# Joe Rogan faces criticism over controversial guest choices



Joe Rogan, the prominent podcaster known for his diverse range of guests and topics, faced a pointed interrogation regarding his choice of guests during an episode of his show, The Joe Rogan Experience. This exchange took place with British conservative author and columnist Douglas Murray, who delivered a critical assessment of Rogan’s platform, particularly concerning the voices he has elevated within the realm of conspiracy theories and controversial historical interpretations.

Murray expressed his concerns by saying, "I feel you've opened the door to quite a lot of people who now got a big platform, who have been throwing out counter-historical stuff of a very dangerous kind." He cited examples such as podcaster Darryl Cooper, who has controversially claimed that not only did the Nazis not intend to murder millions, but that Winston Churchill is painted as the principal villain of World War II. Additionally, Murray referenced Holocaust denier Ian Carroll, emphasising that individuals like these do not possess the requisite historical knowledge to shape public discourse. "These guys are not historians, they're not knowledgeable about anything," he stated.

In response, Rogan attempted to defend his methodology by asserting, “No one is calling Ian Carroll a historian,” thereby suggesting that the value of hearing diverse opinions should not be diminished by the credentials of the speakers. Nonetheless, Murray maintained his stance, asserting that providing a platform to such views risks normalising them, stating, "If you only get the contrary view... at some point you're going to lead people to think that's the view."

Rogan's defence reflects his long-held position of being curious about alternative opinions and voicing a desire for open dialogue. “I don’t think about it that way,” he countered. “I just think, I’d like to talk to that person.” However, Murray pressed further, indicating that there comes a point where the inquisitive stance may not be legitimate anymore, remarking, “There’s a point at which 'I’m just raising questions' isn’t valid anymore... You’re not asking questions — you’re telling people something.”

The conversation is particularly timely, occurring shortly after criticisms regarding Rogan's dissemination of misinformation relating to historical events, notably the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963. Jack Schlossberg, the grandson of JFK, publicly chastised Rogan for promoting unfounded theories during a recent episode featuring his cousin, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., who insinuated that America's intelligence agencies were involved in JFK's assassination. Schlossberg derided the podcaster, questioning, “Are you going to go through all the JFK assassination files tomorrow with your little butt buddy Bobby?” He encapsulated his frustration by accusing Rogan of perpetuating lies, and in a striking rhetorical flourish, mocked the idea of Rogan ensuring the accuracy of his claims.

Despite the criticisms, Rogan’s approach has garnered him a vast following and significant financial success, with Spotify reportedly renewing their partnership with him for up to $250 million. A central feature of his podcast is the organic nature of his conversations, which Rogan describes as lacking a predetermined script, fostering a spontaneous exchange that resonates with listeners.

The Joe Rogan Experience regularly ranks as Spotify’s most popular podcast, although it has also attracted substantial controversy over various issues, including allegations of promoting misinformation about the coronavirus vaccine and instances of racist language. In 2022, Spotify faced significant pressure from some artists and public figures to sever ties with Rogan, although CEO Daniel Ek defended the decision to keep him, asserting, “I do not believe that silencing Joe is the answer.”

In the broader context, Rogan’s alignment has shifted over the years; while he initially supported former Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders, he has since voiced appreciation for certain ideals of the MAGA movement, attributing his change in perspective to what he perceives as the 'woke' excesses of the modern Democrat Party.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.thewrap.com/joe-rogan-called-out-fringe-guests-podcast-douglas-murray/> - This article supports the claim that Douglas Murray criticized Joe Rogan for hosting guests with fringe views, such as those spreading misinformation and conspiracy theories.
* <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/joe-rogan-podcast-douglas-murray-b2731924.html> - This news piece corroborates the critique by Douglas Murray of Joe Rogan's choice of guests, focusing on their lack of expertise and potential for spreading misinformation.
* <https://www.timesofisrael.com/joe-rogan-hosts-holocaust-revisionist-on-his-podcast-complains-of-paranoid-jews/> - This article provides insight into Joe Rogan hosting guests with controversial views, including Holocaust revisionists like Darryl Cooper, which aligns with Murray's criticisms.
* <https://www.courts.michigan.gov/492eca/siteassets/publications/benchbooks/evidence/evidbb.pdf> - Although not directly related to Joe Rogan, this document discusses evidence handling which could be relevant to understanding how misinformation spreads and is handled in legal contexts.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - This is the original source of the text, but it does not provide direct support as it requires access to specific articles or content.