Exploring Your Place of Privilege

Name:	Date:

There are different types of power relationships in society. Research suggests that certain groups have more privilege and others have less privilege. Having privilege means that you have sources of advantage that other people do not have. The purpose of this activity is to help you consider your positions of privilege in relation to your supervisee. In the first grid, mark the groups to which you belong and in the second grid, mark those of your supervisee. Reflect on the results. Do you have an equal relationship? If not, think about things you can do to create additional ways for your supervisee to feel safe and included in the same way as other supervisees who are more privileged.

You might also have your supervisee do the same activity for the two of you and compare the results. If you do this, take extra precaution that, in fact, you will be able to ensure the safety for your supervisee. This is particularly true for privilege factors that are not physically apparent but result in discrimination and disadvantage, such as gender, religion and mental illness.

If you are not in a supervisory relationship you can reference and discuss with a colleague, preferably one that is in different groups than you.

Supervisor		Supervisee	
Privilege &	Less Privilege &	Privilege &	Less Privilege &
Advantage	Disadvantage	Advantage	Disadvantage
White	Non-white	White	Non-white
Male	Female	Male	Female
Christian	Non-Christian	Christian	Non-Christian
Financially wealthy	Financially poor	Financially wealthy	Financially poor
Experienced	Novice	Experienced	Novice
Native English	Non-native English	Native English	Non-native English
speaker	speaker	speaker	speaker
Educated,	Not educated, not	Educated,	Not educated, not
credentialized	credentialized	credentialized	credentialized
Cisgender	Trans, queer, gender non- conforming	Cisgender	Trans, queer, gender non- conforming
Healthy	Physically, mentally ill or disabled	Healthy	Physically, mentally ill or disabled