#CheckYourPrivilege

By Anna Mock & Sarah Heming

In the beginning there were a bunch of self-righteous, entitled, two-faced bigots. More specifically, in the beginning of 1982--Those born during this wonderful year and on to the present day are known as the millennial generation. These are the ones who sport mock offense at anything and everything that does not accommodate their preference.

This belief that the world ought to bend to their every whim and serve them an endless supply of funfetti and “TGIF’s” is not only a ludicrous notion to be supported, but it is one that constantly proclaims itself through lawsuits, the news, and a never-ending display of self-absorbed people broadcasting their hissy fits over the ubiquitous avenue that is modern social media.

We have seen examples of this an innumerable number of times throughout recent years. From the infamous $100,000 suit filed against Google maps in 2010 for “giving bad directions”, to the meme inspiring “cash me ousside” threat that, at the time 13 year old, Danielle Bregoli spat at the audience of a Doctor Phil episode in September of 2016.

People take offense at any and every opportunity yet it is too often this group of people who are actually being offensive, stirring up drama, and creating social tension for any who may witness their absurdity.

For example, the resurgence of “#triggered” inspired an epidemic which has swept through all popular social media platforms in recent months. Many people went along with this trend nonchalantly without thinking twice of the sensitive origins of the phrase, which is relative to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, formally defined by adaa.org as a “potentially debilitating condition that can occur in people who have experienced or witnessed a natural disaster, serious accident, terrorist incident, sudden death of a loved one, war” or “violent personal assault such as rape.”

When one considers all of this, the urban hashtag seems to be more of a mockery which makes fun of those who have not only been subject to a substantially traumatic event or a series of such but also fall into the category of those who have been deemed disabled, and in some more extreme cases, handicapped.

It’s pitiful that such a large margin of mankind could be so selfish as to compare mundane, daily frustrations to a serious mental alteration. They are calloused enough flippantly to overlook the circumstance of those to whom the status may actually apply. It is also incredibly ironic that people are so focused busying themselves with petty arguments of ingenuine concern that they can completely turn a blind eye to their own hypocrisy.

The motivation for all this is what, exactly?

Attention.

People want to be noticed, but even more, they want to feel important. Amplifying the severity of ones situation and displaying it publicly provides them with enough of an audience to receive some form of gratification from their circumstance.

Point. Blank. End of story. It is time for this country to reevaluate our influence on the world and how the attitude our young people carry displays us as a nation.