**The 1619 Project**

**Chapter 4 “Fear” Discussion Questions**

1. Prior to reading Chapter 4, what did you anticipate the content to cover?
2. Early in the chapter the quotation is offered: “White fear is easily and routinely weaponized by ordinary people.” What does this quotation mean to you?
3. How do we make sense of the fear as discussed with the number of recent cases such as George Floyd (MN), Michael Brown (Ferguson, MO), Breonna Taylor (Louisville, KY), etc.-- “deaths promoted by fear by police of Blacks out of power.”
4. Hannah-Jones states, “The specific forms of repression and control may have changed over time, but the underlying pattern established during slavery has remained the same. A white person says, “Give me Liberty or give me death,” the entire white world applauds. When a black man says the same thing, he is judged a criminal and treated like one, and made an example of so there won’t be any more like him. (pp. 156-157).
5. “Black people were inherently devious and criminal and that white people were required to monitor and police them … ultimately defined the nature of race relations in the U.S.” (p.160).
6. Why did success in rebellion in Haiti not breed greater success in rebellion and revolution for Blacks in surrounding nations? (p.173)
7. Black codes, leading up to Jim Crow era, served as a policing means to keep track of Black people and their movements. What examples of similar ‘codes’ exist yet today?
8. Counterintelligence was a prime tactic during Civil Rights era. Where do we see similar tactics used today?
9. Martin Luther King, Jr. is quoted as saying, “What good is having the right to sit at a lunch counter if you can’t afford to buy a hamburger.” What does his quotation mean? How are conditions changed today?
10. The Kerner Commission’s final report noted, “absent a massive investment in poor Black communities, rebellion and “white retaliation” would render racial inequality a permanent feature of American life.” P. 190