# Ricky Gervais stirs fresh controversy with provocative Hollywood Walk of Fame speech



Ricky Gervais found himself once more at the centre of controversy following the recent unveiling of his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. During the ceremony, the renowned comedian delivered a speech rife with edgy humour that treaded on delicate topics, particularly the allegations of sexual assault faced by several prominent figures. Gervais openly acknowledged the somewhat infamous company he was joining, referencing late stars Michael Jackson, Bill Cosby, and Roscoe 'Fatty' Arbuckle, all of whom have been embroiled in serious allegations. “Thank you so much for this honour. It's a genuine thrill to be part of such an exclusive club,” he remarked, noticeably pushing the boundaries of conventional speech at such ceremonious events.

The comedian's style has always revolved around controversial jokes, often igniting passionate responses from audiences and critics alike. His remarks about going to trial—only for Cosby to face conviction while the others were acquitted—served as both shock value and a satirical commentary on public perception of celebrity. Known for his irreverent style, Gervais has made a career of provoking thought and challenging social norms, often at the expense of perceived sensitivity towards serious issues.

Adding levity to the moment, Gervais light-heartedly mocked his attire, stating, "I should firstly apologise for how I'm dressed. This isn't me trying to be cool or disrespectful to the establishment. This is me not having a suit that fits anymore." This self-deprecation, juxtaposed with his notorious humour, underscored the very essence of his act: an unwillingness to take anything, even serious acknowledgement, too seriously. Such remarks have been a hallmark of his career, particularly evident during his five-time hosting stints at the Golden Globe Awards, where he frequently targeted celebrity hypocrisy and societal issues, making for memorable, albeit divisive, moments.

His previous Golden Globes appearances exemplified his distinctive approach to controversy. Gervais has employed his platform to critique Hollywood’s elite by addressing topics like diversity, hypocrisy among celebrities, and corporate malpractices, leading to both applause and backlash from the audience. At the 2020 Golden Globes, for instance, he openly admonished attendees against making political speeches, stating, "You’re in no position to lecture the public about anything," which resulted in a mixed reaction, with many applauding his boldness while others labelled it as irreverent.

While he undeniably embraces the role of provocateur, Gervais also faces the consequences of his brand of comedy. In recent years, his material has drawn criticism for being offensive—particularly jokes that touch on delicate matters such as terminal illness and personal identity. Following the release of his latest Netflix special, a petition emerged with over 12,000 signatures demanding the removal of certain jokes deemed inappropriate. Defending his comedic approach, Gervais has characterised the outrage as 'faux,' arguing that critics often miss the context or humour in his performances. “They haven’t even heard the joke,” he explained during a BBC Radio interview, urging listeners to discern the difference between genuine humour and perceived offensiveness.

The duality of Gervais's persona—outrageous yet introspective—continues to spark debate among fans and critics alike. His approach exemplifies the current cultural landscape, where the boundaries of comedy and sensitivity are continually negotiated. By receiving a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, Gervais affirms his position not just as a participant in the entertainment industry but as a defining voice in the ongoing dialogue about comedy, responsibility, and the nature of public persona.

With his wife, Jane Fallon, at his side during the ceremony, Gervais portrayed a man both proud and self-aware. Their enduring relationship—spanning over four decades—adds a layer of personal narrative to his public persona, contrasting his contentious humour with the stability of lasting companionship. As discussions around Gervais's remarks continue, his ability to navigate the complexities of fame and comedy will undoubtedly remain a topic of interest and debate within the entertainment landscape.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14766597/Ricky-Gervais-risks-getting-CANCELED-Hollywood-Walk-Fame.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14766597/Ricky-Gervais-risks-getting-CANCELED-Hollywood-Walk-Fame.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 2 – [[2]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14766597/Ricky-Gervais-risks-getting-CANCELED-Hollywood-Walk-Fame.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[3]](https://apnews.com/article/fd55660c4182aeb5ba8c597174d1bee0), [[4]](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/golden-globes-ricky-gervais-speech-greta-thunberg-jeffrey-epstein/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[5]](https://www.thegreyorganization.com/news/ricky-gervais-tells-hollywood-to-fuck-off/), [[6]](https://www.newsweek.com/hollywoodhypocrites-twitter-golden-globes-1480614), [[7]](https://www.polygon.com/tv/2020/1/5/21051031/golden-globes-2020-ricky-gervais-opening-monologue)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14766597/Ricky-Gervais-risks-getting-CANCELED-Hollywood-Walk-Fame.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[3]](https://apnews.com/article/fd55660c4182aeb5ba8c597174d1bee0)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14766597/Ricky-Gervais-risks-getting-CANCELED-Hollywood-Walk-Fame.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14766597/Ricky-Gervais-risks-getting-CANCELED-Hollywood-Walk-Fame.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[3]](https://apnews.com/article/fd55660c4182aeb5ba8c597174d1bee0)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14766597/Ricky-Gervais-risks-getting-CANCELED-Hollywood-Walk-Fame.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14766597/Ricky-Gervais-risks-getting-CANCELED-Hollywood-Walk-Fame.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[5]](https://www.thegreyorganization.com/news/ricky-gervais-tells-hollywood-to-fuck-off/)
* Paragraph 7 – [[2]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14766597/Ricky-Gervais-risks-getting-CANCELED-Hollywood-Walk-Fame.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[6]](https://www.newsweek.com/hollywoodhypocrites-twitter-golden-globes-1480614)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14766597/Ricky-Gervais-risks-getting-CANCELED-Hollywood-Walk-Fame.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14766597/Ricky-Gervais-risks-getting-CANCELED-Hollywood-Walk-Fame.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Ricky Gervais received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and delivered a controversial speech referencing Michael Jackson, Bill Cosby, and Roscoe 'Fatty' Arbuckle, all of whom faced sexual assault allegations. He joked about his attire and the nature of his job, emphasizing his role in not taking things too seriously. Gervais has a history of making edgy jokes, including during his five-time hosting of the Golden Globe Awards. He also addressed past controversies, such as the backlash over his jokes about terminally ill children in his Netflix special, defending his humour and criticising 'faux' outrage.
3. <https://apnews.com/article/fd55660c4182aeb5ba8c597174d1bee0> - At the 2020 Golden Globes, Ricky Gervais delivered a scathing monologue mocking Hollywood's elite. He criticised celebrities for their hypocrisy, referencing the college admissions scandal and the death of Jeffrey Epstein. Gervais also mocked the Hollywood Foreign Press Association for its lack of diversity and accused them of racism. He advised award winners to avoid political speeches, stating they were 'in no position to lecture the public about anything.' His remarks were met with mixed reactions, with some applauding his boldness and others finding them offensive.
4. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/golden-globes-ricky-gervais-speech-greta-thunberg-jeffrey-epstein/> - Ricky Gervais, hosting the 2020 Golden Globes for the fifth time, began his monologue by warning the audience that his jokes were just that—jokes. He took aim at Hollywood's elite, calling out their relationships with tech companies and billionaire Jeffrey Epstein. Gervais also mocked the Hollywood Foreign Press Association for its lack of diversity and accused them of racism. He advised award winners to avoid political speeches, stating they were 'in no position to lecture the public about anything.' His remarks received mixed reactions from the audience.
5. <https://www.thegreyorganization.com/news/ricky-gervais-tells-hollywood-to-fuck-off/> - In his 2020 Golden Globes monologue, Ricky Gervais did not shy away from controversial topics. He mocked the Hollywood Foreign Press Association for its lack of diversity, accused them of racism, and criticised celebrities for their hypocrisy. Gervais also took aim at companies like Apple, Amazon, and Disney for their business practices, suggesting that if ISIS started a streaming service, celebrities would call their agents. He advised award winners to avoid political speeches, stating they were 'in no position to lecture the public about anything.' His remarks were met with mixed reactions.
6. <https://www.newsweek.com/hollywoodhypocrites-twitter-golden-globes-1480614> - Following Ricky Gervais' scathing monologue at the 2020 Golden Globes, the hashtag #HollywoodHypocrites trended on Twitter. Gervais criticised Hollywood's elite for their hypocrisy, referencing the college admissions scandal and the death of Jeffrey Epstein. He also mocked the Hollywood Foreign Press Association for its lack of diversity and accused them of racism. Gervais advised award winners to avoid political speeches, stating they were 'in no position to lecture the public about anything.' His remarks received mixed reactions, with some applauding his boldness and others finding them offensive.
7. <https://www.polygon.com/tv/2020/1/5/21051031/golden-globes-2020-ricky-gervais-opening-monologue> - Ricky Gervais' opening monologue at the 2020 Golden Globes was a scathing critique of Hollywood's elite. He mocked the Hollywood Foreign Press Association for its lack of diversity, accused them of racism, and criticised celebrities for their hypocrisy. Gervais also took aim at companies like Apple, Amazon, and Disney for their business practices, suggesting that if ISIS started a streaming service, celebrities would call their agents. He advised award winners to avoid political speeches, stating they were 'in no position to lecture the public about anything.' His remarks received mixed reactions.