



## **Anonymous Colorado**

I work in a small office of 200 people. Of the 200 people, there are 6 African-Americans. The office claims to be a family, but it does not feel that way for the few people of color. Whenever there are losses in the office, co-workers try to be sympathetic. They, generally, inquire as to nature of the tragedy and send flowers from an office fund.

This particular month, several people lost a loved one to sickness- at least, that was the stories told. They would ask the co-worker how did the relative die- if it were cancer or stroke, etc. The co-workers would gather to discuss the loss suffered by the co-workers. That month, I lost my uncle due to cancer.

I am African-American. I live in Suburbia. My family is highly educated with impressive careers. I had someone approach me to ask what caused my uncle's death. This co-worker asked if my uncle had been shot!! NEED I SAY MORE?!

**Do you have a story to tell? Send it to [JSmith@ivygroupllc.com](mailto:JSmith@ivygroupllc.com)**