

## Schmidt, Kim

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**From:** James Edouard <jameswedouard@gmail.com>  
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I read a news article from WMUR regarding race is not being addressed when it comes to training and accountability. As human beings, we all have biases, and our biases often manifest on how we do our jobs, and it is not unique to police officers. An individual with a hoodie looking inside park cars late at night is very suspicious regardless whether that individual is Black, White, Hispanic, or Asian. Police officers should not be thinking about race; rather, they should be focused on enforcing the law colorblind. As a 37-year-old Black man living in NH, I have only been pulled over three times: One time in Londonderry because my sticker expired. Twice in Goffstown because I had a clear sticker and an officer claimed I ran a red light. I have only been ticketed in Goffstown and contested both tickets. My mom who has been driving for 20+ years has only gotten a ticket in Goffstown.

I have never had any bad experiences with law enforcement in which I felt like I was being discriminated against, but that changed when my stepson was a student at Goffstown High School, then everything started to sink in that the Goffstown Police Department is the modern Klu Klux Klan. It is a long story, but I will give the short version. When my stepson was a sophomore at Goffstown High School, he was pulled out of class to be questioned by a Goffstown Police Officer about something he had no idea about. He was only 14 years old at the time. Neither his mom nor I were notified until he came home, and he was sad. There had been a break in around the Pinarville area, and someone gave a vague description of a Black male who was seeing within the vicinity of the break in.

A description of a Black male could be anybody, and the individual did not give any other description except the fact that he/she saw a Black male. So, this police officer went to Goffstown High School to question my stepson about a break in. Think about that for a minute! How many times his White counterparts have been pulled out of class to be questioned about break ins that occurred near them? The Goffstown High School gave the police officer permission to pull my stepson to be questioned solely because he is Black. I was terribly upset! I was going to file a civil right complaint against that officer, Goffstown PD, and Goffstown High School. My fiancée had a different idea, and she decided to talk with the captain instead, and then he assured her this would never happen again.