

The Latest News

Professor Siddique Replies To Media Smears



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By Alexander Baron



17
SHARES

Kaukab Siddique is a tenured professor at Lincoln University, Pennsylvania. Last month, he was interviewed by *The Daily Beast*. Anyone who reads that [interview/article](#) uncritically might be left with the opinion that he is the worst kind of bigot, a raving nutter, or both. He has now been quoted, or rather misquoted, on sundry news websites. So what did he actually say? Here is what he told us.

***The Latest News:* Professor Siddique. can you tell us what it is you actually told *The Daily Beast* about these various issues?**

Kaukab Siddique: For 30 years I have stood for First Amendment rights, against censorship, against tyranny, against kings and despots, for the rights of women, for Palestine, against occupation and aggression, against the bombing of defenseless people. I have a track record of support for the oppressed and the downtrodden in America, particularly African-Americans and the poor.

I have spoken up and written about the plight of political prisoners year after year. Whatever wealth or property I got, I gave away. So I don't recognize the Kaukab Siddique *The Daily Beast* attacked in its July 22 issue. I decided to talk to that website because I considered it qualitatively better than bigots and fabricators in the mainstream media. I was wrong.

TLN: Can you expand on this? The interviewers Katie Zavadski and Ben Collins claim in effect that you are a misogynist.

KS: Most egregious is the claim that I am against women's rights. To be able to make this claim, they had to leave out the fact that I have published books and scores of articles in support of the rights of women. They went through my publication *New Trend* but somehow ignored what I wrote about women. They could have easily read or at least mentioned that I wrote *The Struggle Of Muslim Women And Liberation Of Women Thru Islam*.

They were very interested in claiming that I called American women "sluts". That was inaccurate. I took the trouble to point out that I am looking for reasons why the women **allegedly molested by Bill Cosby** took decades to speak out. I asked 5 specific questions. They couldn't get away with accusing me of a general statement against women but still put the questions way down in the interview and put the word "sluts" at the top. None of the other questions were discussed by *The Daily Beast*.

TLN: I take it you reject the implication then?

KS: I have been at my job for 30 years, and no one has ever claimed that I am against the rights of women or that I don't respect them. *The Daily Beast* claims to have received an e-mail from my job claiming that I don't respect women. Of course it is anonymous. So, this is the brave new world of journalism that *The Daily Beast* can receive an anonymous e-mail and turn that into a story.

TLN: Are you claiming you have been quoted out of context?

KS: Every good student knows that *context* is important. *The Daily Beast* ignored that basic principle. A high school student would know that quotes should not be in the headline. *The Daily Beast* put bits of what I said about "Zionist Jews" and the "homo lobby" in the headline. With such sensationalism one would have to read the entire article to find out what I was talking about. I was referring to **Pamela Geller's gang** and the blasphemous attacks on the Prophet Muhammad. Pamela Geller and Robert Spencer insulted and ridiculed all that is sacred for Muslims. I'll say that again about these haters.

TLN: It is difficult to believe that less than fifty years ago homosexuality was criminal in the United States and here in the UK. Now, radical homosexuals are organized, noisy and are pushing people around. Is that basically what you were saying?

KS: I was factual about the homo lobby, that this group, with the support of the White House, has turned people of faith into a persecuted minority. Just as homosexuals are expressing their viewpoint, people who follow religion should have the right to express opposition.

TLN: What did Zavadski and Collins say about your academic post?

KS: They referred to my job repeatedly and that the institution is paid by the State, as if that means I don't have the right to think for myself, and then only parenthetically admit that I do have the right to express myself on my own time. They thought I teach journalism. I don't. I used to; they picked that up from my old website. I now teach Shakespeare and Literary Criticism. Let's see what *The Daily Beast* can make of that.

TLN: You say too they have misquoted you on ISIS?

KS: They latched on to the war reporting in *New Trend* about ISIS. I have been studying the Second World War since I was a teenager. I know what is war-time propaganda. The mainstream media tell us that ISIS is enslaving women for sex, in particular Yazidi women. I told them that women are rushing to *join* ISIS, not to leave it, and many of these are

“liberated” women from Western countries. If ISIS is enslaving women, why are Western women rushing to join ISIS, even defying laws against joining it? They put my point right at the end of their report without explaining what I was saying.

The BBC has put together a report on Yazidi women “enslaved” by ISIS, but there is no evidence in the BBC report. It is about three Yazidi women who were feted by top British people in London and who told atrocity stories. I asked *The Daily Beast*, don't we know that Yazidis are among the most westernised people in Iraq with links to the West? Many of them have mobile phones and could within a couple of minutes have sent photos to relatives and friends in the West depicting their arrest or mistreatment. How is it that that there is *not one* such photo?

I also tried to teach *The Daily Beast* that Britain is embarrassed by the flight of A level British female students to ISIS, and is trying to react by making up the stories of their enslavement of women. They left that out.

I also spoke about Muslim political prisoners and that some of them [like Masaud Khan] have been sentenced to “life” in prison for victimless crimes. I spoke about police brutality. Again *The Daily Beast* left all that out.

TLN: It sounds like they did a real hatchet job on you.

KS: Does *The Daily Beast* have a very poorly educated audience? By the time I read the report, there were 51 comments on it, almost all about why do I have this teaching job, or I should be fired forthwith, or suggestions for my deportation, or attacks on Islam and Muslims. There was nothing there which would indicate that the *master race* can think!

To assure its audience that *The Daily Beast* was doing a good job, it also brought in the 5 year old story that I am a Holocaust Denier, which the likes of *The Blaze* and the friends of Steve Emerson had propagated. Dear *Beast*, I am not a scholar of the Holocaust story, but specialists like Germar Rudolf, **Professor Butz** and many others have studied these claims. If *The Daily Beast* has not read any of them, don't try to engage with me. I have!

TLN: Kaukab Siddique, thank you very much.

17
SHARES