

Bookies: October, 2017: My Own Words

1. Group Discussion on Summer Travels, Hurricane Travails and other interesting experiences.
2. Several people have critiqued My Own Words because they were expecting an auto/biography of Ruth Bader Ginsberg. What did you learn of Justice Ginsberg's life in this book? What more would you like to learn?*
3. Ginsberg talks at length about her respect and love for Justice Antonio Scalia. Despite their ideological differences, they forged a solid friendship that lasted decades. What does this tell you about Ginsburg's nature? How do her personal and professional relationships reflect her character overall? How do you think it reflects on her work as a Supreme Court Judge?
4. There is some discussion/information in the book about Marty Ginsburg who was RBG's "life partner and beloved husband". What made him so important to RBG? How do you think he influenced her development as a lawyer and judge?
5. RBG, in 1971, said that "the distance to equal opportunity remains considerable". Discuss this statement in light of the failure of the law to provide Equal Pay for Women this year.
6. In 1969-70, the President of Yale said "We must not, unless it is absolutely necessary, increase the number of women at Yale at the expense of the number of men." Do you remember that kind of statement being from the late 1960's? How have things changed for you, your daughters and your granddaughters (and maybe some great-granddaughters!)? Who things have stayed the same? What is the change or non-change that has affected you most?
7. How much did you know of RBG's work with Gender Discrimination and Equal Rights for Women before reading this book? What surprised you? Which case(s) that RBG worked on seemed the most important to you?
8. The face of the Supreme Court has changed greatly since Justice Ginsberg came to the Supreme Court in 2003. What do you see as her legacy both on the court and off

*Biography from the same authors being written as we speak

Questions generated from Discussion Questions from the Jewish Women's Archive, Ronald Collins "Ask the Author" and discussions with other women who have read the book.