

Privilege for Sale

Facilitation Guide

Materials & Media:

- Participant handouts
- Scrap paper for money amounts for groups (in-person)

Set Up:

- If doing the activity in-person, write amounts of money to give to the different groups on pieces of scrap paper. The amounts should differ (300, 500, 700, 900, 1100).
- If doing the activity virtually, rename breakout rooms to include amounts of money given to each group. The amounts should differ (300, 500, 700, 900, 1100).

Goals:

- ❖ For participants to realize what privileges they may not realize they have and/or take for granted
- ❖ For participants to recognize that privilege is not only a legal construct but also social, religious, economical, and so on
- ❖ For participants to see how their personal perspective, life situation, etc. influence the types choices they make

Process Steps & Talking Points:

1. Frame the activity.
 - a. *Virtual* - “For the purposes of this activity, you do not have any of these privileges. Your group will have an amount of money, and collectively you must decide which privileges from the list you’d like to purchase. Each breakout room has the amount of money in the name, for instance ‘Room 1 - \$300’. Each privilege costs \$100.”
 - b. *In-Person* - “For the purposes of this activity, you do not have any of these privileges. Your group will have an amount of money, and collectively you must decide which privileges from the list you’d like to purchase. I’ll come around in a moment with your money. Each privilege costs \$100.”
2. Distribute the privilege sheets.
3. (*In-person*) Distribute slips of paper with the amount of money written on them.
4. (*Virtual*) Send participants into breakout rooms.
5. Check in with each group to see if they have any questions about the directions.
6. Give participants approximately 10 minutes to pick privileges. Let them know when they have two minutes left.
7. Wrap up the activity and bring the participants back to process with the larger group.

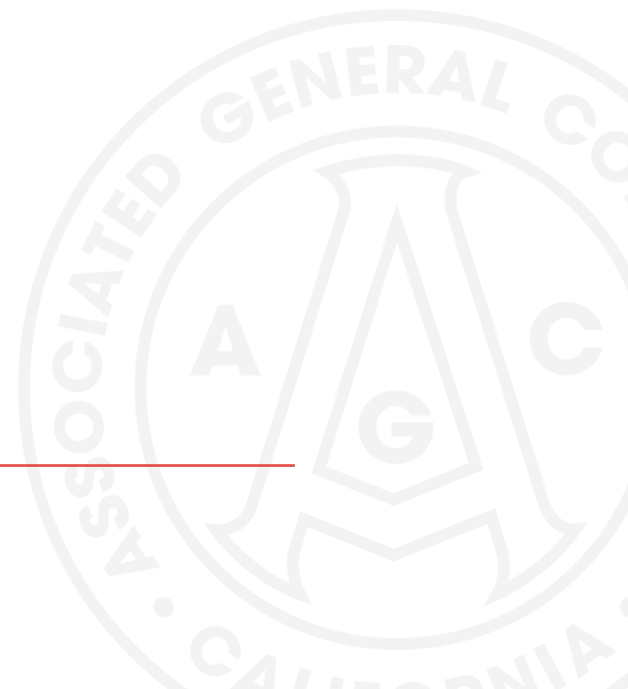
Debrief/Process Questions:

- What was it like to do this activity?
- What questions did you all wrestle with when trying to make this decision as a group?
- What struck you about the list?
- What themes did you notice in the list?
- What was the process like deciding as a group? What do you think the value of doing this activity in groups was?
- Why do you think I gave you money to buy the privileges with rather than say like every privilege costs a token and you get a certain number of tokens as a group?
- What are you taking away from this activity?

Wrap Up:

Feel free to share back with the group some of the themes that you noticed in the discussion or wrap up by connecting the activity back to the large conversation you were having about privilege. If there is more than one facilitator and each facilitator gets different focal points out of the activity, it would be great to share the differences in this wrap up.

Adopted from Social Justice Toolbox / Meg Bogler



Privilege for Sale

Each privilege costs \$100

1. Celebrating your marriage with your family, friends, and coworkers.
2. Using public restrooms anywhere in the United States without fear of verbal abuse, physical intimidation, or arrest.
3. Using facilities such as gym locker rooms and store changing rooms without stares, fear, or anxiety.
4. Being able to receive medical care, including emergency medical care, without worrying that your identities affect the quality of care that you receive.
5. Being able to see your partner(s) immediately in an accident or an emergency.
6. Not having people attribute your successes and positions simply to your gender.
7. Having your race widely represented in media, positively as well as negatively.
8. Going to a store or spend money knowing that no one will be suspicious of you.
9. Reading books or seeing movies where you share identities with the characters.
10. Being able to buy clothes without hesitation or fear of being mocked, questions, or made uncomfortable.
11. Not having to worry about what to write under "Social Security Number."
12. Raising children without worrying about state intervention.
13. Feeling unthreatened and safe in your interactions with authority figures and police officers.
14. Raising children without worrying about family, friends, community rejecting your children because of your identity.
15. Having the health insurance provided through your job cover the necessary medical treatments you need.
16. Being able to travel without worrying about your safety due to your identities.
17. Kissing/hugging/being affectionate in public without discomfort, threat, or punishment.
18. Applying for a job/promotion without worrying your name or identities will hold you back.
19. Being able to go out alone at night without fear of violence.
20. Receiving validation and acceptance from your religious or spiritual community.
21. Living openly with your partner(s).
22. Being accepted by your neighbors, colleagues, and new friends.
23. Being able to call/access social services without fear of discrimination around your gender and/or sexual orientation.
24. Being able to share health insurance with your partner(s).
25. Knowing that you will be able to move through the space in new places you visit.
26. Being able to excel in challenging situations without other people being surprised by your success.
27. Not having people share the few words they know in your native language.
28. Voting in any election on policies or for people who will make laws affecting your way of life and your community.
29. Being able to assume everyone you encounter will understand your gender identity and not think you're confused.