Examples of (Mostly Cisgender) Man Privilege

1. My odds of being hired for a job, when competing against female applicants, are probably skewed in my favor. The more prestigious the job, the larger the odds are skewed.

2. If I am never promoted, it’s not because of my gender.

3. If I fail in my job or career, I can feel sure this won’t be seen as a black mark against my entire gender’s capabilities.

4. I am far less likely to face sexual harassment at work than my female co-workers.

5. If I do the same task as a woman, and if the measurement is at all subjective, chances are people will think I did a better job.

6. If I’m a teen or adult, and if I can stay out of prison, my odds of being raped are relatively low.

7. On average, I am taught to fear walking alone after dark in average public spaces much less than my female counterparts are.

8. If I choose not to have children, my masculinity will not be called into question.

9. If I have children and provide primary care for them, I’ll be praised for extraordinary parenting if I’m even marginally competent.

10. If I seek political office, my relationship with my children, or who I hire to take care of them, will probably not be scrutinized by the press.

11. My elected representatives are mostly people of my own gender. The more prestigious and powerful the elected position, the more this is true.

12. When I ask to see “the person in charge,” odds are I will face a person of my own gender. The higher-up in the organization the person is, the surer I can be.

13. As a child, I was likely encouraged to be more active and outgoing than my sisters.

14. As a child, I could choose from an almost infinite variety of children’s media featuring positive, active, non-stereotyped heroes of my own gender. I never had to look for it; male protagonists were (and are) the default.

15. As a child, chances are I got more teacher attention than girls who raised their hands just as often.

16. I can turn on the television or glance at the front page of the newspaper and see people of my own gender widely represented.

17. If I’m careless with my driving or financial affairs it won’t be attributed to my gender.

18. I can speak in public to a large group without putting my gender on trial.

19. Even if I sleep with a lot of women, there is no chance that I will be seriously labeled a “slut,” nor is there any male counterpart to “slut-bashing.”

20. I do not have to worry about the message my wardrobe sends about my sexual availability.

21. The grooming regimen expected of me is relatively cheap and consumes little time.

Adapted from From ALAS! A Blog (amptoons.com)
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22. If I buy a new car, chances are I'll be offered a better price than a woman buying the same car.

23. If I’m not conventionally attractive, the disadvantages are relatively small and easy to ignore.

24. I can be loud with no fear of being called a shrew. I can be aggressive with no fear of being called a bitch.

25. I can be confident that the ordinary language of day-to-day existence will always include my gender. “All men are created equal,” mailman, chairman, freshman, he.

26. My ability to make important decisions and my capability in general will never be questioned depending on what time of the month it is.

27. I will never be expected to change my name upon marriage or questioned if I don’t change my name.

28. The decision to hire me will not be based on assumptions about whether or not I might choose to have a family sometime soon.

29. Every major religion in the world is led primarily by people of my own gender. Even God, in most major religions, is pictured as male.

30. Most major religions argue that I should be the head of my household, while my wife and children should be subservient to me.

31. If I have a wife or live-in girlfriend, chances are we’ll divide up household chores so that she does most of the labor, and in particular the most repetitive and unrewarding tasks.

32. If I have children with my girlfriend or wife, I can expect her to do most of the basic childcare such as changing diapers and feeding.

33. If I have children with my wife or girlfriend, and it turns out that one of us needs to make career sacrifices to raise the kids, chances are we’ll both assume the career sacrificed should be hers.

34. Assuming I am heterosexual, magazines, billboards, television, movies, pornography, and virtually all of media is filled with images of scantily-clad women intended to appeal to me sexually. Such images of men exist, but are rarer.

35. In general, I am under much less pressure to be thin than my female counterparts are. If I am fat, I probably suffer fewer social and economic consequences for being fat than fat women do.

36. If I am heterosexual, it’s incredibly unlikely that I'll be beaten by a spouse or lover.

37. Strangers generally do not walk up to me on the street and tell me to “smile.”

38. Sexual harassment on the street virtually never happens to me. I do not need to plot my movements through public space in order to avoid being sexually harassed, or to mitigate sexual harassment.

39. On average, I am not interrupted by women as often as women are interrupted by men.

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