**Reflection**

After making this diary and thinking about the various privileges given to me has made me realize that we tend to take these privileges for granted. There are so many people out there who do not have the same opportunities and therefore we should be grateful.

I mentioned that I have the opportunity to study abroad unlike so many people who would give anything to have the same privilege. Unfortunately this is dependent on several factors including financial standing as well as parents’ approval. I have a cousin who is one month younger than me. We grew up together; when I decided to go America to study, he also wants to go. However, his parents do not want him live alone and it is so far from his home. I also feel sorry for him. Therefore not everyone could enjoy this privilege.

Actually, I worked for 3 years before I came here. In China, people in my age usually have already graduated from college. However, people in the United States don’t care much about the age of studying. And also, I applied a single room in a graduate residence hall because I have already 21 years old. This makes me feel much better. As this is the first time that I come out for study, and all the people around me who come here for study as a freshman are younger than me, which makes me feel terrible. I even doubt that whether it is too late for me to start my college. Now, I realized that so many privileges I can have like live in a single room, drinking, even the insurance fee is depend on our age. My dad always tells me ”it is never late for study”. Therefore, my parents thought I’m not a child any more, instead of that I’m an adult now. As a result, they have given me the financial support to purchase a car. I’m so grateful about that. What I want to say is now I’m totally fine with my age. These privileges changed my viewpoint on my age.

I noticed that Purdue even offers different residences to married students, which is quite new for me. Because that means we can get married even during college. If we compare this to college in China, it is quite different. People will be forced to quit college study if one is married in China. It is a big problem for people who want to pursue higher education while being married. In my perspective, it is unfair for them. Therefore, this will decrease the level of the whole country’s education.

I also mentioned the privileges about religions and gender. Although I don’t know a lot about religions, it really restricts people do many things. I have a friend who is a Muslim from Saudi Arabia who can only have koshered meat. He is not don’t like to eat meat. He has to go somewhere far away from here to find a restaurant where has koshered meat if he wants to eat good meal. In this regard, I think it is good thing for me because I can easily eat whatever I want.

I’m not sure Americans’ attitude in gender, it always a big problem in China. Most of them want to have a boy but not girl. However, this phenomenon is not unreasonable. It is normal that parents usually allowing their sons sleep over at night. On the contrary, parents always very worried about their teenager daughters when they are out of home, even in the daytime.

Buying cars is an awesome privilege, especially for me, a person who is come from the capital city of China. There are some limitations about new car purchasing in Beijing. People who want to buy a car have to get qualify of buying cars. This qualify is depends on our birthplace, which means the people whose birthplace is Beijing are able to buy a car. Otherwise, people whose birthplace is not Beijing will hand in tax continuously for at least five years to get this qualification. There is more policy to come, the lottery system—it is a system that will generate some random numbers. Therefore, when we finally get the qualification; we still need to wait for a random turn to buy a car. This turn is decided by the lottery system. Sometimes it will take us one month if lucky enough, sometimes it will last three months or more. Driving is also restricted in Beijing. Cars can only be used on different days depending upon whether the last number of the license plate is odd or even during workdays. Because of these reasons, I am extremely grateful for the privilege that I can buy cars.

In conclusion, after analysis these diaries, I realized that there are so many privileges we own. Therefore, some of them changed my point of view on ages, which eliminate the negative influence in this issue.