

**From “White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack”
by Peggy McIntosh**

Selections from the “daily effects of white privilege”:

1. I can if I wish arrange to be in the company of people of my race most of the time.
2. I can go shopping alone most of the time, pretty well assured that I will not be followed or harassed.
3. I can turn on the television or open to the front page of the paper and see people of my race widely represented.
4. When I am told about our national heritage or about “civilization,” I am shown that people of my color made it what it is.
5. I can be sure that my children will be given curricular materials that testify to the existence of their race.
6. Whether I use checks, credit cards or cash, I can count on my skin color not to work against the appearance of financial reliability.
7. I can arrange to protect my children most of the time from people who might not like them.
8. I do not have to educate my children to be aware of systemic racism for their own daily physical protection.
9. I can swear, or dress in second hand clothes, or not answer letters, without having people attribute these choices to the bad morals, the poverty or the illiteracy of my race.
10. I am never asked to speak for all the people of my racial group.
11. I can take a job with an affirmative action employer without having my co-workers on the job suspect that I got it because of my race.
12. I can be sure that if I need legal or medical help that my race will not work against me.