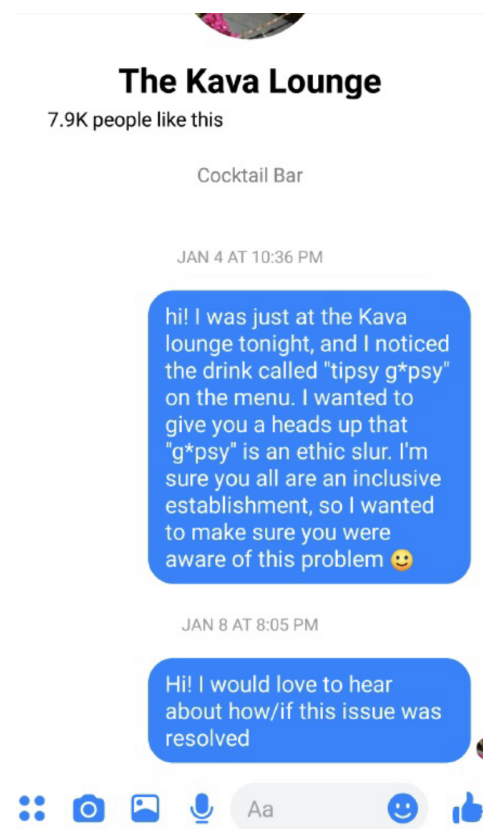
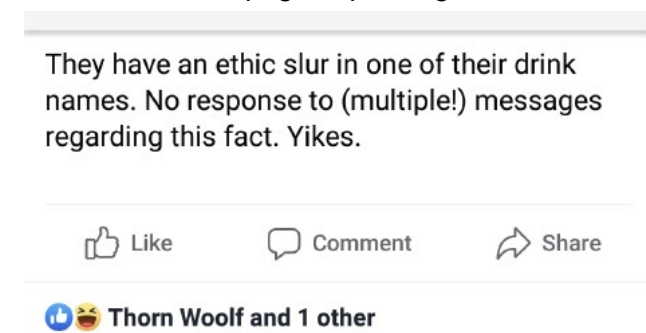


On January fourth and again on January eighth the kava lounge was contacted about a racist drink name on their menu and politely asked to be accountable.



On Jan 28th, When no response was received a negative review was left on their facebook page explaining the situation



The laugh react is the Kava Lounge official

The person who initially made the contact then received the following harassing/transphobic messages and others throughout the night from a man named Mike Bremer

Dancer at Chronic Tattoo San Diego and Dancer at
The Kava Lounge
Went to Straight Inc.
Lives in San Diego, California

9:57 PM

Fuck off

Punk ass

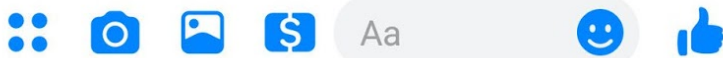


Pussy boy

Sent from web

If you reply, Mike will be able to call you and see information like your Active Status and when you've read messages.

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR FROM MIKE



The review itself then received further harrassing messages centering on the the orlga contacts lesbian idetity in addition to general vulgarity.

Ring



They have an ethic slur in one of their drink names. No response to (multiple!) messages regarding this fact. Yikes.



Like



Comment



Share



Thorn Woolf and 1 other



Mike Bremer

Because we dont,,, so please go away

38m

Like

Reply

View 2 previous replies



Thorn Woolf Mike Bremer wowwww thi...



Mike Bremer Thorn Woolf



Mike Bremer Thorn Woolf ya dumb fuk



Mike Bremer

This post,,, coming from the Lesbian dad,,, kinda says it all,, a sler to lesbians

Just now

Like

Reply



Write a comment...





4:28

← Replies



Replies to Mike's comment on your [post](#)



Mike Bremer

Because we dont,,, so please go away

18h



Thorn Woolf

Mike Bremer Im sorry but you do. This is racist slur. Google can teach you more.

Tipsy Gypsy

Fresh juiced ginger, fresh lime, organic agave nectar and vodka. Our best seller.

18h Like



Mike Bremer

Thorn Woolf ya all can just go somewhere else then

18h



Thorn Woolf

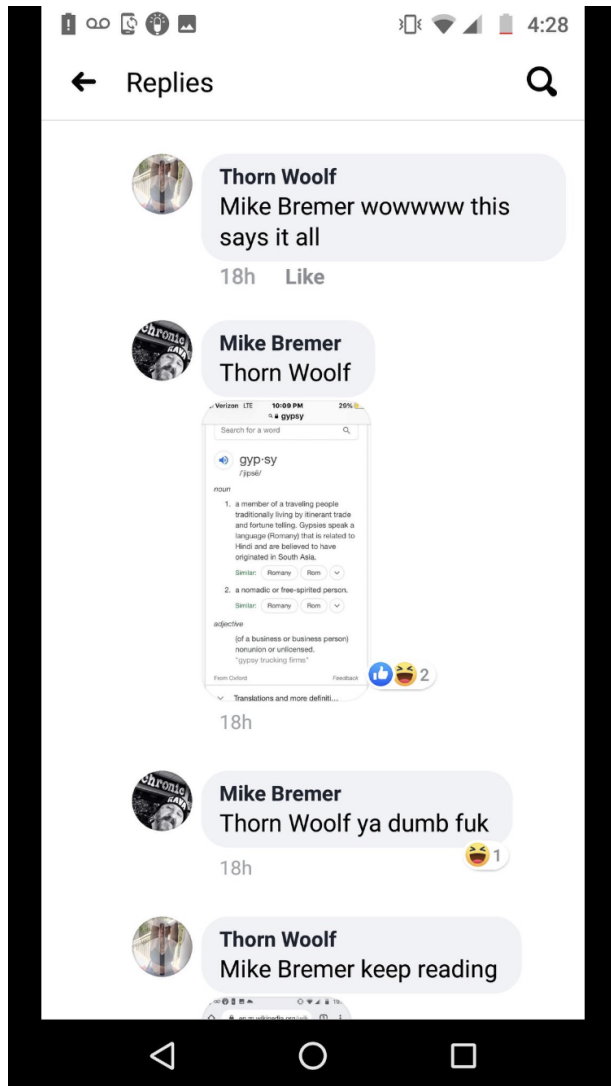
Mike Bremer wowwww this says it all

18h Like



Mike Bremer





In order to hold this man accountable for this unprofessional harassment and trans/homophobia a second concerned customer, Thorn, left a review detailing both the original issue and the following harassment. It was immediately followed with vulgar and unprofessional harassment from the Kava Lounge official page.



Thorn Woolf doesn't recommend The Kava Lounge.

19 hrs · 🌐 📌

They have a racist drink name on their menu and have responded with extreme aggression and unprofessional behavior when kindly approached for accountability. I think that speaks for itself.

📍 Noah Naamad, Yassin Ahmed and 1 other

7 Comments



Like



Comment



Share



Thorn Woolf · ...

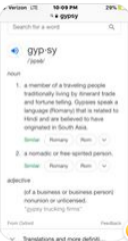
Tipsy Gypsy

Fresh juiced ginger, fresh lime, organic agave nectar and vodka. Our best seller.

Like · Reply · 19h



The Kava Lounge



Like · Reply · 18h



Thorn Woolf The Kava Lounge keep reading



Like · Reply · 18h



Thorn Woolf The Kava Lounge keep reading



Like · 18h



Zeltzin Chagollan The Kava Lounge the fact that you're defending this name when it's known to be a slur is telling of your business's character.

Like · 8h



Yassin Ahmed Zeltzin Chagollan is correct

Like · 8h



Tina Urban <https://now.org/.../the-g-word-isnt-for-you-how-gypsy.../>



NOW.ORG

The "G" Word Isn't for You: How "Gypsy" Erases Romani Women |...

Like · Reply · 10h



Tina Urban <https://mindfulmermaid.com/stopsayinggypsy/>





Thorn was then sent further inappropriate and vulgar messages in response

< 7  **Mike Bremer**
Facebook



Mike Bremer

MON 10:07 PM



And ya can go fuck your self

MON 11:14 PM

Once again,,, fuck you and fuk off



We don't want you at kava

2:11 AM

**FUNNY HOW ALL THE PEOPLE
ADVOCATING FOR SOCIALISM**

If you reply, Mike will be able to call you and see information like your Active Status and when you've read messages.

[I don't want to hear from Mike](#)



Aa



Thorn made a public post factually documenting the situation in order to both inform/protect the community and hold Mike accountable. The official Kava Lounge page then responded with further vulgarity.



Thorn Woolf

18 hrs · 🌐



So someone close to me is currently being harassed by an employee of [The Kava Lounge](#), a man named Mike Breman. They kindly and politely pointed out an anti-Romani ethnic slur on the menu. As a result they have experienced everything from aggression to vulgar transphobic and lesbiphobic comments. If you could it might help to also respond with a negative review bc

1. Most of all bringing these layers of racism, homophobia, and transphobia to light might help others know that this is not a safe space.
2. It may also remind this entitled man that actions have consequences and discourage him from further harassing my friend



Noah Naamad, Claire Russell and 7 others 33 Comments 23 Shares



Like



Comment



Share



Thorn Woolf A sample of the harassment ...

Mike Bremer

Dancer at Chronic Tattoo San Diego and Dancer at

10:23

facebook.com

Punk ass
Pussy boy
11 hrs Like Reply More

Thorn Woolf
The lounge itself has specifically chosen to stand by his actions
11 hrs Like Reply More

Iridiana Osuna
Can this be sharable?
10 hrs Like Reply More

Thorn Woolf
Iridiana Osuna done
11 hrs Like Reply More

Write a reply...
Reply

Thorn Woolf
His his profile also lists Chronic Tattoo under employment so that might be a really unsafe shop as well
10 hrs Like Reply More

The Kava Lounge
Yes,, and again,, fuk you
8 hrs Like Reply More

Jae Red Rose
Disappointing position
4 hrs Like Reply More

Invictus Animus
imagine trying to look hard and misspelling "fuck"
3 hrs Like Reply More



This post has been widely shared and many community members are taking action. One trans man was specifically targeted and sent aggressive transphobic harassment calling him a “little girl”.



Many comments have since been deleted in what we can only assume is an effort to escape accountability. While many of these comments were made from Mike's personal page they were done with expressed intent of representing Kava Lounge. In addition his public photo prominently features the company logo. As long as Kava Lounge has ties to Mike we consider these comments to be direct representation of Kava Lounge itself.

In the past 24 hours Mike as called a nonbinary trans person a "pussy boy", has made stange and homophobic comments about someones lesbian identity, has called a trans man a "little girl" and has generally sent out rude and vulgar coments to at least three separate people, including on a public post shared by over 20 people. This is in addition to the original defending and denying accountability for Kava Lounge's use of an ethnic slur. All of this was done while officially or unofficially representing Kava Lounge. This has been shared with a large portion of San Diego including LGBT, Goth, and Burner communities.

UPDATE 02/01/2020

One meme previously sent by Mike on Mon 01/27 bears the emblem of "act for america" a known white supremecist and and islamophobic group. Southern Poverty Law Center describes them as a group which "has undoubtedly grown to become the largest anti-Muslim group in America." See more here:

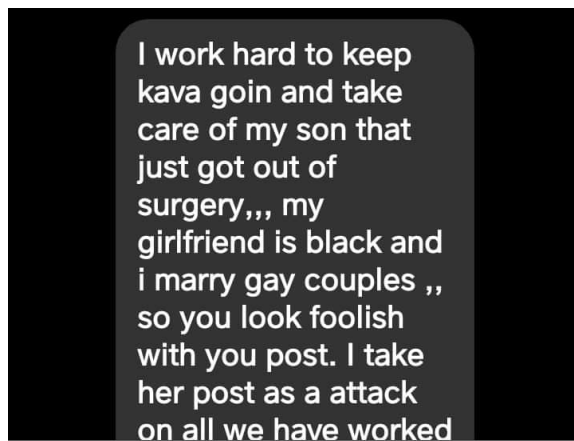
<https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/act-america>



Over the past couple days since this document was released Mike has continued his attacks on the LGBT community and anyone who asks for accountability from him.

In these messages and posts he continues his use of misogynist and transphobic language.

This is a fourth not yet mentioned person who Mike chose to harass at 2:00 am on the morning of Thurs 01/30.



This is a fifth person, to whom Mike's rhetoric is defensive, dismissive, and continuously vulgar also on Thurs 01/30. It is also worth noting the implication of physical threat.



Mike Bremer

And he is a big man on Facebook
but would never say this to my
face,,, pussy boy

20h Reply

Then when reached out to for reconciliation and accountability mike responded with further vitriol:

WED AT 23:12

I didn't think anything of your BS on my posts a while back. So I didn't say anything. But talking shit to a trans person for commenting about what IS IN FACT a racial slur is not cool. And now threatening me. Lol.

You seemed like a nice guy in person when we've met

You seemed like a nice guy in person when we've met over the years. I don't know why you'd behave this way. It makes no sense. If you're the nice guy all your pals say you are maybe you'd have the courage to admit your mistakes and apologize to the people you blatantly disrespected. And insulting me and threatening me publicly won't help your cause.

00:10

I didn't bother reading your message,, that girl started this by leaving a bad review ,, i told her fuck you,, she looked like a boy so i



I didn't bother reading your message,, that girl started this by leaving a bad review ,, i told her fuck you,, she looked like a boy so i said pussy boy,, and I think your one too., i have the rite to say fuck you,, you dont know me or how hard i work to provide space. I marry gay people ya twit,, my girlfriend is black,, and you look like a fool to all that know that... my life lately has been dedicated to being by my sons side as he just got out of surgery,,, so fuck you fuck off and I don't fear your attempt to harm me

Mike has claimed to not know that “pussy boy” would be a transphobic insult before using it in the initial case yet has continued to use it over the past couple days after learning of its transphobic and misogynist implications (which remain no matter the gender of the person it is directed at). In that time he has attacked at least one additional non binary trans person with the word as documented above.

On Thurs 01/30 at 9:00AM Kava Lounge released the following official statement authored by Scott Bell, the other owner. It accurately recalls many of the details documented above, however, there are some discrepancies. First, we assert that the slur “pussy boy” remains transphobic with misogynist implications no matter who it is addressed to. Further, it is documented above that Mike used details from the original contacts personal page to make comments about their lesbian identity. However, you do not need to determine someone’s gender in order to keep from using slurs, or to have a professional conversation with them. Additionally, we would like to reiterate that “not as soon as they wished ” was a 24 day period over which two messages were sent.



The Kava Lounge

As half owner of the Kava Lounge, I am addressing the allegations against us by the internet. This is our side of the story, if you are into being informed.

We received a message about a drink we have on the menu called the tipsy gypsy. It was a complaint about it being a racist slur. This was news to us, as this is the first complaint we have ever received about it. We didn't get back to the person as soon as they wished and they left a negative review on our facebook page. Mike, the other owner, felt attacked and responded with a fuck you pussy boy, or some comment of the like. This was clearly meant as an insult, but not intended to be a homo or transphobic comment. Have you ever tried to figure out what gender someone is trying to identify as from a ¼ inch thumbnail photo?

as from a ¼ inch thumbnail photo? But to call mike homophobic or transphobic is laughable. I have known him for over 20 years, and nothing could be further from the truth. Mike is probably the nicest guy I know, but he also doesn't take any shit. He felt attacked, he attacked back. It's that simple.

I have been a friend to the LGBT community for 25 years, participating in marches both here and in DC. I have made it a point to go to every election SPECIFICALLY to vote for anything that pushes the LGBT agenda forward, and for all equal rights movements. I have had sit down discussions with people I know who don't agree with that and

down discussions with people I know who don't agree with that and changed their minds. I have been fighting FOR you for longer than some have you have even been alive. As for the drink name, it is under consideration. Knee jerk reactions to every comment from randoms on the internet is not how I operate, and If I had a nickel for every time someone told me how I should run this bar, I would be a billionaire. Kava Lounge has always been a place where people can be themselves, no matter who they are, or who they identify as. If you no longer want to come, that's your choice, of course, but everyone is welcome here, and always will be.

1d Like Reply



Write a comment...



On Thursday 01/30 at 11:40AM Scott reached out with a sympathetic, reconciliatory, and professional message to the initial contact addressing many of the concerns and apologizing on behalf of Kava Lounge itself. This message is shared with permission from Scott.



Scott



Hi [REDACTED], I'm the half-owner of Kava Lounge. I see you have already met Mike, the other half. 😞

First and foremost, I would like to apologize on behalf of the Kava Lounge. You did not deserve to be treated that way. You were polite even in your negative review. I love Mike like a brother, and I have no idea why he would react like this. It's not the first negative review we have received.

I initially ignored replying your complaint due to it being the only one we have ever received about this. I get a thousand people a day telling me how to run [REDACTED]'s place, I can't answer [REDACTED] of them. But just because I didn't



Aa





Scott



received.

I initially ignored replying your complaint due to it being the only one we have ever received about this. I get a thousand people a day telling me how to run this place, I can't answer to all of them. But just because I didn't respond to your message, didn't mean I wasn't discussing the issue with everyone associated with the bar. We actually had come up with a couple of different (polite) responses, but hadn't taken any action yet. We still haven't, but that doesn't mean we are dismissing it. It is still very much in discussion.

I posted a response on one of



Scott

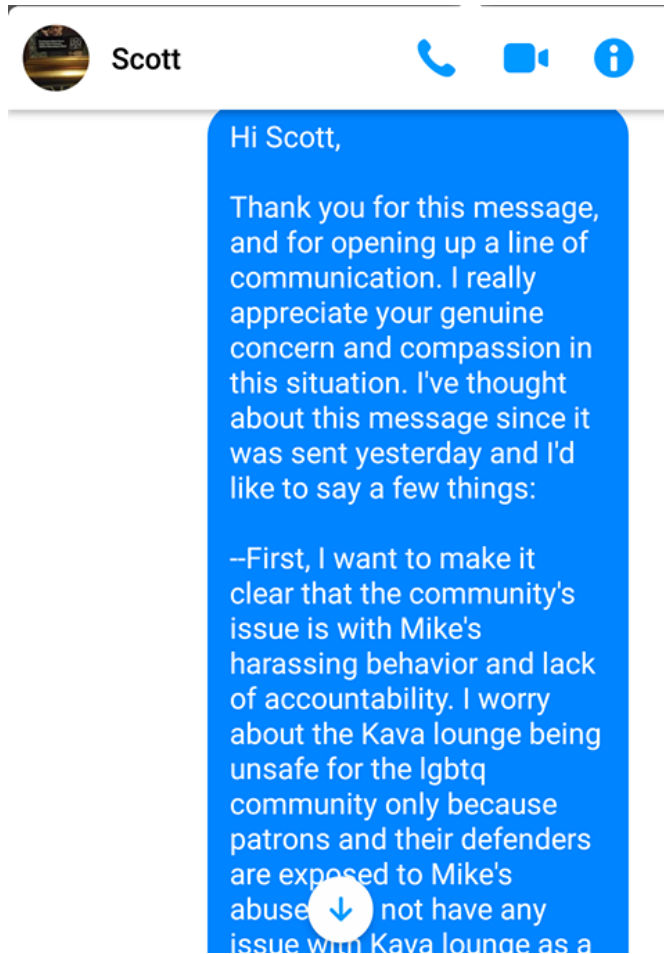


I posted a response on one of the threads today, but it just got flamed like I knew it would. It's an angry mob mentality at this point and nothing that I personally can say will do anything but pour more gas on the fire. At any rate, I am truly sorry for all of this. As I said, you deserved none of it.



12:15 PM

On Friday 01/31 The initial contact responded as follows : (there is additional communication but we do not have consent to share it)



patrons and their defenders are exposed to Mike's abuse. I do not have any issue with Kava lounge as a whole, nor do I have any issue with you. I'm genuinely excited to see how Kava lounge will grow from this, and how it may become a safer space for our communities.

—While I understand completely that a portion of this situation must be dealt with internally, some of Mike's behavior has been very public in nature (as when he harassed folks on their posts using the Kava

Mike's behavior has been very public in nature (as when he harassed folks on their posts using the Kava lounge official page). As a result, I think it's only appropriate that the consequences towards Mike be somewhat public as well. And from a pragmatic point of view, I know I personally (and I suspect a large portion of the LGBTQ community) will be more comfortable attending Kava lounge knowing that Mike has been held fully accountable.

—I do have to disagree that



Scott



–I do have to disagree that there's a mob mentality. I think people are certainly angry, but they generally keep themselves well-informed. The only violence I've seen comes from Mike directly. Because of all that, I think that your voice matters quite a bit, and we would be happy to hear more from you and receive your public support.

–You may be familiar with a PDF that's been floating around detailing Mike's behavior. How would you feel if we added this conversation to that PDF? I want people to have the whole truth, including that you are genuinely apologetic. A-ok if you're not

whole truth, including that you are genuinely apologetic. A-ok if you're not comfortable with that!

Our goal isn't to harm Kava lounge in any way, but only to hold Mike accountable and create opportunities for all parties involved to grow. Thank you again for your compassion and understanding.

Kind regards,

Later on the afternoon of Thurs 01/30 Kava Lounge issued the following apology along with the two comments that follow it. The entire post was deleted by Friday evening 01/31. While the post itself appears to be a step in a reconciliatory direction, the official page apparently reveals insincerity with a comment stating that this is a “fucking stupid fight.”




The Kava Lounge

5 mins · 🌐

...


The Kava Lounge is a cooperative effort encompassing a large community of individuals from all walks of life. Mike Bremer is part of our family, however his words are not representative of our views as whole. We do not support his recent use of hurtful language via social media and are currently addressing this matter internally. We publicly apologize for the unnecessary and insensitive response to the complaint regarding our menu and to any individuals and/or groups that have been hurt subsequently.


For 15 years Kava Lounge has provided a home for creative expression in our community without bias towards ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, political party, age, or disability. It is our intention to maintain this mission moving forward and we thank you all for your continued support.

 1

3 Comments

 Like

 Comment




 Share


 ▾

Most Relevant ▾



Write a comment...






Author

The Kava Lounge its just the truth. its posted and will be the last thing posted about this topic


Like · Reply · 1m



Author

The Kava Lounge its a fucking stupid fight to begin with but im the one dealing with it

Like · Reply · 1m



Ritt Da Matt starting to cave...dont give in...

Like · Reply · 2m

An update about the original drink was posted to the Kava Lounge page on Friday afternoon 01/31 and deleted shortly after.



In summary Mike has continued to go after anyone who disagrees with him. Scott has chosen to take professional and largely reconciliatory actions. The actions of the Kava Lounge page have been inconsistent. The evidence indicates that the only continuous source of aggression is Mike specifically and not the rest of Kava Lounge. However, while Mike has meaningful power or ownership in Kava Lounge and has not yet taken any actions towards accountability, our communities deserve to know the truth of his character and that this is one of the men running this space (as well as his other business, Chronic Tattoo).

To reiterate:

- A request for accountability is not an attack
- A negative yet truthful review is not an attack
- Knowing or even loving oppressed people does not exempt you from oppressing them
- A person can be kind and wonderful to you but still do terrible things when you are not around
- This is not a personal feud but instead a response to community wide harassment from a powerful man
- Mike has unapologetically engaged in these behaviors and said these words, these are facts

For those with professional ties to Kava Lounge, Chronic Tattoo, or Mike in any other capacity, I urge you to act in the spirit of compassion, justice, and love and do what you can to hold Mike accountable.

UPDATE 02/04/2020

Following these events Mike posted what appears to be a resignation from Kava Lounge. However, it is worth noting that no specific course of action is ever mentioned. It remains unclear and unstated whether this is a true resignation, a movement to silent partner, or something else all together. It is also unclear if this is temporary or permanent. We have not found any record of any statements about Mike's resignation from Kava Lounge officially. Throughout the post he continues to avoid accountability and doubles down on calling the original reviewer and their supporters "pussy boy." He also claims that the mere documentation of his actions is a "smear campaign."



Mike Bremer

February 1 at 8:23 AM · 🌐

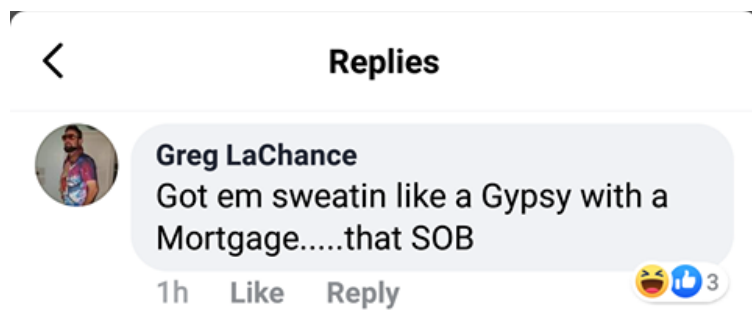


Here ya go... my official statement. Before I bought into The Kava Lounge i went there all the time, loved it. I also went to Jamaica every 6 months. 7 years ago i got a loan and bought into it with my partner Scott Bell. If you ever saw me work there,,, it was for free. Not one dime,, not one penny did i make working there,, i did it because i love the energy and love made there,, I havnt been to Jamaica since. I have bleed,, sacrificed for it. A year now has gone by as my 17 year old son has been in pain everyday,, Drs dont know why,, very hard for a parent to watch,,, and hard to leave him alone at night but sometimes i had to go, hopefully working hard to give him something. Tossed on leaving him for tonights party and washing dishes for free. He finally got a surgery last Tuesday. I wash dishes,, and get gripped on for not doing a good job even. Then,, a week ago i got some low life fuck leaving us a bad review over our drink Topsy Gypsy,, like really? Saying its a racist slur,,well,,FUCK YOU,, yes ya little fuck i do take it personally. And i told him/her that. Well then her and her 5 friends start a smear campaign against me, saying im a racist bigot,, some that posted have never met me at all. So yea fuck you too, all pussys who would never talk to my face. Pussy boys. So after 7 years of sacrifice and great loving memories i am DONE. Thats the thanks i get. So im leaving you ... leaving you to a world where you can be run by these snowflake wuss of a human beings who can be offended by a drink name(Topsy Gypsy is actually a drink name) I am not sorry ya little fuck. But ya all can forgive Kava Lounge , my partner [Scott Bell](#) will keep it going. Please keep the love going this is wear i drop the mike and walk away... 🖐 ps... every fuck you i said was AFTER that person posted a public post or review about me. I still retain the rite to respond to anyone who wants to do such a thing .Pussy boy

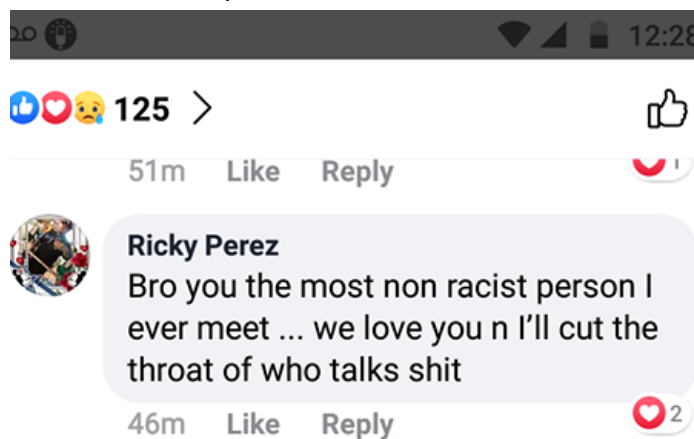
👍❤️😭 225

248 Comments

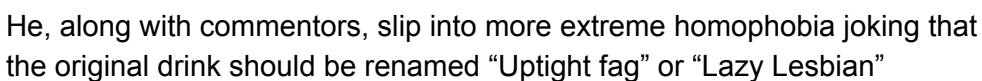
In the comments of this post folks posted further inappropriate and hateful statements which were then liked by Mike.



This includes a specific and violent threat which was hearsed by Mike.



In the same thread he refers to the documentation of his behavior as lies further attempting to obscure the truth beyond the multiple deletions of his posts and past denials.



He, along with commentators, slip into more extreme homophobia joking that the original drink should be renamed “Uptight fag” or “Lazy Lesbian”



Replies

1h

Like

Reply



Jennifer 'jnae' Cascante

"Trippy tipsy", "Trash on the beach", "Colorblind Nations", "Love not war"...

1h

Like

Reply



Rainboh Leslie

Or just Tipsy Romanian 😊
Imao...

50m

Like

Reply



Mike Bremer

Rainboh Leslie lazy lesbian.
Uptight fag,, black rain bow,,
haha,,(i hope you all know,, im
joking here) rusty red neck,, little
BIGot

46m

Like

Reply



Rainboh Leslie

Precisely... haha I mean take it all
the way there why not.. (I'll share
my ideas in private lol..) 😏

43m

Like

Reply



In short while he recognizes that he upset a large portion of the San Diego LGBT community, he remains remorseless and openly displays further statements of homophobia. In repeated instances he continues to support violence against anyone who has asked for accountability from him.

While not directly Mike's action, a friend of his has sent veiled threats to the original poster, continuing to escalate the danger to those who ask for his accountability.



Jason Pauls

You and Jason aren't connected on Facebook

tattooer at Slumerican Made
Studied at Slumerican University
Lives in Hazel Green, Alabama

8:26 AM



You should really be careful
about what you say to people
on the internet

Sent from web

If you reply, Jason will be able to call you and see



12:54

← Jason Pauls



Suggestions

Mutual

All

🔍 Mike bremer



Mike Bremer

Add Friend

Ultimately, the final outcome remains unknown. Not only is there no apology but the harassment, threats, and general aggression of Mike and his supporters continues. While Mike may or may not leave Kava Lounge he will likely continue to run Chronic Tattoo.

