# **Mini Social Contact Survey**

**NOTE:** No one will see this sheet; Use names or abbreviations that make sense to you. Listen to the directions and refer to back side of this page when you do the exercise.

### First level:

List everyone you came into contact yesterday (if possible, recall last 2 days) Categorize by social identity (race, gender, social class, etc.)

## **Second level:**

Create visual image of the people in your public/work social environment ~ on public transit, at work, in your neighborhood, in stores or gas stations, etc.

What skin colors were they? (mostly white, mostly people of color, about half-half...) What genders were they? What visible dis/abilities? Religious/cultural clothing identifiers? Ages? Other apparent social groups?

### FIRST LEVEL

NAME	R/E	SES	GEN	SO	R	D	AGE	I	OTHER *
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### SECOND LEVEL

What skin colors were they? (mostly white, mostly people of color, about half-half...)

What genders were they?

What visible dis/abilities?

Religious/cultural clothing identifiers?

Ages?

Other apparent social groups?

<sup>\*</sup>Political, etc.

You will *not* share this list, so you may identify contacts by name, initial, or descriptor (e.g., sister, passenger on bus, etc.). If you can't recall everyone, don't worry; this is just a snapshot.

List each contact on the lines below. After each name indicate the person's apparent race/ethnic group (R/E), social economic class (SES), gender (GEN), sexual orientation (SO), religion (R), disability (D), age (AGE) and intimacy level (I). *Note*: The survey collects only *apparent* identity, not actual identity since you will not know all identities. Do not ask people their identities! Also, keep in mind that we do not assume social identity for the people we meet; rather we respect everyone's own identity as it is shared in any interactive context. However, for the purpose of this learning exercise only, you may observe apparent skin color and label a person as "white", "person of color", or another ethnic identity. You may presume certain religious identities according to clothing or other overt indicator (religious jewelry, clothing, etc.). Among your friends, family, and acquaintances, social identity descriptors will likely be more accurate.

Try to identify groups of people in your routine public contexts. For example, if you use public transport daily you might label fellow bus or metro riders as "about half people of color and half white", "mostly African American", "mostly White", etc. Identify your religious settings (i.e., mostly older; about half people of color & half white; completely Christian, etc.). Try to capture the general diversity of your own neighborhood; attend to apparent skin color, age, social class, etc. The goal is to *take a snapshot* of the overall diversity of your routine social life.

For intimacy level categorize contacts with suggested abbreviations: immediate family (f), extended family/kin (f+), close friend (cf), acquaintance (a), peer/colleague (c), or utilitarian contact (u). Utilitarian contacts include gas station attendant, grocery store attendant, shop keeper, people on the subway, etc. For religion, categorize your contacts by affiliation if known (P – Protestant, C – Catholic, M – Muslim, J – Jewish, etc.) or secular (S). Indicate age as desired, e.g., "old", "child", "middle age", "college age", etc. Add other diversity categories if you feel they are important (body size, language use, etc.).

<u>Social media:</u> Social media plays an increasing role in our lives. Indicate and reflect on your social media contact diversity. Are contacts mostly of a certain age and share your political orientation? Add a category indicating social media diversity.

<u>Political contacts</u>: Politics in the USA increasingly divides people. Add the political affiliation of your contacts if known (e.g., Democrat, Republican, liberal, conservative, etc.).