**The Male Privilege Checklist**

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. I can be confident that my co-workers won’t think I got my job because of my sex – even though that might be true.

3. If I am never promoted, it’s not because of my sex.

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

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

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

7. If I have children but do not provide primary care for them, my masculinity will not be called into question.

8. 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.

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

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

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

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

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

14. If I’m careless with my driving it won’t be attributed to my sex.

15. I can speak in public to a large group without putting my sex on trial.

16. 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.”

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

18. My clothing is typically less expensive and better-constructed than women’s clothing for the same social status. While I have fewer options, my clothes will probably fit better than a woman’s without tailoring.

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

20. If I buy a new car, chances are I’ll be offered a better price than a woman buying the same car.

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

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

23. I can ask for legal protection from violence that happens mostly to men without being seen as a selfish special interest, since that kind of violence is called “crime” and is a general social concern. (Violence that happens mostly to women is usually called “domestic violence” or “acquaintance rape,” and is seen as a special interest issue.)

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

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

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

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

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

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

30. 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.

31. 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.

32. 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.

33. 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.

34. 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.

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

36. Complete strangers generally do not walk up to me on the street and tell me to “smile.”

37. 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.

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

39. I have the privilege of being unaware of my male privilege.

(Compiled by Barry Deutsch, aka “Ampersand.” Permission is granted to reproduce this list in any way, for any purpose, so long as the acknowledgment of Peggy McIntosh’s work is not removed. If possible, I’d appreciate it if folks who use it would tell me how they used it; my email is barry.deutsch@gmail.com.)