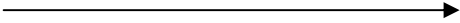




## Part 1: Unpack Your Hidden Social Power Advantages

<b>Identify your complex social identity by describing the various social groups that you belong to in the box for each social group category:</b> 	Gender	Socio-economic	Age	Nationality /Ethnicity	Race	Ability Mental & Physical	Religion
<b>For each scenario below, place an “X” in the boxes to the right if the statement is true for each category of your social identity.</b>  							
1. On a daily basis I spend time with people like me in this category (the same gender, same age, etc... as me). I rarely spend time with people in this category who are not like me (not the same gender, not the same age, etc... as me).							
2. My experience tells me that my neighbors have not judged me negatively because of my social identity in this category.							
3. When I go shopping I am confident that I will not be suspected as a thief because of my social identity in this category.							
4. I can find a wide variety of cultural images that depict my social identity in this category as positive and successful (advertisements, posters, picture books, greeting cards, dolls, and magazine article images).							
5. I can turn on the TV and see my social identity in this category widely represented in a positive light.							
6. I can go to the movies and see my social identity in this category widely represented in a positive light.							
7. When studying the history of cultural heritages in school, I have been shown that many individuals and groups who share my social identity in this category have made great contributions.							
8. I can present a public speech and be respected as an individual and not identified as an exceptional representative of my social group in this category.							

9. I can do well in challenging situations without being described as an exceptional representative of my social group in this category.	Gender	Socio-economic	Age	Nationality /Ethnicity	Race	Ability Mental & Physical	Religion
10. I am rarely asked to represent, explain, or defend my social group by people who do not belong to my social group in this category.							
11. I am fairly certain that if I need to speak to “the person in charge,” I will most likely be meeting someone from the same social group as me in this category.							
12. If law enforcement signals me to pull over while I’m driving, I can be certain I haven’t been singled out because of my social identity in this category.							
13. I can accept a job offer and not have to prove to my co-workers that I was hired because of my qualifications rather than because of my social identity in this category.							
14. If I need financial help I can be fairly certain my social identity in this category will not be held against me in obtaining a loan.							

**Total out of 98 possible boxes checked \_\_\_\_\_**

The higher the percentage of boxes check, the more protected you are from experiencing the effects of **negative prejudice** that is institutionalized in society, and the more you experience **social preferences**.

- Institutional Prejudice (prejudice + power) includes sexism, classism, ageism, racism, xenophobia, ableism, and religious intolerance.
- Institutionalized Prejudice simultaneously creates advantages for the members of dominant social groups (in-groups) who are *insulated and protected* from negative prejudices and discrimination, and creates disadvantages for the members of marginalized social groups (out-groups) who are *constantly exposed to and limited* by widespread preferences dominant social groups.

The reason why members of in-groups don’t recognize the pervasive realities of institutionalized prejudice is because they personally do not have to constantly contend with its societal disadvantages and psychological stress. Their status as members of society’s preferential and influential group sustains the **privilege** of not experiencing negative prejudice.

## Part 2: Identifying Social Group Influences

Social Identity Categories	Gender	Socio-Economic Status	Age	Nationality/ Ethnicity/ Language	Race	Ability Mental and Physical	Religion/ Spirituality
Describe the <b>dominant in-groups</b> in the U.S. which have great influence over other social groups and are thought of as the cultural norm. —————→							
Describe the <b>marginalized out-groups</b> in the U.S. typically regarded as having minority status and less cultural influence. —————→							

1. As a class discuss and describe the in-groups and out-groups of U.S. society.  
Keep in mind: The in-groups may not be the majority, but rather are the groups which have the most far reaching influence over other groups.
2. Regarding gender, discuss the opinion that sexism is over. Are traditionally women's roles on the same level of status as men's? What happens to females when they excel in traditionally male roles? What happens to males when they excel in traditionally female roles?
3. Regarding age, discuss various ways this category is different from the others.
4. Regarding ability, discuss how the visibility or invisibility of mental and physical challenges affects social status.
5. Regarding nationality/ethnicity/language, discuss how these descriptions in this category are related and how they are distinct. Describe the various factors by which people are judged as either American or not American.
6. Regarding race, experts agree that race is not a biological category. It is a historical social construct in which social value has been assigned to lighter skin over darker skin. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of promoting "colorblindness" compared to promoting "respect for diversity."
7. Regarding religion, describe the various ways in which religion influences everyday life in the United States. Discuss how well-educated the U.S. population is regarding multiple religions. See <http://www.valpo.edu/geomet/geo/courses/geo200/religion.html> for visual representations of religious congregations and memberships in the United States published by the Glenmary Research Center, 2000.