Examples of Socioeconomic Status ("Class") Privilege

1. I assume I will be able to meet my basic needs. I take having necessities for granted.
2. I buy what I need and want without worry. I can afford luxury items easily.
3. I do not fear being hungry or homeless.
4. I am free of the burden of debt.
5. I have the freedom to waste.
6. I can manage to know only people of similar class background by exclusively frequenting places where such people gather — neighborhoods, schools, clubs, workplaces, etc.
7. I evaluate others and recognize those of similar class background because I was taught to do that kind of evaluation.
8. I can avoid spending time with people whom I am trained or have learned to mistrust and who may have learned to mistrust my kind.
9. I can hide family secrets and family failures behind the doors of my home.
10. I am in control of how I spend my time.
11. I can be charitable or not as I choose.
12. I have the time, education, and opportunity to enhance my inner life and my personal growth, to go to therapy, retreats, and workshops as much as I like.
13. I can sleep all day and still make money.
14. I can often get things by being "charming," gracious, and restrained.
15. I can live where I choose and can move when and where I choose and expect that I will be welcomed there.
16. When I am in the company of people of high socioeconomic status in any social situation I have little discomfort.
17. In higher socioeconomic status communities I am trusted and not perceived as a threat.
18. I am believed to be innocent by the criminal justice system at least until proven guilty.
19. I have the opportunity to problem solve efficiently and quickly through access to powerbrokers.
20. I can buy items (art, antiques, rugs jewelry, first designer clothing, cars, boats, multiple, houses, etc.) that imply wealth and status.
21. If I break or lose something I can replace it easily. I do not have to shop around for the best buy or wait for sales.

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22. I do not have to worry about how emergencies will impact my spending requirements.

23. I can live a less stressful life because I can afford costly short cuts.

24. I can see myself as being above doing housework.

25. I anticipate that those whom I employ will consider me a "good customer" and give me preferential service; I can even feel entitled to such service.

26. Entertainment is easily available to me. I can take vacations when and where I want.

27. I can afford good medical and mental health care in a setting that will ensure my privacy.

28. I can anticipate my retirement years without financial anxiety.

29. I can give my children an inheritance so their road is easier than the road of others.

30. I could probably advance my career or social contacts’ careers by pulling strings.

31. I and others like me have the advantage of suitable clothing and manner when seeking employment.

32. I can choose to work or not to work, and for the most part not be criticized or attacked for that choice.

33. I can follow a career path that does not pay well.

34. I can get a loan/mortgage at a bank with little nuisance.

35. I usually have access to services provided by highly qualified service providers.

36. I can choose to make my privileged position as visible or invisible as I want, depending on the situation in which I find myself.

37. In a group of relative strangers, but fellow class members, certain assumptions about my/our background, financial position, education, network of friends/family, and behavior will be made.

38. I have a seat at the table to make, influence, have an impact on decisions, rules, policy.

39. I can be ignorant about money in general and my own finances in particular.

40. I can be unaware of the living/working conditions and financial hardships of others.

41. Because I can have an attitude of entitlement, I may have an attitude of contempt toward those who have not succeeded according to my definition of success.

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