

NON-TRANS/CISGENDER PRIVILEGE CHECKLIST

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Time: 25-30 minutes

Materials: Copies of the “Non-Trans/Cisgender Privilege Checklist” (one for every two participants)

Audience: Adults

This activity is designed to highlight the structural systems of transphobia, gender oppression, and gender privilege that operate on daily basis. You can choose to use all the privilege statements or select a list of at least ten.

Note: Before doing this activity, it is a good idea to review terms with the “Learning the Language of LGBTQI Communities” activity on page 57. This activity works well when followed by a discussion of what it means to be an ally to transgender and other gender non-conforming people. If there are gender-queer, intersex or trans people in the room, it might be best to pair them together or at least give them the option of sitting this activity out.

1. Divide the group into pairs and handout the “Non-Trans/Cisgender Privilege Checklist.”
2. Explain to the group they are going to read a list of privilege statements that are related to the issue of gender identity and gender expression. Have them take turns reading the statements aloud to one another, being sure to pause and reflect on each of the statements. It is important they read the statements in the first person to feel it personally rather than abstractly. (Give them 10 – 15 minutes for this part of the activity.)
3. After 15 minutes, bring the group back together. If you have a large group and more than one facilitator you can break up into groups of five to ten people, to debrief the experience. If you are working with a smaller group or only one facilitator, you can debrief as a large group. Use the following questions to guide the debrief discussion.
 - What was surprising in these statements?
 - What was upsetting?
 - What was confusing?
 - What we can we do about it?

Non-Trans/Cisgender Privilege Checklist

1. I know that the gender and the name listed on my official forms of identification match my gender presentation and the name I use.
2. I expect my health insurance to cover routine doctor's visits for all of my body's needs (i.e.: prostate exam, pelvic exam, and breast exam).
3. I expect to walk into a department store and know that I will not be harassed for shopping in the men's or women's section.
4. Bodies like mine are represented in the media and the arts in ways that are not about drawing attention to people who are weird.
5. Strangers and acquaintances do not ask what my genitals look like or what medical procedures I have had.
6. I expect access to, and fair treatment within, sex segregated facilities (i.e.: homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, drug rehabilitation, prisons).
7. My gender identity has been honored my whole life, by my doctor, my parents, my teachers, my professors, my relatives, my classmates, my bosses.
8. I do not have to worry that someone wants to be my friend or have sex with me in order to prove their "hipness" or good politics.
9. I expect to be able to shower and use the bathroom at public facilities such as gyms and pools without incident.
10. I am able to use a public restroom without fear of harassment or violence.
11. At a job interview or in a social situation, I do not have to worry that talking about the women's college I attended will lead someone to question my gender identity.
12. I expect to be able to walk into a synagogue with a mechitzah and know where I am supposed to stand.
13. When I meet someone for the first time, I do not have to worry that they won't use the correct gender pronouns for me.
14. I am not concerned that the new security regulations requiring all passengers to give airlines their full name, date of birth, and gender as listed on their identification will prevent me from being able to fly or make me subject to additional searches by airport security personnel.
15. People I do not know well do not ask me personal questions about my body, my history, and my identity.