

## **CLASS BACKGROUND INVENTORY**

**[Source: Class Action]**

*Please reflect and/or respond to the following questions about social class:*

- 1. When you were growing up, what were your family's source(s) of income? (Investments, public assistance, parent(s) or guardians(s) salaries or wages, from what occupations(s)?)**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2. Describe your home(s) and neighborhood(s) growing up. (Own vs. rent, amount of space inside and between houses or apartments, safety, state of repair, etc.?)**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3. How does the education you have received compare with the education of others in your family in this generation, and in the previous two generations?**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 4. How was your family's leisure time spent when you were growing up? (Travel, camp, hobbies or activities, sources of entertainment?)**

**5. Circle five values or expectations from the list below that seemed to be most valued in your family when you were growing up. Then underline five that seem to be least important.**

- *Getting by*
  - *Making a moderate living*
  - *Making a very good living*
  - *Gaining social status or prominence*
  - *Helping others*
  - *Getting married and having children*
  - *Respecting law and order*
  - *Recognition*
  - *Saving money*
  - *Making your money work for you*
  - *Working out psychological issues through therapy*
  - *Defending one's country*
  - *Enjoying your money*
  - *Going to private school*
  - *Getting an advanced or professional degree*
  - *Learning a trade*
  - *Being physically fit or athletic*
  - *Going to a place of worship*
  - *Being a professional*
  - *Community service*
  - *Being politically or socially aware*
  - *Keeping up with the neighbors*
  - *Being an entrepreneur*
  - *Owning a home*
  - *Being patriotic*
  - *Open communication among family members*
  - *Not being wasteful*
  - *Getting a high school degree*
  - *Having good etiquette*
  - *Getting a college degree*
  - *Physical appearance*
  - *Staying out of trouble with the law*
  - *Helping to advance the cause of one's racial, religious, or cultural group*
- *Other values or expectations not listed above?* \_\_\_\_\_

**6. What have you gained from your class background experience? What has been hard?**

**7. What impact does your class background have on your current attitudes, behaviors, and feelings? (About money, work, relationships with people from the same class/ from a different class, your sense of self, expectations about life, your politics, etc.)**