

Marnie Soor: profile

#take5 series



Who are you and what is your ethnicity?

Marnie Soor, Associate Consultant, Michael Page Finance in Leeds. I am Indian (Sikh)

What challenges have you faced due to your ethnicity?

Growing up, I have always been around older family members who have faced challenges due to the colour of our skin.

My father has, in the past, been beaten as he did not have the same appearance as some of the other kids/workers he went to school/work with. My brother, from a young age has been stopped and searched by the police when with friends, or not let into clubs or bars as bouncers believed him and his friends to be a 'threat.' My sister & I were bullied at school due to us having a different skin colour. I have been told I needed to work harder and 'probably will not get far.' I have had to deal with being racially abused many times and even been in fights because of this. Despite having to face these challenges (even until this day), I do not let it get in the way of where I want to be and what I want to achieve, but it still upsets me that I have to deal with it.

What is the first change you would like to see?

Better communication across each Page office. Where people can voice their opinions, share experiences and conversations are had. I would also like to see more representation of ethnic minorities in the offices whether that be a junior or senior level.

What does Unity@Page represent for you?

To me, Unity@Page means for everyone to have equal opportunities across all levels. It means that no matter our skin colour, level, age or ethnicity, that we are all treated equal and fairly.

How can people be good allies/anti-racists?

They firstly need to understand/recognise that we, unfortunately, live in a prejudice society. It also means that you are willing to educate yourself so you would speak out against racism and pass what you have learnt onto others. Be confident to have those difficult conversations where people perhaps lack knowledge. It means treating people equally and not seeing the colour of their skin as a 'problem' or a 'threat'. Often what is displayed in the media, can be massively exaggerated. **Finally, it means to keep up the conversation, spread awareness and to keep on educating themselves** (even if you may not have experienced anything personal yourself).

