



30+ EXAMPLES OF MALE PRIVILEGE

If you identify as a man, these are a bunch of unearned benefits you get that folks with other genders do not. Read them and consider them. It's not about shame. It's about understanding.

Written by social justice comedian Sam Killermann, this is an adaptation of an article originally posted on ItsPronouncedMetrosexual.com

Following is a list of male privileges. If you are male (and a man), listed below are benefits that result from being born with that gender and sex.

If you identify as a man, there's a good chance you've never thought about these things. Try and be more cognizant of these privileges in your daily life and you'll understand how much work we have to do to make for a society that is equitable to all people, regardless of their gender.

1. If you have a bad day or are in a bad mood, people aren't going to blame it on your sex
2. You can be careless with your money and not have people blame it on your sex
3. You can be a careless driver and not have people blame it on your sex
4. You can be confident that your coworkers won't assume you were hired because of your sex
5. If you are never promoted, it isn't because of your sex
6. You can expect to be paid equitably for the work you do, and not paid less because of your sex
7. If you are unable to succeed in your career, that won't be seen as evidence against your sex in the workplace
8. A decision to hire you won't be based on whether or not the employer assumes you will be having children in the near future
9. Work comfortably (or walk down a public street) without the fear of sexual harassment
10. Walk alone at night without the fear of being raped or otherwise harmed
11. Go on a date with a stranger without the fear of being raped
12. Dress how you want and not worry it will be used as a defense if you are raped
13. If you are straight, you are not likely to be abused by your partner, or to be told to continue living in an abusive household for your children
14. You can decide not to have children and not have your masculinity questioned
15. If you choose to have children, you will be praised for caring for your children, instead of being expected to be the full-time caretaker
16. Balance a career and a family without being called selfish for not staying at home (or being constantly pressured to stay at home)

17. If you are straight and decide to have children with your partner, you can assume this will not affect your career
18. If you rise to prominence in an organization/role, no one will assume it is because you slept your way to the top
19. You can seek political office without having your sex be a part of your platform
20. You can seek political office without fear of your relationship with your children, or who you hire to take care of them, being scrutinized by the press
21. Most political representatives share your sex, particularly the higher-ups
22. Your political officials fight for issues that pertain to your sex
23. You can ask for the “person in charge” and will likely be greeted by a member of your sex
24. As a child, you were able to find plenty of non-limiting, gender role stereotyped media to view
25. If you don't spend much time on your appearance, you won't have to worry about about being criticized at work or in social situations
26. You can spend time on your appearance without having people criticizing you for upholding unhealthy gender norms
27. If you're not conventionally attractive (or in shape), you don't have to worry as much about that negatively affecting your potential
28. You are not pressured by peers and society to be thin as much as the opposite sex
29. You're not expected to spend excessive amounts of money on grooming, style, and appearance to fit in, while making less money than the opposite sex
30. Have promiscuous sex and be viewed positively for it
31. You can go to a car dealership or mechanic and assume you'll get a fair deal and not be taken advantage of

32. Expressions and conventional language reflects your sex (e.g., mailman, “all men are created equal”)

33. Every major religion in the world is led by individuals of your sex

34. You can practice religion without subjugating yourself or thinking of yourself as less because of your sex

35. You are less likely to be interrupted than members of the opposite sex