Privilege for Sale

Sexuality focused edition

Large Group 101 Medium Trust 20 mins Sexuality Intersectionality

Materials & Media:
- Participant handouts
- (optional) writing implement
- Scrap paper for money amounts for groups

Set Up:
- N/A

Goals & Learning Outcomes:
- For participants to understand the vast amount and variety of privilege attached to different types of sexual orientation and sexual practices
- For participants to recognize that privilege is not only a legal construct but also social, religious, economical and so on
- For participants to understand and deconstruct the overlapping experiences of identity that influence our romantic and sexual lives

Priming:
We're going to take an opportunity with the next activity we are going to do to look at the different types of privileges, rights, and expectations that can be attached to different manifestations or understandings of our sexualities. This activity can often impact people quite differently depending on your own sexuality, relationship status, or other identities - so please just keep that in mind while people are sharing.

Process Steps & Talking Points:
1. Explain the process of the activity.
2. “In a moment I’m going to ask you to get into groups of three and I’m going to come around with a list of privileges for you to look at as a group. For the purposes of this activity, no matter what you’re identity, you do not have any of these privileges. You’re group will have an amount of money (which I will give to you) in order to collectively buy privileges from me. After I pass out the sheets I’ll come around with a number amount of money that your group has to spend collectively on privileges. If your group gets $100 that means collective you need to decide what one privilege you’re going to buy. Each privilege cost $100.
2. Count participants off into groups of three or otherwise get them into groups of three. If you have an even number make one group of four.
3. Pass out the privilege sheets
4. Pass out money amounts
5. Give participants approximately 5 minutes to pick privileges and let them know when they have two minutes left.
6. 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?
Where were any items you didn’t totally understand or didn’t connect with at first?
What privileges stuck out to you, what kind of privileges were they?
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:
This activity can weigh heavily for some of us, particularly if you feel that often times you don’t have access to many of these different privileges. It is important to remember that privilege comes in all different forms and that there are some ways that we have direct control over what privileges others may feel or not feel around us depending on the types of environments we create and the types of actions we take.

Co-Facilitator Notes:
If you both have different things or focal points that you get out of the activity then it would be great to focus your wrap up and contributions on those different things.

Bring Your Style:
This activity is very adaptable and can easily be focused for the group that you are working with. If you are working with athletes you could talk about privilege of feeling comfortable changing in locker rooms without the worry of others thinking that you are attracted to them or the privilege of talking openly about your sexuality with your teammates. The more focused that you can make the activity for the group you are working with the better.
**Challenges & Tips:**

We would recommend not giving more than $800 dollars to any one group and typically not over $500. Often groups with more money take just as long or longer to pick because they have more choices to make. Typically we keep it between $100 (always giving one group $100) and $500 but if we have more than 5 groups we may give a group 600-800 but you can also use the same dollar amount twice.
Privilege for Sale

Please examine the following list of privileges with your group. Each privilege costs $100 to purchase and your facilitator(s) will be coming around shortly with the amount of money your group has to spend.

1. Being able to celebrate your marriage(s) with your family and friends.
2. Paid leave from your job when grieving the death of your partner(s).
3. Inheriting from your partner(s)/lover(s)/companion(s) automatically after their death.
4. Having multiple positive TV role models.
5. Sharing health insurance with your partner(s).
6. Being able to find and seek out role models of the same sexual orientation.
7. Being able to see your partner(s) immediately if in an accident or emergency.
8. Not being subjected to scrutiny in your job and not being able to be promoted without your sexuality being questioned.
10. Filing joint tax returns.
11. Able to obtain child custody.
12. Kissing/hugging/being affectionate in public without discomfort, threat, or punishment.
13. Freely being able to discuss your relationship(s) with others.
14. Being able to discuss and have access to multiple family planning options.
15. Reading books or seeing movies about a relationship(s) you wish you could have.
16. Receiving discounted homeowner insurance rates with your partner(s).
17. Raising children without worrying about state intervention.
18. Having others legitimize your relationship(s) and comfort you when a relationship ends.
19. Being legally able to be a foster parent.
20. Being employed as a pre-school or elementary school teacher without people assuming you will “corrupt” their children.
21. Dating the person(s) you desired in your teens.
22. Raising children without worrying about people rejecting your children because of your sexual preference.
23. Living openly with your partner(s).
24. Receiving validation and acceptance from your religious or spiritual community.
25. Having your sexuality accepted by your neighbors, colleagues, and new friends.
26. Being able to go to a doctor visit and have the doctor understand your sexual orientation and respond appropriately to questions regarding your sexual health.
27. Not having to testify against your partner(s) in a court of law.
28. Having others correctly assume and not question your sexuality.
29. Being able to sponsor your partner(s) for citizenship.
30. Being open to and having your partner(s) accepted by your family.