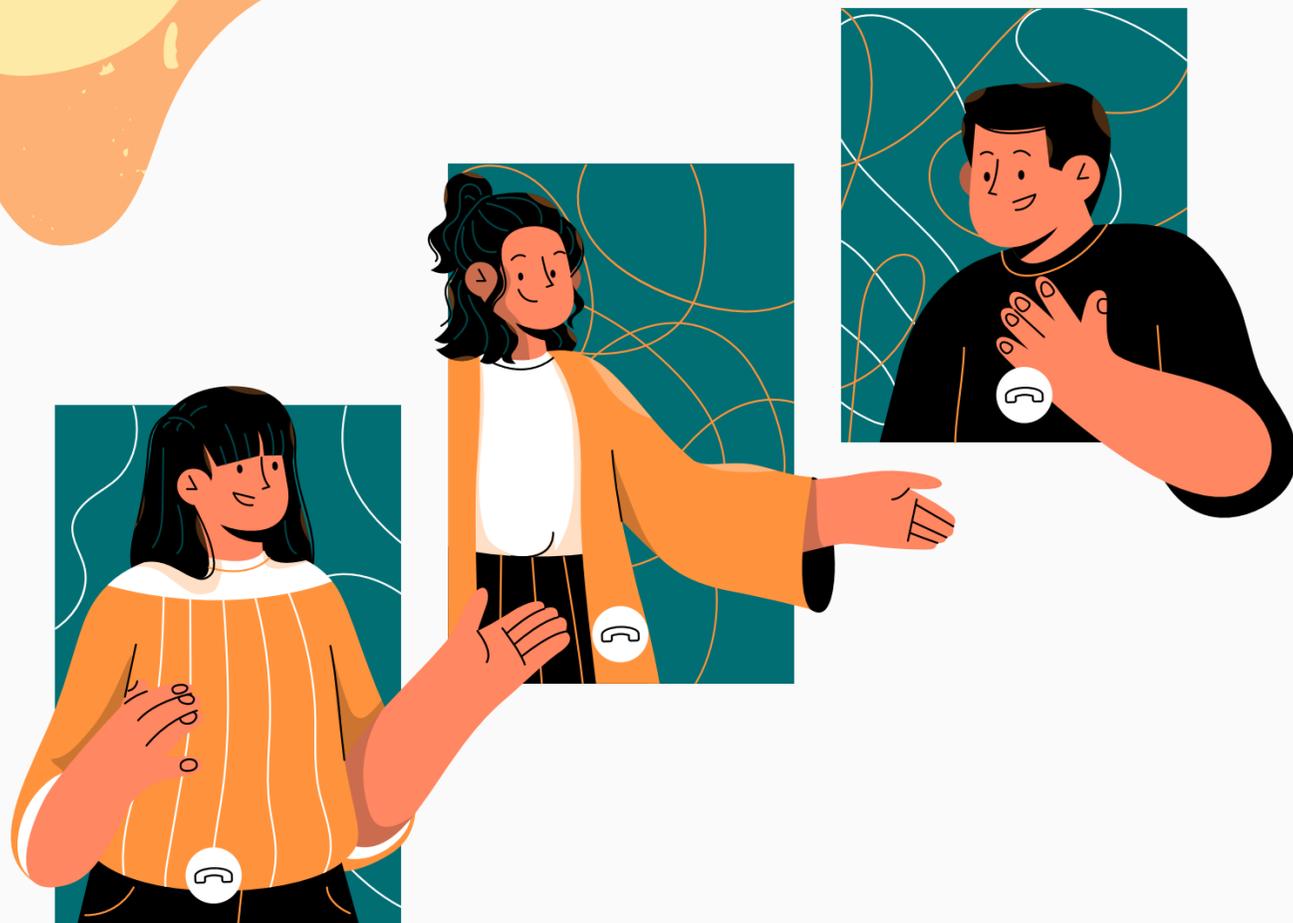
INTERSECTIONALITY



BEFORE WE BEGIN...

We aim to create a principled space for open and respectful communication. In being present to this session you are agreeing to the following guides:

- We have **zero tolerance** for racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, islamophobia, xenophobia, ableism, ageism and any other form of discriminatory behaviour.
- We have **zero tolerance** for prejudice based on class, faith/religion, language ability, gender presentation, physical ability, learning difficulty or mental health.
- We do not assume anyone's gender (if in doubt ask or use gender neutral pronouns until specified otherwise)
- If we are called out, we redirect defensive behaviour and use the space as an opportunity to reflect and learn



Some history about the concept...

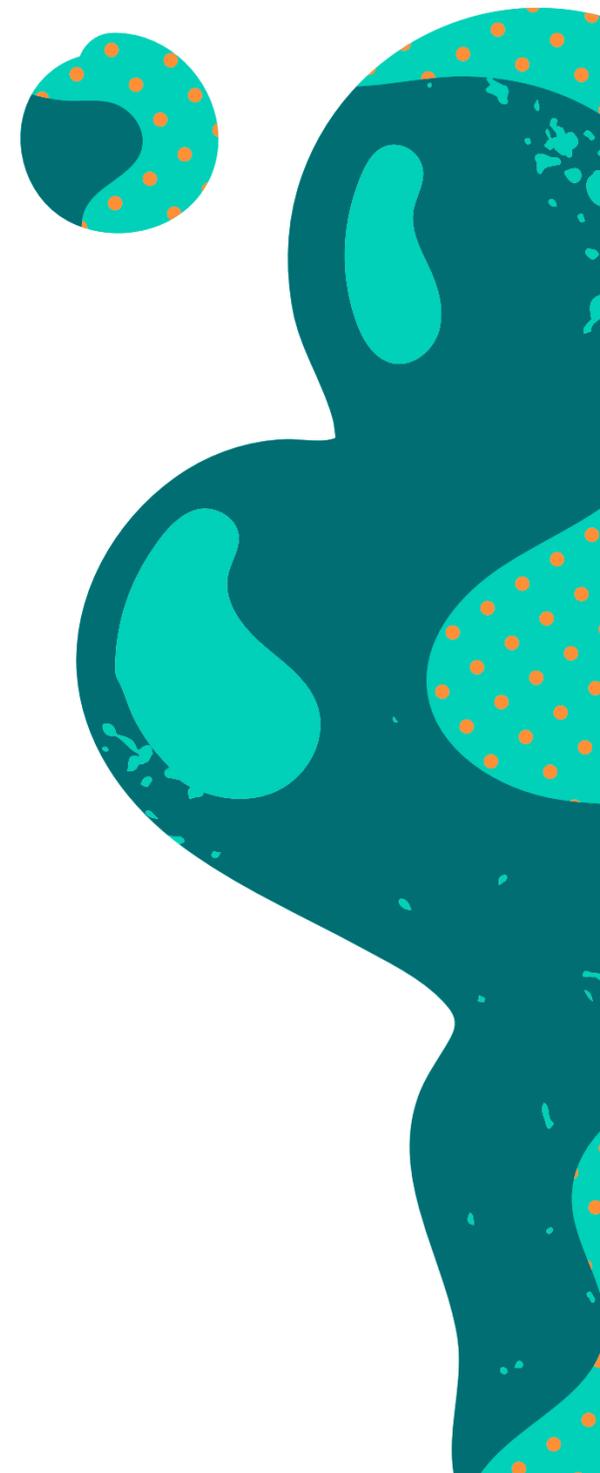
- Developed in the late 1980s by critical race theorist, Kimberlé Crenshaw
- Aimed to centre the **'multi-dimensionality of Black women's experiences'** and **'demarginalise the intersection of race and sex'** (1989)
- The analytical framework originally sought to explain the American legal system but since then, analyses have moved towards exploring other institutions in society, activism, methodology and theory itself



The first set resource for this session was:

“What is intersectionality?”

by Professor Peter Hopkins at Newcastle University





What is intersectionality?



Share



Watch on  YouTube

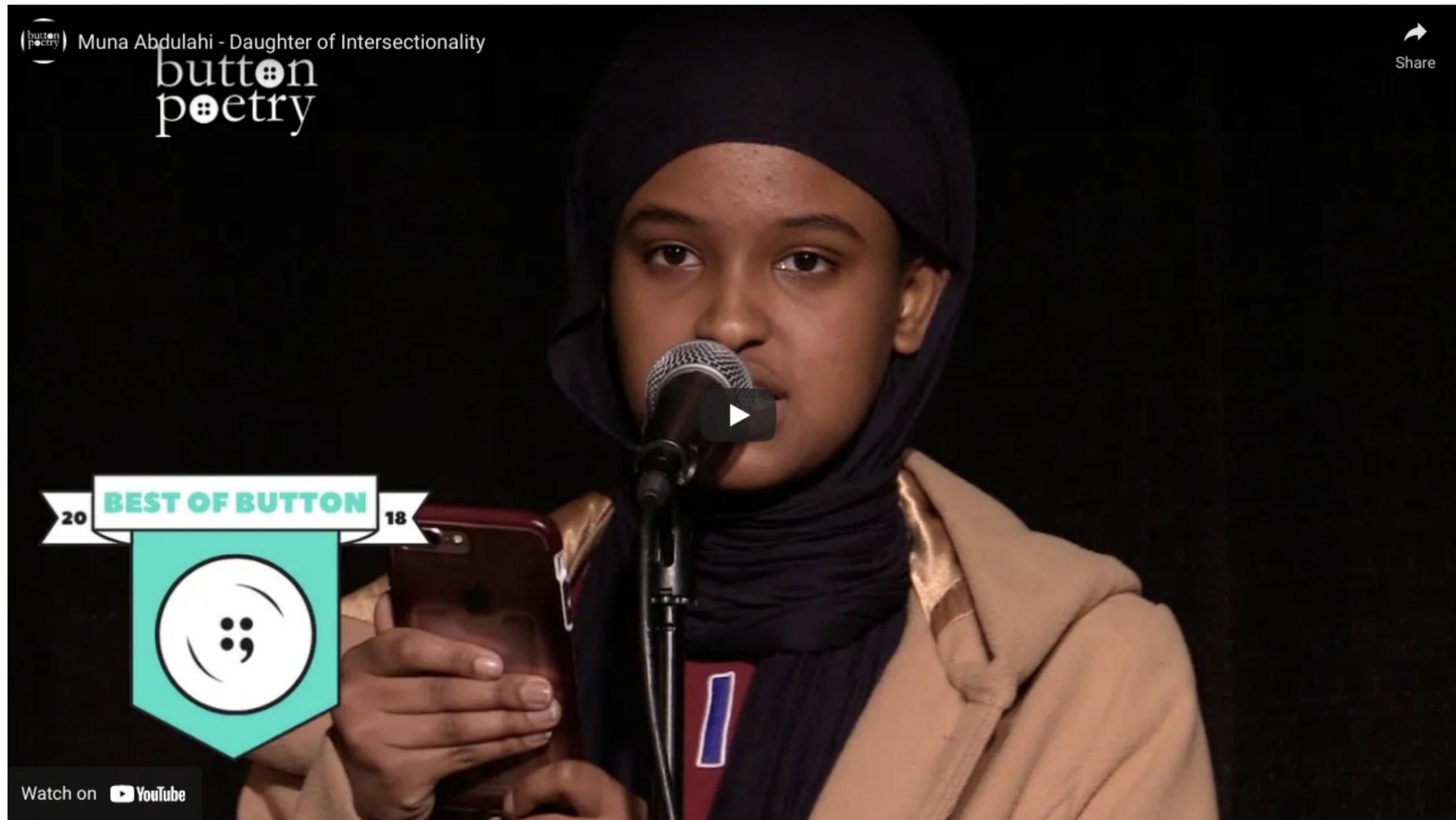
Questions

What are your intersecting identities?

What does this concept mean to you?



We are now going to watch a spoken word piece by Muna Abdulahi called 'Daughter of Intersectionality' given at Button Poetry Live, Minnesota in 2018.



The second set resource for this session was:

Patricia Hill Collins (2016)
Intersectionality

Chapter 7: Intersectionality and Critical Education



Questions

In what ways has formal schooling been emancipatory for you? In what ways has it not?

Thinking about the curriculum you were taught (or have taught), do you think it was shaped by the demographics of your institution?

How can the curriculum have a more intersectional outlook?



How does an understanding of intersectionality aid social justice work in higher education?

‘Developing a critical consciousness on social inequality, as well as one's own placement in it, can stimulate personal and collective empowerment.’



‘Schools are more than institutions where young people go to acquire technical skills and social capital that will make them attractive to employers. Schools certainly do this, but they also are venues where intersecting power relations of race, class, gender, sexuality, nationality, ethnicity, ability, and age routinely privilege some students over others.’



Criticisms

- American broadcaster, Ben Shapiro (2018): It creates a **'hierarchy of victimhood'**
- British-American journalist, Andrew Sullivan (2017): Intersectionality has **'moved from the descriptive to prescriptive'**
- Critics have also argued intersectionality encourages tactics such as no-platforming or **'cancel culture'** and **promotes individualism before collective solidarity** – **what do you think?**



“

**I matter. I matter equally. Not
“if only.” Not “as long as.” I
matter equally. Full stop.**

— Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Dear Ijeawele, or A Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions*)

Further resources



The urgency of intersectionality | Kimberlé Crenshaw

In this TED Talk, Crenshaw argues that because the public has no “frame” or point of view that includes women of color in discussions of racial and gender discrimination, women of color are ignored, and that has led to unseen prejudice.



Interlocking systems of domination | bell hooks

In this interview, bell hooks emphasises the importance of acknowledging the systems of domination which function simultaneously and affect our reality at all times.



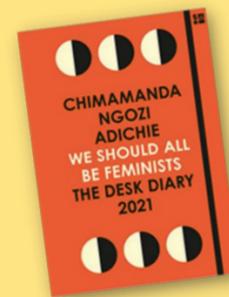
Intersectionality Matters podcast on Spotify/Apple

This is a podcast hosted by Kimberlé Crenshaw, an American civil rights advocate and a leading scholar of critical race theory. Each episode explores a different contemporary event/issue through an intersectional lens and opens the discussion to guest speakers including academics, activists and students.



Intersectional Feminism - Desi Style podcast on Spotify / Apple

This podcast, hosted by Feminism in India, discusses the various ways in which social identities intersect in our everyday lives. They have guest speakers from all walks of life, talk about intersectionality in movies, music and literature.



We Should All Be Feminist by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

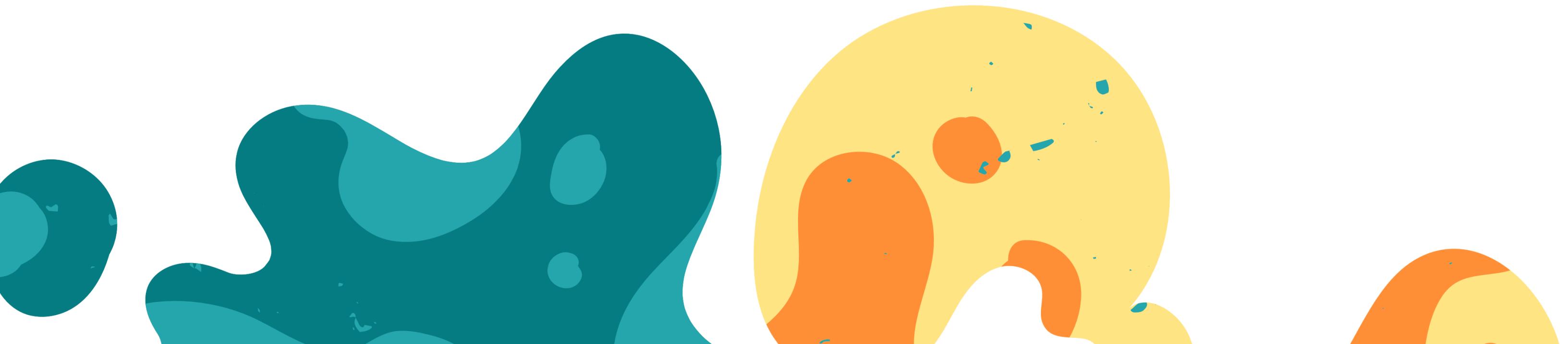
In this book adapted from her much-admired Ted Talk of the same name- Female African author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie offers readers a unique definition of feminism for the 21st century rooted in inclusion and awareness.

Questions to think about

What brought you here today?

What are your biggest takeaways from today's session?

What learning/unlearning are you willing to do?



Links and contact information

To see our website and ways to follow the project:

<http://blog.westminster.ac.uk/psj>

To watch our seminars about ethical and decolonial partnerships:

<http://cti.westminster.ac.uk/student-partnership-resources/>

To listen to our podcast about decolonising the curriculum:

<https://anchor.fm/student-partnership>

To read discipline-specific and general reading lists about decolonising higher education:

<http://blog.westminster.ac.uk/psj/tools/reading-lists/>

If you have any questions about the DAR study group, email Kyra Araneta (Student Partnership Coordinator) at aranetk@westminster.ac.uk



Follow and interact with us on Twitter:

@PSJproject