

Exploring Eco-Privilege*

Place a check next to each statement that applies to you

- 1** My family has or could, if we wanted to, buy energy efficient products to reduce our home energy consumption (i.e.: compact fluorescent lightbulbs, low flow shower heads, or energy star appliances).
- 2** My family does or could, if we decided to, generate our own electricity by installing solar panels or mini-wind turbines on our property.
- 3** I often see homes and businesses with solar panels or mini wind turbines in my neighborhood.
- 4** It is fairly easy for me to find organic food and fresh produce (I can go to a local store and assume that these products are carried, or I can go to a store in my neighborhood specifically for the purpose of buying organic food).
- 5** If I wanted to, I could pay the extra money to purchase an organic product vs. a conventionally grown product.
- 6** There are restaurants near my place of residence that have organic food on the menu.
- 7** My family, friends, or neighbors have invested in hybrid, bio-diesel, veggie-oil, or other vehicles that run on alternative fuels.
- 8** My city has invested in alternative fuel vehicles for public transportation and/or official city vehicles.
- 9** If I want, I can fairly easily find wheat-free food, natural skin products, sugar alternatives, raw foods, and sustainably harvested products (i.e.: bamboo cutting boards, fair-trade coffee, organic cotton/hemp).
- 10** Upon finding these products, I could afford to purchase them.
- 11** If we wanted to, my family could participate in a green power pricing program or purchase green tags to offset our carbon emissions.
- 12** I have been inside of a certified "green building"
- 13** If I wanted to, I could grow my own food without having to get on a waiting list at a community garden.
- 14** I have access to groups of people that are actively engaged in "sustainability" issues, and could (if I wanted) participate in groups that discuss buying local, going carbon neutral, reducing our community's "eco-footprint," etc.
- 15** I am semi-regularly or regularly invited to attend eco friendly functions – workshops, conferences, lectures, etc.
- 16** People in my family or group of friends/acquaintances talk about or would know what greenhouse gases are, what climate change is, and why alternative fuels are important.
- 17** I can afford and find organic cotton, hemp clothing, or other sustainably harvested materials if I want to.
- 18** If I am a woman: I can afford to purchase organic feminine products (ie. tampons/pads/gladrags/keepers/etc.)
- 19** If I wanted to, I could find a neighbor or community member to teach me about gray water systems or composting.

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- 20** There is a center nearby that offers resources and education for sustainable healthy communities and eco-systems.
- 21** And if so, that material is available in my family's primary language.
- 22** I can easily leave the urban environment that I live in and access a natural setting (mountains, lake, forest, beach), or I live close to these places already.
- 23** I live/work in an environment that is not toxic to my health.
- 24** There are trees and greenery in my neighborhood.
- 25** My community's "community garden" is not in danger of being sold, taken back by the owner, or bulldozed.
- 26** My family has easy access to clean water and/or can afford purification/filtration systems.
- 27** My family has access to a safe, green, open, recreational space near my home.
- 28** I am not at risk for asthma or other health complications related to the air quality of my neighborhood.
- 29** I have easy and consistent access to recycling (which includes: batteries, computer parts, and waste oils in addition to paper, plastic, glass, and aluminum).
- 30** My city or community provides green waste, mulch, and composting services.
- 31** My home is not next to a waste transfer station or pollution producing industry.

** Please note: The template for this list was inspired by Dr. Peggy McIntosh's groundbreaking piece entitled, "White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack."*