

Discussion Points for *When A Sistah's FED UP*



by Monica “Dr. Moe” Anderson

1. Like many professional women who have great jobs, nice homes, and beautiful families, Mayor Faith Henry seems to have the “perfect life.” Yet, she’s depressed and “fed up.” Other than her marriage, what issues does she have to be fed up about?
2. Do you think Faith first realizes her assistant, Raymond, is in love with her on the day of the assassination attempt or, later, when their discussions become more intimate?
3. Why do you believe Preston reacts so oddly when he learns his wife has been shot?
4. Faith is well educated and financially independent, yet she doesn’t seek professional counseling until after her world falls completely apart. Do you think minorities historically or culturally are resistant to seeking professional psychological counseling? Why?
5. Junior takes a great risk breaking into J.D. Person’s office. He also goes out of his way to locate Trey at the Beautillion. Do you think he is in love with Faith, too, or is he just a loyal, supportive brother-in-law?
6. Preston seems to be much harder on Trey than Sloane. Is this typical for fathers? For mothers?
7. Trey and Sloane are very spoiled. As parents, do we encourage selfishness in our children by indulging them too much or are children naturally self-centered?
8. Is Raymond taking advantage of Faith at a vulnerable time in her life or does she share some of the responsibility for what occurs between them?
9. Is Preston’s “idealized” image of his mother realistic or accurate? Is it fair for him to expect Faith to be the same type of wife as his mother considering she had career aspirations when they met in college?
10. Preston’s actions stem from his feelings of neglect and his desire to have his wife become a homemaker again. What about Faith? Were you surprised to learn about her role in his problems?
11. Faith tells Preston, “You put yourself in my shadow when you stopped walking beside me.” Do you think it’s a myth or a fact most men are uncomfortable with their partners being more prominent professionally or successful financially?
12. As a longtime friend and confidante, do you think Reverend Carson owes Preston more loyalty and support when the allegations are made against Preston? Should churches be run like a business?
13. Communication problems are often cited as one of the main reasons couples divorce. Preston and Faith are unable to have a conversation without arguing or making snide comments. Is this typical of couples that are growing apart? Why do you think the divorce rate is so high?
14. Faith tells Preston he is to love her like Christ loved the church. However, does she love him in the same manner? Does it seem her career and her children have become more important than her husband?

15. Why do you think Faith is so quick to assume the worst about Raymond's meeting with nemesis, J.D. Person?
16. Is this a male-bashing book? Are there any good men in the novel?
17. What about Faith? What are her faults? Are there any perfect characters in the novel?
18. How do you feel about the novel's ending? Do you prefer "happily ever after" conclusions with no unanswered questions?
19. Which character would you most like to see in a sequel?