

Social Justice Activity – Privilege Walk

Statements:

1. If it was assumed from a young age that you would go to college, clap once.
2. If both of your parents/guardians graduated from high school, clap once.
3. If neither of your parents/guardians attended college in the US, stand up.
4. If your parents have a foreign accent, stand up.
5. If you had to work to help pay the bills, stand up.
6. If you grew up in a house owned by your parents/guardian, clap once.
7. If your parents/guardians read to you when you were young, clap once.
8. If anyone in your immediate family has been affected by drugs or alcohol, stand up.
9. If you grew up in a single parent household, stand up.
10. If you had a maid or gardener, clap once.
11. If you grew up in safe neighborhoods, clap once.
12. If you can turn on the TV everyday and see people of your ethnicity portrayed in a positive light, clap once.
13. If your only source of transportation was public transportation at one point (trolley, bus), stand up.
14. If when growing up you were told that you can be anything you wanted to be, clap once.
15. If you attended a private school, clap once.
16. If you have seen violence in your own household, stand up.
17. If you speak more than one language, clap once.
18. If you are a man, clap once.
19. If you are a woman, stand up.
20. If you have been discriminated against because of your ethnicity, sexuality, religion, or age, stand up.
21. If you have ever had fear or doubts about college, stand up.

We have all overcome obstacles in our lives. Many of you have stood up, like you did just now, to challenges in your lives. Not everyone has the same challenges in live. Some have more. Others have less. And, it's important to understand that.

When you understand the context of a person's life (where they came from, what they've been through), it's easier to understand that person.