# STEPS TO UNDERSTANDING PRIVILEGE

# **SELF-REFLECT**

Reflect on your own life experiences, background, and identity. Consider your race, gender, sexual orientation, economic status, ability, and more. How have these factors shaped your life and opportunities?

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#### **LISTEN**

Actively seek out and listen to the experiences and stories of individuals who lack the privileges you may have. Books, conversations, and personal accounts will open your eyes.

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# **RECOGNIZE**

Privilege can manifest in various ways, such as easier access to education, job opportunities, healthcare, and fewer negative assumptions or stereotypes.

Recognize how these advantages affect your daily life.

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#### **AVOID**

Realize that acknowledging privilege doesn't invalidate your struggles. It simply acknowledges that certain aspects of your life haven't posed additional challenges.

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# **LEARN**

Explore various privileges, including white, male, heterosexual, cisgender, able-bodied, and others, and understand the unique advantages they create.

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# **ACKNOWLEDGE**

Realize that acknowledging privilege isn't about guilt but about recognizing your advantages and being a force for positive change.

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## **EMPATHIZE**

Walk in the shoes of those without your privileges and consider the challenges and obstacles they face due to systemic biases and inequalities.

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## **CHALLENGE**

Challenge your biases and assumptions regularly and engage in open, respectful dialogues with others about privilege and its impact on society. Take a stand against discrimination when you encounter it and support equality-promoting policies.