

"BUT I DON'T FEEL PRIVILEGED." WHAT IS IDENTITY PRIVILEGE AND HOW DOES IT AFFECT US? Tatiana Benjamin & Jazmin Pichardo June 2017



Goals

- Increase our understanding of privilege
- Understand its impact on our experiences
- Learn the skills to enter conversations about privilege



OUR REQUESTS



- Self-care
- In process
- "I" Statements
- Make room
- Discomfort

Risks

Who am I?



INDIVIDUALS

GROUPS

ORGANIZATIONS/SYSTEMS

Common Beliefs about Privilege

We are one human race, so I don't notice difference.

If people just work hard and do the right thing, they will do fine.

Because I have disadvantages, I cannot have privilege.

Poll Everywhere link:

What Is Identity Privilege?

- It's relative, conditional, & contextual
- Historically driven by policy, law, culture, & tradition
- Facilitates access to resources
- Access to privilege does not determine one's outcomes

"**Privilege** exists when one *identity group* has something of value that is denied to others simply because of the identity groups they belong to, rather than because of anything they've done or failed to do." ~Peggy McIntosh

Identity Privilege Poll

Directions: Select all that apply

Poll Everywhere Link:

How did you feel having this conversation?

NERVOUS SAD POWERFUL PENSIVE POSITIVE **EMOTIONAL** HOPEFUL **SCARED ISOLATED** RISKY **UNCOMFORTABLE** UPSET WORRIED CAUTIOUS

DIFFICULT HUMBLE ARROGANT RESPECTFUL **ANXIOUS** SAFE **NECESSARY**

Poll Everywhere Link:

Take Aways

- Recognize our differences & that they matter
- Stay in it
- Speak up when you notice a pattern of exclusion
- Always keep in mind how your identities are showing up
- Continue to educate yourself

Leveraging privilege

What is one action I can commit to to promote justice and inclusion on campus?

What is an idea I have to promote justice on Campus?

Poll Everywhere Link:

On Campus Resources

University of Maryland Counseling Center

Website: <u>counseling.umd.edu</u> Counseling Center Main Number: (301) 314-7651 After Hours Crisis Support: (301) 314-7651

University Health Center

Website: <u>health.umd.edu</u> Telephone: 301.314.8180 Email: <u>health@umd.edu</u>

Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI)

Website: <u>diversity.umd.edu</u> Email: diverseterps@umd.edu

How do we have these Convos

- Own your role
- Listen to understand & empathize
- Speak from your head & heart
- Lean into the discomfort
- Keep in mind what is your goal & value = to promote equity & justice