1) According to Desmond, the poverty line has a problem because it doesn't account for any government aid and it doesn't account for living expenses. There are many people who might be struggling with poverty but are still technically above the poverty line. The measure for the poverty line was created based around the ratio of food and income, which leaves out many other possible factors.

2) The War on Poverty cut poverty in half, it made an incredible difference in millions of people's lives. The war on poverty and Great Society offered better social security and other government aid which aided many older people and families in poverty.

3) He means that the U.S. is not doing enough to reduce poverty, and that we are actually aiding the rich, which is worsening the wealth gap in the country. He uses the example of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families which used to be distributed as cash to poor families. But since then the government has given states freedom about how to distribute that money. Now, for every dollar, only $0.22 actually reaches families in terms of dollars in hand.

4) Desmond thinks that elderly people and others struggling from poverty should start taking advantage of aid they could be qualified for. There is over 140 billion dollars unclaimed by low-income people. The U.S. needs to start to properly distribute aid, much of the aid that should be meant for the families with the most need ends up with the people who need it the least. So in order to tackle this problem some people need to take less and allow others to get more. People who make more and have the availability to use private facilities don’t like supporting public works, hurting the lower class. In order to abolish poverty, we must also make applying for assistance more accessible, and spread more financial knowledge.

5) I think this book is called *Poverty, by America* because we are the ones who are creating poverty. If we all collectively got together we could theoretically end poverty in the U.S. if everyone played their part fairly and the people in charge truly had the majority's best interest in mind, there would be almost no more poverty problems. It is *by America* because we cannot blame anyone but ourselves. It also says that we are the ones who are writing our own story of poverty, and we are the ones who can change that story when it is headed in the wrong direction.