

# What are social identities?

- Parts of your identity that have been created by society (community) for a very long time
- The you that relates to other people in society
- Groups or categories that we get lumped into, sometimes not our choice

# What are my social identities?

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Add on to your identity map :

- Race (White, Black or African American, Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, Multiracial)
- Ethnicity (e.g. Japanese, Chinese, Taiwanese, Irish, Hong Konger, French, Sioux)
- Socioeconomic class (upper middle class, middle class, working class)
- Gender (female, male, nonbinary, cisgender, transgender)
- Age 

# What are my social identities?

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Add on to your identity map :

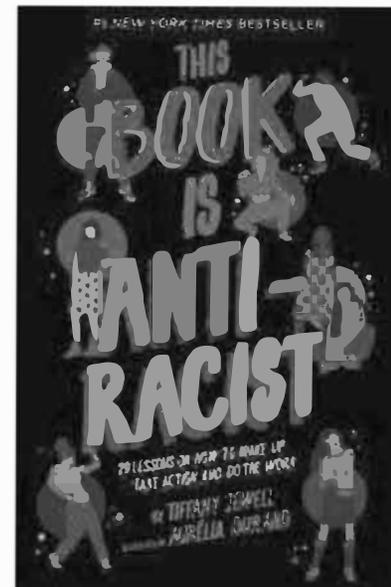
- Language(s) (e.g. English, Mandarin, Cantonese, Spanish, Japanese, Korean)
- Religious beliefs (e.g. Jewish, Christian, Catholic, Buddhist, Muslim, not religious)
- Nationality (e.g. U.S. citizen, Malaysian, Canadian, Taiwanese, Indian)
- Abilities (e.g. able bodied, differently abled)
- Family Structure (e.g. parents still together, parents separated, mom and dad, single parent, two moms, two dads, foster family, non-parent caregiver, step parents)

# Dominant Culture

- The culture that is considered “normal”
- Created and maintained by those who belong in this culture to hold power and stay in power
- Dominant culture in America:
  - White
  - Middle class
  - Cisgender (your gender identity matches with the sex you were assigned at birth)
  - Educated
  - Able bodied
  - Christian
  - English speaker

# Which parts of your identity hold power and privilege?

- Power and privilege:
  - When you fit in the dominant culture and can make changes, choices, and decisions easily
  - The benefits you have because you are close to the dominant culture
- Read aloud: This Book Is Anti-Racist page 20-21



# Which parts of your identity hold power and privilege?

- Circle the identities that hold power and privilege on your map:
  - White
  - Middle class
  - Cisgender (your gender identity matches with the sex you were assigned at birth)
  - Educated
  - Able bodied
  - Christian
  - English speaker
  - Cisgender male
  - U.S. citizen

## Which of your identities hold power and privilege? Which ones don't?

- Write two paragraphs in your writer's notebook
- Paragraph 1: Pick two identities that hold power and privilege, and explain why they do
- Paragraph 2: Pick two identities that don't hold power and privilege, and explain why not
- At least 1 full page of writing!

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### Example one-pager

Being middle class holds power and privilege because I have enough wealth to provide myself with a comfortable life. I live in a home that I own, I have a car to transport myself wherever I need to go, I can buy healthy food at the grocery store, and I can get takeout from restaurants every week. Being able bodied holds power and privilege because I can walk to any place I choose. For example, I can use the stairs, go hiking on a narrow dirt trail, and more easily in and out of buildings. I don't need to rely on other people's help or well-designed buildings to get around.

Being a non-citizen in America does not hold power and privilege. I need immigration documents in order to live and work in this country legally. The government controls who receives these documents and who doesn't. I cannot vote. Even though I have lived in America for xx years, I have no voice in choosing my leaders or the laws that we pass. Being xxx in America does not always hold power and privilege or marveled at. In some states, I have to explain where I am from or where I am really from over and over because I don't look like most people in that state.

### Example identity sentences

I used to think that everyone is either a boy or a girl and that you can tell someone's gender just by looking at them, but now I know that gender is something that you get to choose. It can be the same as the sex that the doctor assigned to you at birth (cisgender), or it can be different (transgender). Some people may not identify as either male or female, but rather as nonbinary.

I did not know that there are so many different family structures. I used to think that everyone comes from a family with a mom and a dad, but now I know that not everyone does. Some families are single parent and some caregivers may not be parents.

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