

These working materials are part of the toolkit

Climate beyond Classism

transformative educational resources
on classism in the context of the
environmental and climate crisis

(Self-)Reflection on Classism in the Climate Crisis

A guided reflection discussion on how classism is active in
times of climate crisis

- **What:** Worksheet: Reflection about Climate and Classism

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Reflection on Classism in the Climate Crisis

You have 45 minutes to discuss the questions below, either while going for a walk or in a comfortable setting. What applies to you? What do you experience, and what do you not? How does this influence your perspective on the climate crisis? What thoughts and feelings does it bring up?

The goal is not to answer and discuss all the questions. Decide for yourselves which questions you want to discuss and how long you want to spend on each. It's perfectly fine to talk briefly about many questions or to go in-depth on fewer ones. Discuss your approach together. The numbers are simply there to help you select questions and have no inherent significance.

The statements cover various areas but certainly not all. If you have time, you can also discuss any other statements or areas that you feel are missing.

Be aware of what thoughts come to your mind when reading the question and reflect how these thoughts are influenced by stereotypes.

1. Do I rely on owning a car to meet my basic needs? Would certain things be much easier with a car?
2. What role does social recognition play in my family of origin (e.g., through a car, a job, new devices, clothing, etc.), and how does it impact living in a climate-friendly way?
3. Do I work in a field that will be little or greatly affected by changes due to the climate crisis?
4. Do I have a strong social network that allows me to forego certain expenses and still live well?
5. Has my family background already afforded me the chance to travel to many places/countries, allowing me now to travel less?
6. Do I feel comfortable participating in a climate demonstration because I feel included?
7. Do I see people like myself when I think of the climate movement?
8. Honestly, do I believe that "the majority" have not yet understood the issue of climate protection?
9. Can I rely on a lot of cultural capital and therefore have less need to demonstrate my status through income and property?
10. Will I inherit wealth and therefore worry less about my financial future, even in times of an escalating climate crisis?
11. Am I afraid I won't be able to afford life with rising CO₂ prices?
12. Do I live in a well-insulated home?
13. Can I make decisions about heating and other aspects of my living space?
14. Can I easily buy organic food or otherwise have access to it?
15. Have I learned how to eat well as a vegetarian/vegan, and is this accepted in my environment?
16. Do I have access to good infrastructure that enables me to live with a low ecological footprint, such as public transportation?
17. Do I live in a place with little heat protection (lots of concrete, little shade, few trees)?
18. Do I have my own garden and do not need to rely on parks or public spaces?
19. Am I satisfied with my working conditions?
20. Am I part of a union to improve my working conditions?
21. Do people in my environment have the time and energy to engage in an ecological lifestyle?
22. Am I valued in my community for my visible ecological lifestyle (positive comments, inquiries, etc.)?
23. Is the lifestyle of my family of origin considered progressive?
24. Do I feel fully addressed by the messages of climate activists?
25. Are people like me seen as "pioneers" for a climate-friendly future?
26. Do I see myself as a climate-friendly person?
27. Do I think people could travel more sustainably, for instance, by going on a bike tour with a tent?
28. Do I need to fly regularly to visit family and friends abroad?

29. Am I encouraged in my social environment to maintain an eco-friendly lifestyle?
30. Do I have access to and capacity for education and resources to inform myself about the climate crisis and socio-ecological transformation and to engage in activism?
31. Can I afford to adapt to the climate crisis (e.g., with air conditioning, flood protection, etc.)?
32. Can I afford to actively reduce my energy consumption (e.g., with solar panels, more efficient appliances, etc.)?