

White Privilege Exercise

Because of my race and/or color...

5 if the statement is often true for you.
3 if the statement is sometimes true for you.
0 if the statement is seldom true for you.

My score

1. I can be in the company of people of my race most of the time. _____
2. If I should need to move, I can be pretty sure of hassle-free renting or purchasing in an area in which I would want to live. _____
3. I can be pretty sure that my neighbors in such a location will be neutral or pleasant to me. _____
4. I can go shopping alone most of the time, pretty well assured that I will not be followed or harassed. _____
5. I can turn on the television or open to the front page of the paper and see people of my race widely and positively represented. _____
6. When I am told about our national heritage or about "civilization," I am shown that people of my race made it what it is. _____
7. I can be sure that my children will be given curricular materials that testify to the contributions of their race. _____
8. I can go into most supermarkets and find the staple foods which fit with my racial/ethnic traditions; I can go into any hairdresser's shop and find someone who can cut my hair. _____
9. Whether I use checks, credit cards or cash, I can count on my skin color not to work against the appearance of financial reliability. _____
10. I can arrange to protect my children most of the time from people who might mistreat them because of their race. _____
11. I can swear, or dress in secondhand clothes or not answer letters, without having people attribute these choices to the bad morals, the poverty or the illiteracy of my race. _____
12. I can do well in a challenging situation without being called a credit to my race. _____

- 13. I am never asked to speak for all the people of my racial group. _____
 - 14. I can remain oblivious to the language and customs of persons of color without feeling, from people of my race, any penalty for such ignorance. _____
 - 15. I can criticize our government and talk about how much I fear its policies and behavior without being seen as a racial outsider. _____
 - 16. I can be pretty sure that if I ask to talk to “the person in charge,” I will be facing a person of my race. _____
 - 17. If a police officer pulls me over, I can be sure I haven’t been singled out because of my race. _____
 - 18. I can conveniently buy posters, postcards, picture books, greeting cards and children’s magazines featuring people of my face. _____
 - 19. I can go home from most meetings of organizations I belong to feeling somewhat tied in, rather than isolated, out of place, outnumbered, unheard, feared or hated. _____
 - 20. I can take a job with an affirmative action employer without having co-workers on the job suspect that I got it because of my face. _____
 - 21. I can choose public accommodation without fearing that people of my race cannot get in or will be mistreated in the place I have chosen. _____
 - 22. I can be sure that if I need legal or medical help, my race will not work against me. _____
 - 23. If my day, week or year is going badly, I need not ask of each negative episode or situation whether it has racial overtones. _____
 - 24. I can comfortably avoid, ignore or minimize the impact of racism on my life. _____
 - 25. I can speak in public to a powerful group without putting my race on trial. _____
 - 26. I can choose blemish cover or bandages in “flesh” color and have them more or less match my skin. _____
- TOTAL _____

Place yourself on the racial color line according to your score.

