

## Chapter Summary and Discussion Questions – colorandcharacter.org

### Methods

**Focus:** The process of researching and writing *Color and Character*.

Subjects include the way oral history interviews were conducted, how the project shifted focus as West Charlotte resegregated, and the book's relationship to the author's own efforts to desegregate her local elementary school.

The footnotes touch on the question of using real names vs. anonymity in published work and the reasoning behind the limited attention the book pays to the growing numbers of immigrants living in the Charlotte area.

### Questions to explore

This book covers 80 years, a longer period of time than many historical works. What are the advantages of covering such a long period? What are the disadvantages? How does the overall story look different at different points in the narrative?

What do you see as the advantages and disadvantages of anonymity? Do you think the author made the right decision?

Did reading this section change your mind about the book in any way? Why is it important to know about how a book was created? Should this section have been at the front of the book rather than at the end? Should the material in the footnotes have been in the text instead?