***Examples of Micro-aggressions***

* I went to see a woman doctor*. Scrap the woman; her gender is irrelevant.*
* I did not know you like white music (said to an African American).*What is white music? I thought Bach was appreciated by diverse groups.*
* You don’t sound black.*You mean I don’t sound like your negative stereotype?*
* To a woman of color: you are so articulate.*And you seemed so surprised.*
* You don’t look Jewish*.  Perhaps you can educate me on what Jewish people look like?*
* He is Christian, but very open-minded*.   Thank you for showing me how closed your mind is.*
* It’s great you don’t have any accent (to a Korean American).*Well, since my great grandparents came here from Korea, I am not sure why I would.*
* How young are you (to someone age 75)?  *How ageist and patronizing are you?*
* I never would have guessed you were gay*.  Well, perhaps stop guessing.*
* You have a lot of energy for an old guy.*And self-restraint too, because I am going to bite my tongue, kid.*
* Isn’t it nice that you are helping your wife out with the kids at home?   *I don’t need your validation.  Plus, they are my kids, too.*
* You are no shrinking violent. And I mean that as a complement*.  Well, I am a COO so of course I am no shrinking violent. Your comment was sexist.  I mean that as a compliment, too, of course, assuming you define compliment to mean disgust.*
* You are doing such a great job (to a disabled employee who is doing no better than anyone else.)*This one is said with a condescending tone, as if,” wow.”  And, by condescending, I mean talking down to someone.*
* I thought that way when I was young*.  Just because we think differently does not mean your thinking has evolved beyond mine!*
* Are you ladies going shopping at lunch?*Will you guys be shaving your knuckles?*

**-by Jonathan A. Segal**

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