

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a bright yellow t-shirt, is sitting at a wooden table. She is holding an open book in front of her and laughing joyfully, with her hands clasped near her mouth. The background is softly blurred, showing a framed picture on the wall and a small potted plant. A pink rectangular overlay is positioned on the left side of the image, containing the text 'Feminist Bookclub'.

# Feminist Bookclub

**women's aid**  
until women & children are safe



# Important books for an **important cause**

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Starting a book club with your friends or colleagues to raise funds for Women's Aid will **help us save lives.**

Whether you meet up in person or online, every penny you donate means we can provide vital **life-changing** support to women in abusive relationships. Thanks to fundraisers like you, we help thousands of women escape abuse and live independent lives free from fear.

Without Women's Aid, many of them faced the stark choice of homelessness, or returning to their abuser. Many also risked losing their children.

## Emma's story



Emma was abused by her husband for years. She repeatedly tried to escape, but was turned away from refuge. Frightened and with nowhere else to turn, Emma called us.

Our specialist caseworkers worked tirelessly to find her and her children a place of safety. "Without the support of the Women's Aid case worker I wouldn't be where I am, I would still be suffering in that place. My caseworker just listened to me. She didn't judge me or jump to conclusions. I'm forever grateful to her."

# Top tips to **get started**

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1

**Think logistics.** How big do you want the group to be and where will you hold meetings? Smaller groups are great because they allow everyone a chance to participate, while larger groups allow for lively debate. A village hall, pub or work meeting room are all potentially good venues.

2

**Get publicising!** Once you've decided on the details, we've got some downloadable posters so you can advertise your book group. Or if you'd prefer to keep it small, send out personalised emails inviting people to attend.

3

**Do some initial planning.** For the first meeting give the members 4 – 5 weeks to read the book. Pick a regular monthly date to make scheduling easier e.g. the first Wednesday of the month. Allow up to 2 hours for each meeting. Ask people to donate the cost of the book (or however much they can afford) via a JustGiving page.

4

**At the event.** For the first meeting offer to be the chair - but you could suggest taking it in turns each month. Make sure you have several discussion topics or questions beforehand. Look the title up online to see if a reading group guide exists and take a print out to the meeting to refer to. As you're reading the book, it might be helpful to write down the page numbers of any passages that interest you.

5

**Send in your donation.** If you've set up a JustGiving page the money will automatically come to us. If you have been raising money offline, you can update your JustGiving page to include this money. Or you can use our Paying In Form if you'd prefer.

Let us know about your book club and what you've chosen to read at [fundraising@womensaid.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@womensaid.org.uk)

## Not sure which other books to choose for your book club?

Here are some of our favourite and most thought provoking reads to get you started.

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- **Why I'm No Longer Talking To White People About Race** - Reni Eddo-Lodge
- **Slay In Your Lane** - Yomi Adegoke and Elizabeth Uviebinené
- **Feminists Don't Wear Pink And Other Lies** - Scarlett Curtis
- **Things a Bright Girl Can Do** - Sally Nicholls
- **Invisible Women** - Caroline Criado Perez
- **Living a Feminist Life** - Sara Ahmed
- **The Equality Illusion** - Kat Banyard
- **Invisible No More: Police Violence Against Black Women And Women of Colour** - Andrea J. Ritchie
- **Ain't I A Woman** - bell hooks
- **Don't Touch My Hair** - Emma Dabiri
- **Sister/Outsider** - Audre Lorde
- **Girl, Woman, Other** - Bernadette Evaristo
- **Love In Colour** - Bolu Babalola
- **An American Marriage** - Tayari Jones
- **Such A Fun Age** - Kiley Reid
- **Dominicana** - Angie Cruz
- **The Vanishing Half** - Brit Bennett
- **Queenie** - Candice Carty-Williams
- **Me and White Supremacy** - Layla F. Saad
- **Normal People** - Sally Rooney
- **Bad Feminist** - Roxanne Gay
- **Everyday Sexism** - Laura Bates



Women's Aid Fundraising Officer, Sarah recommends reading:  
**The Girl with the Louding Voice by Abi Daré.**

*This book is a powerful reminder of the different and often difficult lives women lead around the world. It is at times, not a comfortable read, but it is unquestionably a powerful and emotional read. The story is of 14-year-old Adunni from a village called Ikati in Nigeria, who is courageous, strong, and so very inspiring as she faces the complexities of society in which she lives. This book is full of hope and light in the face of adversity and was everything you could hope for in a feminist novel - exploring resilience, importance of education, and female empowerment.*



Join my **book club** and  
help end domestic abuse

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