



6.5 WAYS
TO KNOW YOU ARE
NO LONGER PART
OF THE TEAM

Michael D. Brown

Being a part of the team can be a great feeling. You have people who have your back and are there to help you move forward. Sometimes, though, you may feel that the team really isn't including you in everything. There is a bit of a personal touch even to professional teams. The team gets together unofficially, too, and has inside jokes. If you have been feeling left out, here are some things that might indicate you are no longer a part of the team.



1 – SURPRISE RESIGNATIONS

If someone in your team resigns and you seem to be the only one surprised by it, it means that you are being kept out of the loop. Usually when someone is going to resign, they talk about it to the people they are close to at work. Most of the time, this means their team. If your whole team knew about a member leaving but you didn't, it is a bad sign.

2 – TEAM RELATIONSHIPS YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT

There are many different relationships within a team. Two team members might be dating. A few might be really good friends. If you don't really know the inter-team relationships, then you don't know much about your team. If you are surprised at how close some of the team members are, it might mean you aren't included.

3 – LIFE DEVELOPMENTS THE REST OF THE TEAM KNOWS ABOUT

Someone is getting married and you are the last to know. Someone is getting divorced and you are the last to know. This means that team knowledge isn't reaching you in an organic way, and is definitely one of the signs that you are no longer part of the team.

4 – YOU AREN'T EATING AND DRINKING WITH THE TEAM

Since teams hang out together at work, it is natural that everyone becomes friends. This means the team might go out for lunches together or stop at a bar for drinks on the way home. If you aren't included in such events, and don't even know about them, it is the clearest sign that you aren't considered to be a part of the team.

5 – INSIDE JOKES YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND

This is a big one in any social group. As funny incidents occur, inside jokes naturally form. Leave any group together for a few months and they'll have many inside jokes. If you keep hearing references to inside jokes that you have no idea about, then you aren't really a part of the troupe. It means that interesting events and things are happening where you aren't present.

6 – PEOPLE DON'T ASK ABOUT YOU IF YOU DON'T SHOW UP

When you take a day off, your managers are the ones who will ask about where you are. If you are a part of the team, your team will inquire as well. You'll get a text from them asking if you are going to show up, not because they have some work they want to get done, but because you're a teammate and they want to make sure everything's okay. If no one asks where you are when you don't show up to work, it means they aren't waiting for you to show up.



6.5 - GETTING IN THE TEAM

Being out of the team isn't a permanent problem. All you need is one good social event and you are in. If you aren't being invited to a lot of places, simply start inviting others. Maybe you can take the team out for a casual lunch or buy drinks for the team after work. A small act like this can take you a long way.

ABOUT MICHAEL D. BROWN

Michael D. Brown is a sought-after speaker, Global management expert, and author of *Fresh Passion: Get A Brand or Die A Generic*, *Fresh Customer Service®: Treat the Employee as #1 and the Customer as #2 and You Will Get Customers for Life* and *Fresh Passion Leadership: Become a Distinct, Branded Leader or Extinct Generic*.

He has over eighteen years of experience in helping companies and organizations achieve results. These organizations include US Army, US Marines, BP, Amoco, Capital One, Jason's Deli, Murphy Oil, Omni Hotels, Houston Rockets, Wells Fargo, Marriott, Ford Foundation, and Hampton University. He has held numerous leadership positions at Fortune Global 100 Companies.

Michael's work has been featured in hundreds of publications and media outlets, including: Forbes, Georgia Public Radio, Business Week, NPR Radio, The Economic Times, Black Enterprise, Management Operations, Business Education Forum, Bits and Pieces of Leadership, Inside Business, The Managers Intelligence, Black Enterprise, and U.S. Business, Review.



MORE VALUABLE RESOURCES, TIPS AND TOOLS

www.TheMichaelDBrown.com

