



Andy Rowell

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24 Aug, 70 tweets, 38 min read



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Aram Roston has been one of the most important reporters on this story.

Aram Roston @AramRoston

My latest. Giancarlo Granda speaks exclusively to @Reuters about his sexual relationship with the Falwells. "Becki and I developed an intimate relationship and Jerry enjoyed watching from the corner of the room." reuters.com/investigates/s... via @SpecialReports

Business partner of Falwells says he had affair with the power couple Giancarlo Granda said he had sex with Becki Falwell while Jerry Falwell Jr, head of Liberty University, looked on. reuters.com

11:15 AM · Aug 24, 2020

2.7K 1.9K people are Tweeting about this

Jim Rutenberg and Frances Robles also wrote an important summary of the timeline:

jimrutenberg @jimrutenberg

Replying to @jimrutenberg

Falwell had enlisted the help of Trump's lawyer Michael Cohen in trying to keep this quiet, at the same time Cohen was trying to build support for Trump; around that time Falwell suddenly emerged to support Trump, @FrancesRobles and I reported last year

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Thread by @AndyRowell on Thread Reader App – Thread Reader App

the Evangelical, the Foot Boy, the Comedian and Michael Cohen

Jerry Falwell Jr. defied expectations when he supported Donald J. Trump in 2016. Now details are emerging about behind-the-scenes maneuvering ...

nytimes.com

11:37 AM · Aug 24, 2020

1.5K 863 people are Tweeting about this

It will be interesting to see if [@doug_hanks](#) and [@jkbjournalist](#) of the Miami Herald can get in touch with Jesus Fernandez Sr. and Jr. who have changed their names to Jett and Gordon Bello for comment.

Unroll available on Thread Reader

External Tweet loading...

If nothing shows, it may have been deleted

<https://twitter.com/jkbjournalist/status/1141392842490707968>

Andy Rowell @AndyRowell

Gordon Bello (formerly Jesus Fernandez Jr.), best friend of Giancarlo Granda in 2012, has declined to comment to a Miami Herald reporter.

Doug Hanks @doug_hanks

Replying to @AndyRowell and @jkbjournalist

Gordon Bello declined to comment.

12:28 PM · Aug 24, 2020

1 See Andy Rowell's other Tweets

The other person who received a risqué photo of Becki Falwell was Ben Crosswhite as described by [@BrandonAmbro](#) in Sept 2019: politico.com/magazine/story...

See also the Aug 2019 reporting by [@AramRoston](#) [@jschney](#) about the financial deal with Crosswhite.

Aram Roston @AramRoston

[@jschney](#) and I reported earlier this week on an unusual deal signed by [@JerryFalwellJr](#). Liberty University, which Falwell runs, sold \$1.2 million in real estate to his fitness trainer, Ben Crosswhite, for no money down. We provide a link to the contract

Exclusive: Falwell steered Liberty University land deal benefiting his perso...
Evangelical leader and prominent Donald Trump backer Jerry Falwell Jr personally approved real estate transactions by his nonprofit Christian ...

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12:44 PM · Aug 31, 2019

32 27 people are Tweeting about this



'Someone's Gotta Tell the Freakin' Truth': Jerry Falwell's Aides Break Their Silence

More than two dozen current and former Liberty University officials describe a culture of fear and self-dealing at the largest Christian college in the world.

<https://politico.com/magazine/story/2019/09/09/jerry-falwell-liberty-university-loans-227914>

There is a group photo in the Miami Herald story by [@jkbjournalist](#) and [@doug_hanks](#) about Giancarlo Granda that also features Ben Crosswhite in the dark blue shirt in the middle.

From left: Trey, Granda, Crosswhite, unknown, Becki, Jerry.

miamiherald.com/news/politics-...

How cut-rate SoBe hostel launched Jerry Falwell Jr. 'pool boy' saga, naked picture hunt

The pool boy saga that has roiled the lives of an evangelical leader and his wife began with a meeting at the Fontainebleau hotel pool.

<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/politics-government/article231717833.html>

Jerry Falwell Jr. is still sticking to his story that his wife had an affair and he is the innocent victim.



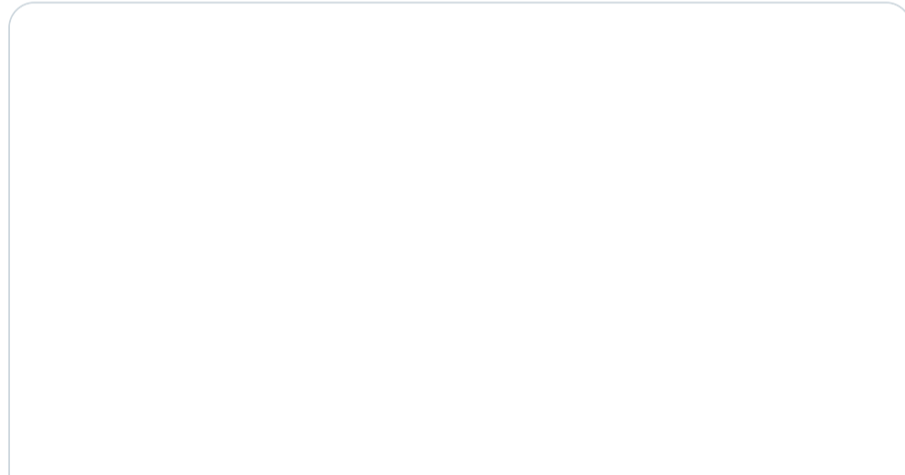
Emily McFarlan Miller ✓

@emillerwrites



I just reached Jerry Falwell Jr. by phone. He said he already had given his statement to the Washington Examiner and wouldn't be giving any further interviews.

You can read his statement here:



Exclusive: Falwell says Fatal Attraction threat led to depression
Jerry Falwell Jr., suspended as president of Virginia's Christian-focused Liberty University after a string of embarrassing acts, said that he has ...
[washingtonexaminer.com](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com)

1:45 PM · Aug 24, 2020



26 16 people are Tweeting about this

Some are wondering whether people should stop looking into this story. The answer is no. Above in this thread is possible corroborating evidence.

Audio from [@AramRoston](#) story:

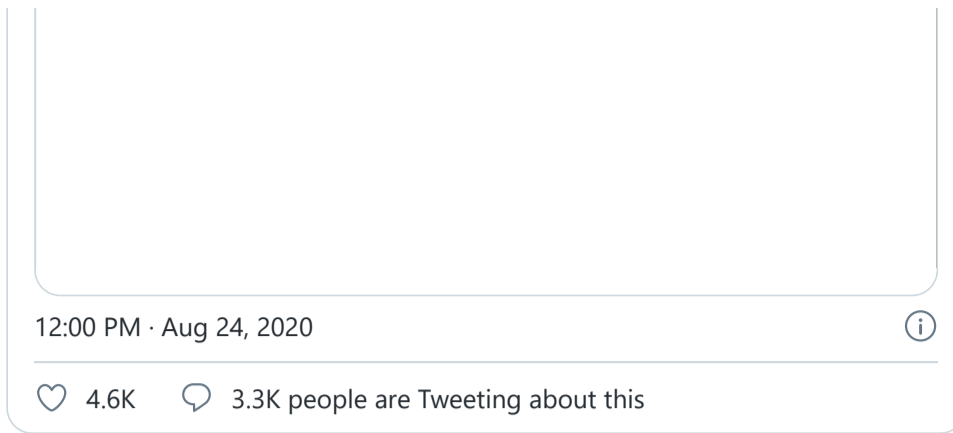


Reuters ✓

@Reuters



Exclusive: A business partner of Jerry Falwell Jr and his wife Becki shared text and audio messages with [@Reuters](#), showing his relationship with the evangelical couple
reut.rs/2QmLXFe



Is this the photo (tweeted by four people below) that Jerry Falwell Jr sent to Ben Crosswhite as reported in the [@BrandonAmbro Politico story](#)? Source? politico.com/magazine/story...

Unroll available on Thread Reader

External Tweet loading...
 If nothing shows, it may have been deleted
<https://twitter.com/riotwomennn/status/1297940760319467520>

,

THE CONNET
 @THEAlleyceeing

Replying to @THEAlleyceeing

In 2011, Falwell and his wife started training with Benjamin Crosswhite, a Liberty graduate who was 23 at the time when Jerry tried to get @LibertyU to sell him an 18-acre racquet sport and fitness facility for \$2 million that he didn't have.

10:19 PM · Aug 23, 2020

2 See THE CONNET's other Tweets

,

Jack Hutton
 @jackhutton

Replying to @jackhutton

"Falwell intended to send the image to his and Becki's personal trainer, Ben Crosswhite, as a "thank you" for helping his wife achieve her fitness goals, the employee said. In the course of texting, Falwell accidentally sent the message to several other people..."(trainer photo)

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8:00 AM · Sep 9, 2019 from San Francisco, CA



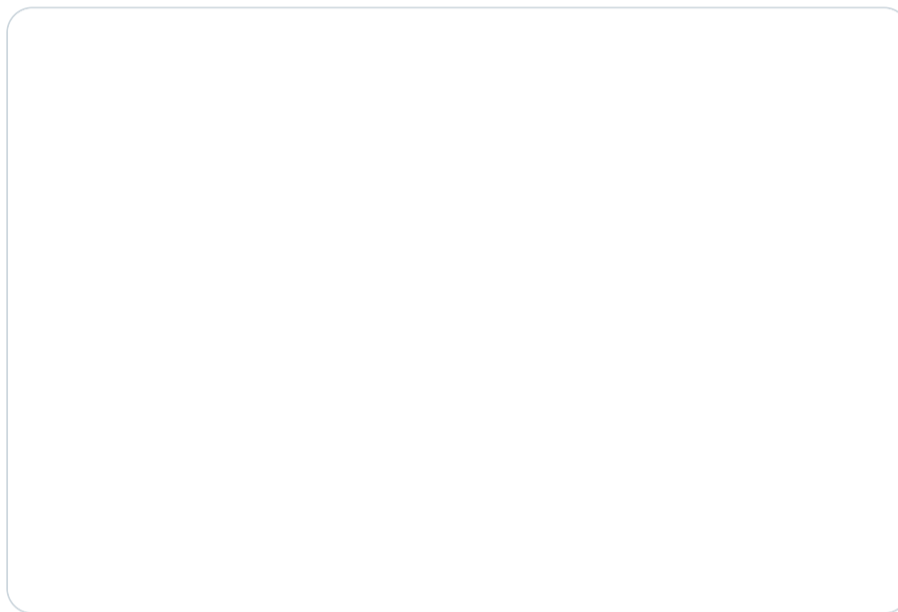
21 24 people are Tweeting about this



Steve Silberman
@stevesilberman



This is Benjamin Crosswhite, the personal trainer of prominent homophobe Jerry Falwell Jr., who orchestrated a \$2M land deal for him. I'm sure they've spent many a fruitful hour discussing the perils of same-sex attraction and the importance of 8-pack abs. [reuters.com/article/us-usa...](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa...)



11:36 AM · Aug 28, 2019



37 22 people are Tweeting about this



'Someone's Gotta Tell the Freakin' Truth': Jerry Falwell's Aides Break Their Silence

More than two dozen current and former Liberty University officials describe a culture of fear and self-dealing at the largest Christian college in the world.

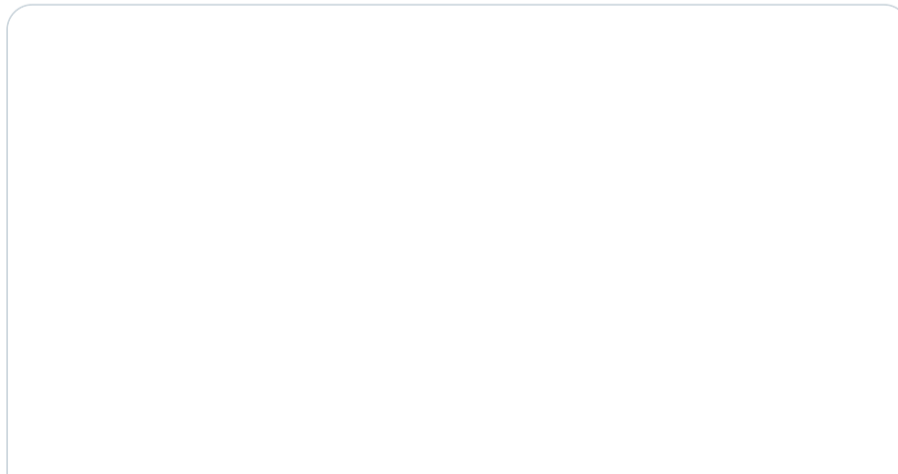
<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2019/09/09/jerry-falwell-liberty-university-loans-227914>



Jack Jenkins
@jackmjenkins



NEW: Jerry Falwell Jr has resigned as president of Liberty University



Jerry Falwell resigns from Liberty University following allegations of sexua... (RNS) —Jerry Falwell Jr. the embattled president of Liberty University and one of the biggest champions of President Donald Trump, has resigned. ... [religionnews.com](https://www.religionnews.com)

3.5K 1.6K people are Tweeting about this

Here was the story from last night (Sunday). By 5:00 pm Eastern Time Monday, Jerry Falwell Jr. had resigned according to Jack Jenkins of RNS.

Andy Rowell
@AndyRowell

Jerry Falwell Jr. says he and his wife were blackmailed by the "pool boy."

Exclusive: Falwell says Fatal Attraction threat led to depression
Jerry Falwell Jr., suspended as president of Virginia's Christian-focused Liberty University after a string of embarrassing acts, said that he has ...
[washingtonexaminer.com](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com)

9:28 PM · Aug 23, 2020

10 See Andy Rowell's other Tweets

More confirmation from Susan Svrluga, [@spulliam](#), and [@mboorstein](#) of the Washington Post that Falwell has resigned.

Susan Svrluga ✓
@SusanSvrluga

Jerry Falwell Jr. agrees to resign from Liberty University

Jerry Falwell Jr. agrees to resign from Liberty University
A series of personal scandals came to an abrupt head Monday.
[washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

4:08 PM · Aug 24, 2020

25 See Susan Svrluga's other Tweets

My motivation has been that because Jerry Falwell Jr. has been one of the most famous "Christian leaders" in the U.S., it should be made clear when his harsh, greedy, vindictive, secretive, and corrupt acts are not consistent with Christian behavior or good leadership.

On Liberty University's enrollment:

Andy Rowell
@AndyRowell

Replying to @katehanch

June 2019: "Freshman applications rose to 32,115 in 2016 But the next year, applications fell to 23,231. They fell further in 2018, to 16,262, meaning applications fell by 49.3 percent in two years."

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Share

Liberty University cuts divinity faculty
 Divinity is chopping faculty slots and has lost students steadily in recent years at evangelical university, which has long said religion is central to it...
insidehighered.com

5:07 PM · Aug 24, 2020

5 See Andy Rowell's other Tweets

This is why it has been important for white evangelicals to call out Jerry Falwell Jr.'s behavior over the years.

Mike Baker 
 @ByMikeBaker

The Falwell news reminds me of this fascinating poll.

White evangelicals once claimed to expect some level of moral purity among politicians. Then, in a drastic shift, they abandoned that principle when Trump was running for president.

prri.org/research/prri-...

5:47 PM · Aug 24, 2020

485 260 people are Tweeting about this

RNS reports Jerry Falwell Jr. says he has not resigned (7:15 pm Eastern Time Monday). At 5:00 pm reports came out that he had resigned.

Bob Smietana
 @bobsmietana

Some updates: Falwell says he has not resigned. Some negotiations over this departure are still happening.

religionnews.com/2020/08/24/jer... via @RNS


Jerry Falwell resigns from Liberty University following allegations of sexual...

religionnews.com

6:11 PM · Aug 24, 2020

16 See Bob Smietana's other Tweets



More reports that Jerry Falwell has not resigned. It is about 7:15 pm Eastern Time and reports of his resigning were at about 5:00 pm.

Krysta Louise  
@krystafauria

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Jerry Falwell Jr. tells Virginia news outlet that reports he has resigned are "completely false"

6:00 PM · Aug 24, 2020

340 198 people are Tweeting about this


Maggie Severns  
@MaggieSeverns

New: Jerry Falwell Jr. tells me he is NOT leaving his post, despite indications from Liberty that he will do so. "I have not resigned," Falwell says.

6:00 PM · Aug 24, 2020

10.2K 5.3K people are Tweeting about this

The latest reporting is that the Liberty University trustees have no agreement yet with Jerry Falwell Jr. to resign but hope to have a statement on Tues.

Susan Svrluga  
@SusanSvrluga

Jerry Falwell Jr. agrees to resign from Liberty University, official says -- but Falwell says that's not true.

Jerry Falwell Jr. agrees to resign from Liberty University
A series of personal scandals came to an abrupt head Monday.
[washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

7:08 PM · Aug 24, 2020

1 See Susan Svrluga's other Tweets

Julie Roys 
@reachjulieroys

Just updated the story at my website. @JerryFalwellJr had agreed to resign Monday, but has since backed down. Spokesman Scott Lamb says @LibertyU's board and Falwell are in negotiations & a formal announcement is expected tomorrow.

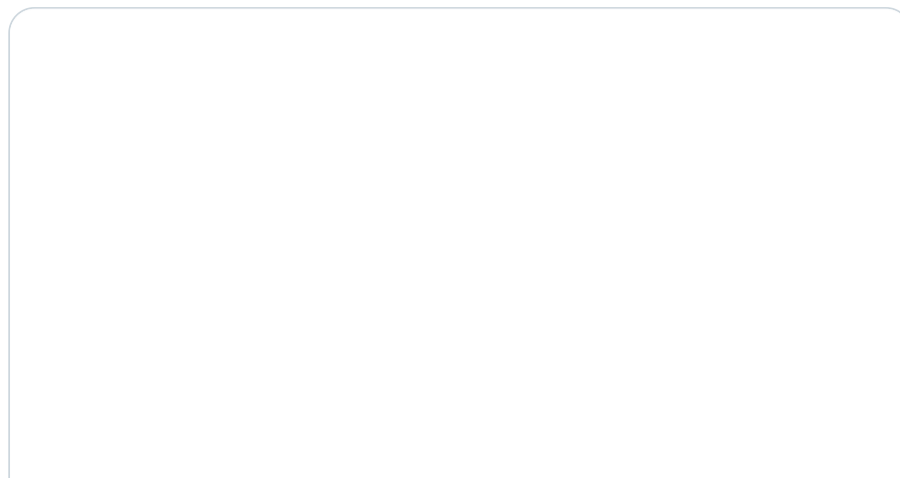
7:15 PM · Aug 24, 2020

42 28 people are Tweeting about this

@BurkeCNN

Replying to @BurkeCNN

Liberty U says they're in talks with Falwell about resigning, he says he won't, and I have taken a whole lot of aspirin today



Liberty University says school's leadership is in talks with Jerry Falwell Jr. a...
Embattled evangelical leader Jerry Falwell Jr. is in discussions with Liberty University about his fate as president of the Christian school founded by ...
[cnn.com](#)

7:17 PM · Aug 24, 2020



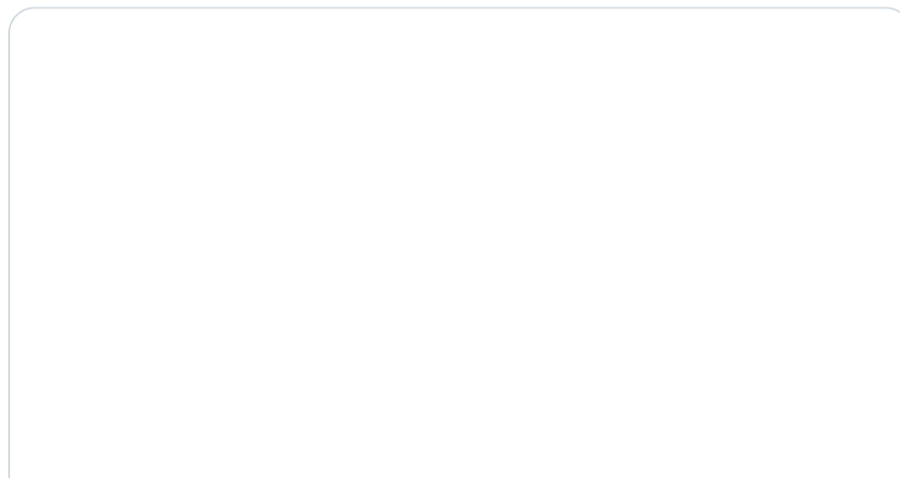
34 See Daniel Burke's other Tweets



Bob Smietana
@bobsmietana



So Jerry Falwell resigned. Then he didn't. Now they are negotiating. We will keep you posted. All of this follows allegations that he and his wife had a long term sexual relationship with a family friend. (Jerry says just his wife was involved).



Jerry Falwell resigns from Liberty University following allegations of sexua...
(RNS) —Jerry Falwell Jr. the embattled president of Liberty University and one of the biggest champions of President Donald Trump, has resigned. ...
[religionnews.com](#)

7:14 PM · Aug 24, 2020



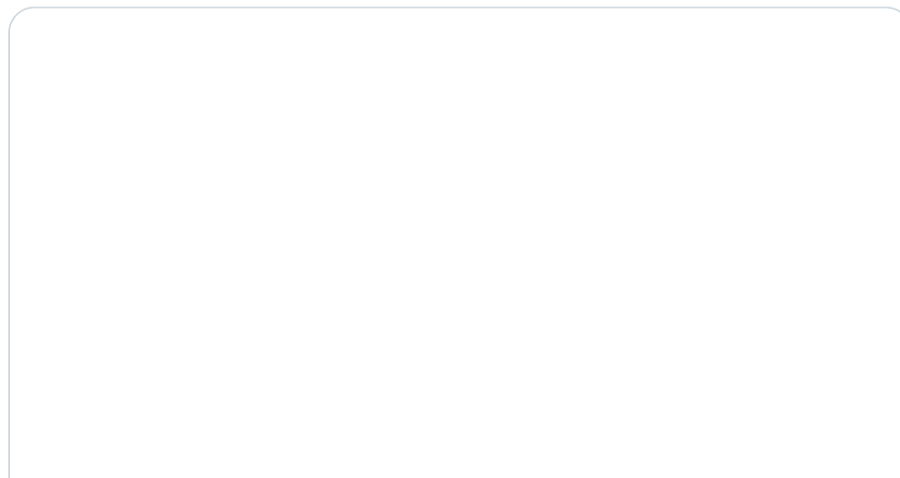
4 See Bob Smietana's other Tweets



Frances Robles ✓
@FrancesRobles



Jerry Falwell Jr.'s Leadership at Liberty Appears Near End



Falwell denied reports he had resigned from the university.
 nytimes.com

8:56 PM · Aug 24, 2020

3 See Frances Robles's other Tweets

I am not feeling magnanimous toward the Liberty University trustees or Falwell. He has been constantly involved in morally questionable behavior for years. When Liberty threatened one reporter in October, I made a list of stories by other journalists:

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 If nothing shows, it may have been deleted
<https://twitter.com/AndyRowell/status/1186915172369096707?s=19>

Okay. Update 10:30 pm Eastern Time:

Maggie Severns @MaggieSeverns

Replying to @MaggieSeverns

Update: In a statement, Liberty University says Jerry Falwell Jr. agreed to resign immediately earlier today but but "withdrew it" following media reports.

Liberty's executive committee will meet tomorrow morning.

9:39 PM · Aug 24, 2020

728 382 people are Tweeting about this

See also my thread above for the whole saga of the last 24 hours starting with Jerry claiming his wife had an affair and this morning Giancarlo Granda giving his side of the story including recorded audio.

Update 11:50 pm Eastern Time Monday. Wall Street Journal reporter says Falwell says he has resigned.

Ian Lovett @iglovet

So, Jerry Falwell Jr. has--after a day in which he suggested he would, then said he definitely had not--resigned as president of Liberty University.

Jerry Falwell Jr. Says He Has Resigned as Liberty University President

wsj.com

11:07 PM · Aug 24, 2020

870 329 people are Tweeting about this

ABC News is also reporting that after 11 pm Eastern Time Falwell says he did submit a resignation letter.

Evan McMurry @evanmcmurry

JUST IN: After a daylong back and forth, Jerry Falwell Jr. officially resigned from Liberty University on Monday night, he tells @ABC News.

Jerry Falwell Jr. officially resigns from Liberty University
After a daylong back and forth, Jerry Falwell Jr. officially resigned from Liberty University Monday night, he told ABC News.
abcnews.go.com

11:03 PM · Aug 24, 2020

148 107 people are Tweeting about this

2016:

Julie Zauzmer @JulieZauzmer

Baylor's athletic director left due to a sexual assault scandal. So why did Liberty University just hire him?
[washingtonpost.com/news/acts-of-f...](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/acts-of-f...)

12:50 PM · Nov 29, 2016

1 See Julie Zauzmer's other Tweets

2018:

Dee Parsons @wartwatch

"Liberty U. hires ex-Ole Miss football coach who used school phone to call escort service."

Liberty U. hires ex-Ole Miss football coach who used school phone to call...
Liberty University has hired former Ole Miss football coach Hugh Freeze, who is accused of using a school phone to call an escort service, as the ...
christianpost.com

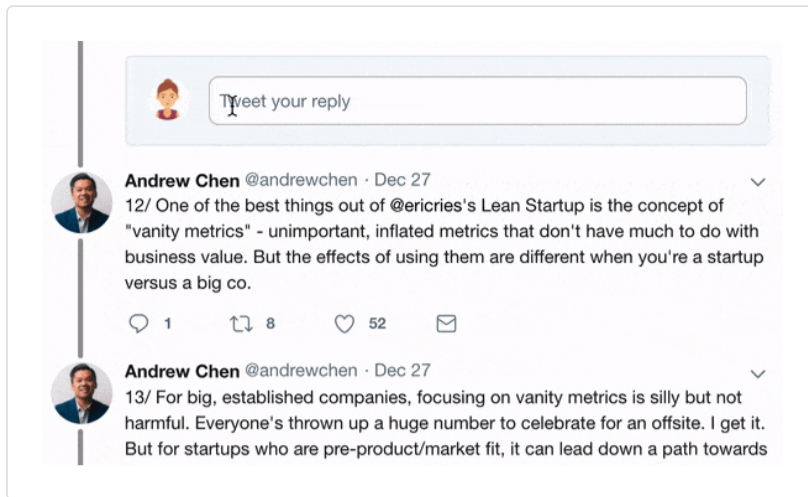
11:13 AM · Dec 9, 2018

10 See Dee Parsons's other Tweets

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2. From a Twitter thread mention us with a keyword "unroll"

[@threadreaderapp unroll](#)

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More from @AndyRowell

Andy Rowell
[@AndyRowell](#)

21 Aug

1/ Thread on Franklin Graham's ethics in response to his post about the Ten Commandments

2/ Franklin Graham's posts are typically among the top 10 viewed posts on Facebook in the United States in a given week. For example, during the week of August 17th, one of his posts was number #1.

3/ And I think it is quite likely this one below will be the #1 post of the week.

Read 21 tweets

Andy Rowell
[@AndyRowell](#)

20 Aug

Latest from George Barna: Note his 2014 book with David Barton: [amazon.com/U-Turn-Restori...](https://www.amazon.com/U-Turn-Restoration-Book-George-Barna/dp/1433308888), And 2017 book about saving the election for Trump: [amazon.com/Day-Christians...](https://www.amazon.com/Day-Christians-George-Barna/dp/1433308888) He works for United in Purpose. Its data fell into Russian hands:

FYI George Barna research [@ryanburge](#) [@socoftthesacred](#) [@ndrewwhitehead](#) [@robertpjones](#) [@praxishabitus](#)

Read 9 tweets

FYI George Barna has new data out. See above tweet about his work in 2016 on behalf of Trump. Others should dig further. [@JohnFea1](#) [@wthrockmorton](#) [@JohnWHawthorne](#) [@anelsona](#) [@kkdumez](#) [@sarahposner](#) [@kathsstewart](#) [@cjcMichel](#) [@jackmjenkins](#) [@DCEagle1](#) [@ChrisPrentice](#) [@publicroad](#)

If I was a reporter, I would interview:

[@BozT](#) and [@KSPrior](#) (as former faculty there) about Jerry Falwell Jr.'s influence on Liberty University. Ask for institutional abuse and literary comparisons from them respectively.

I would also be interested in interviewing [@wilsonhartgrove](#) and [@plattdavid](#) and [@drmoore](#) who have been criticized by Falwell and understand southern, Baptist, evangelicals.

I would also be interested in hearing from alumni of Liberty whether they have been embarrassed by Jerry's behavior the last few years and whether they recommend the school to their kids.

It would be interesting to ask historians / sociologists about what significance Falwell has for evangelicals.

[@kkdumez](#) [@JohnFea1](#) [@anelsona](#) [@robertpjones](#) [@JemarTisby](#) [@kathsstewart](#) [@socoftthesacred](#)
[@ndrewwhitehead](#) [@ryanburge](#) [@jncthehistorian](#) [@praxishabitus](#) [@LivedTheology](#)

I also think the work on narcissism by [@chuckdegroat](#) and abusive institutions by [@wademullen](#) would be interesting.

[@HoogstraShirley](#) on higher ed.


Would also be interested in hearing from [@leithanderson](#) [@timkellernyc](#) [@edstetzer](#) [@jdgreear](#) [@AndyStanley](#) about evangelicals.

It would also be interesting to ask [@Franklin_Graham](#) [@ericmetaxas](#) [@drjamescdobson](#) [@robertjeffress](#) [@waynegrudem](#) [@rdland](#) [@jackngraham](#) [@JohnnieM](#) [@nhlc](#) [@albertmohler](#) [@greglaurie](#) about personal moral character and leadership as Trump supporters.


More details from Giancarlo Granda in a new interview published Tuesday morning at 7 am from

[@MaggieSeverns](#)

and [@BrandonAmbro](#) of Politico:



Maggie Severns ✓
@MaggieSeverns




New: Shortly before Trump launched his bid in 2015, Jerry Falwell Jr. sat down with Giancarlo Granda and offered to buy him out of a hostel he owns with the Falwells, Granda says.

How Trump's rise, and Falwell's support of him, shaped a relationship:

Falwell sought to cut financial ties to pool attendant before Trump's cam...
Giancarlo Granda, who met Jerry Falwell and his wife at a Miami Beach hotel, offers new details on his relationship with the couple.
[politico.com](#)

6:40 AM · Aug 25, 2020



♥ 24

💬 16 people are Tweeting about this

Phil Vischer comments on nepotism.



Phil Vischer
@philvischer



Christian colleges, ministries and churches aren't family businesses to be passed down through generations like

maturity isn't an inherited trait.

6:53 AM · Aug 25, 2020



6K 636 people are Tweeting about this

Jonathan Merritt did too:

Jonathan Merritt @JonathanMerritt

Will Falwell fall?

“When it comes to white evangelicalism, the only force more powerful than moralism is nepotism,” I told @eschor of @AP

Liberty University and Falwell: A bond that's hard to break
 RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Jerry Falwell Jr. has been toppled, at least temporarily, from the presidency of evangelical Liberty University, but ...
 apnews.com

12:06 PM · Aug 14, 2020

88 40 people are Tweeting about this

Here is a tweet from my thread on nepotism:

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 If nothing shows, it may have been deleted
<https://twitter.com/AndyRowell/status/1215698512861528065?s=20>

More historical perspective recommendations here:

Adam Laats @AdamLaats

Hey #falwelljr watchers: Looking for some context for the Liberty U shitshow?

Here's a lists of scholarly sources to start with.

My fellow nerds: What else should make the list?

7:10 PM · Aug 24, 2020

21 See Adam Laats's other Tweets

Staggering parallels between the Jim Bakker and Jerry Falwell Jr. scandals. (And Jim Bakker is still in business today or was until a few months ago).

Unroll available on Thread Reader

External Tweet loading...
 If nothing shows, it may have been deleted
<https://twitter.com/danielsilliman/status/1298257151664635905>

Some of us in evangelicalism are angry about the moral corruption within and sick of it.

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15 Aug

The fun of baseball is the amazing plays. But the reason for kids to play baseball is to learn to recover from the individual embarrassing humiliating failures *in front of crowds of people*—which happen every game. Your heart sinks, cheeks flush, rage surges. Then you try again.

There *is* crying in baseball and that is because it is humiliating to strike out, walk in a run, or make an error, and so you feel like quitting. BUT, baseball players learn to keep

Read 8 tweets

13 Aug

@joshuapsteele Call me and we'll talk. I'm curious what you are passionate about as an Anglican. Bonhoeffer would be on your side more than Barth on those episcopal/sacramental issues. Hauerwas and Willimon would also agree with you. Email scholars of Barth/Bonhoeffer to ask to talk on phone.

@joshuapsteele I argue that Barth and Bonhoeffer agreed on much. dukespace.lib.duke.edu/dspace/handle/... But Bonhoeffer had a much more Lutheran / Anglican understanding of the sacraments (see Discipleship) than

Read 5 tweets

Andy Rowell
@AndyRowell

22 Jun

Luke Barnett (Senior Pastor of Dream City Church) at the Evangelicals for Trump Coalition Launch rally at King Jesus International Ministry in Miami on Friday January 3, 2020 and at the White House Oct 29, 2019.

This was my thread on the Oct 29, 2019 gathering at the White House.

Read 55 tweets

Andy Rowell
@AndyRowell

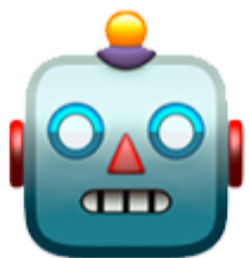
22 Jun

White evangelicals Fox News Poll June 13-16, 2020 66% Trump 25% Biden 3% Other 2% Wouldn't vote 4% Don't know static.foxnews.com/foxnews.com/co...

White evangelicals Fox News Poll May 17-20, 2020 70% Trump 21% Biden 2% Other 2% Wouldn't vote 5% Don't know static.foxnews.com/foxnews.com/co...

Fox News Poll April 17-20, 2020 77% Trump 48% Biden 20%

Read 5 tweets



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 @NoahToly

People, no: It simply isn't remotely correct to say that folks should be reserved about recent revelations concerning the Falwells. This isn't merely "marriage struggles." It is the utter debasement & hypocrisy of a very public leader who has idolized influence & the spotlight.

12:44 PM · Aug 24, 2020



 27  See Noah Toly's other Tweets

and



Jacob Denhollander
@JJ_Denhollander





Replying to @JJ_Denhollander

Jerry Falwell needs no defenders right now. He's unrepentant, belligerent, and actively harming the church and besmirching the name of Christ. We should be outraged that he's been allowed to be a (the?) face of Evangelicalism for so long. We should be glad when he's gone.

8:46 AM · Aug 25, 2020



 333  33 people are Tweeting about this

It should not have taken a sex scandal for Jerry Falwell Jr. to be fired.

I called for the Trustees to do it three times about other lesser known matters:



Andy Rowell
@AndyRowell



Replying to @JerryFalwellJr and @plattdavid

[@DrJerryPrevo](#) Chairman of the Board at [@LibertyU](#)
Perhaps you could ask President Jerry Falwell, Jr. to take a leave of absence while the Board of Trustees assesses his leadership of the university. His tweet, that I'm replying to, is indicative of irresponsible leadership.

7:10 PM · Jun 4, 2019



 47  See Andy Rowell's other Tweets

,



Andy Rowell
@AndyRowell



Dear [@DrJerryPrevo](#) and the [@LibertyU](#) Board of Trustees,
Your responsibility as trustees is to do what is best for Liberty University. Jerry Falwell Jr. is publicly insulting parents of Liberty students. It is time to at least put him on a leave of absence.

twitter.com/JerryFalwellJr...

Andy Rowell @AndyRowell

Dear @DrJerryPrevo, chairman of the @LibertyU Board of Trustees, Jerry Falwell Jr. should be suspended as president of Liberty and an investigation should take place as to whether it is in the best interest of an educational institution to have him as president.
twitter.com/atrupar/status...

2:12 PM · Mar 15, 2020 from Minneapolis, MN

84 24 people are Tweeting about this

Andy Rowell @AndyRowell

Dear @DrJerryPrevo, chairman of the @LibertyU Board of Trustees, Jerry Falwell Jr. should be suspended as president of Liberty and an investigation should take place as to whether it is in the best interest of an educational institution to have him as president.

Aaron Rupar @atrupar

Here's Jerry Falwell Jr on Fox & Friends this morning pushing the bonkers conspiracy theory that the coronavirus is the result of a plot devised by Kim Jong Un and the Chinese. No pushback from hosts.

10:00 AM · Mar 13, 2020

214 See the latest COVID-19 information on Twitter

Update 12:30 pm Eastern Time on Tuesday and wow, there will be some vicious quote tweets on this one.

Unroll available on Thread Reader

External Tweet loading...
If nothing shows, it may have been deleted
<https://twitter.com/RichChumney/status/1298296881550942214?s=19>

Tuesday 1:30 pm

More confirmation from NPR

Sarah McCammon @sarahmccammon

Via text, Jerry Falwell, Jr. confirms to me that he has resigned as Liberty University's president. "For good reason," he added, without elaborating further.

12:27 PM · Aug 25, 2020

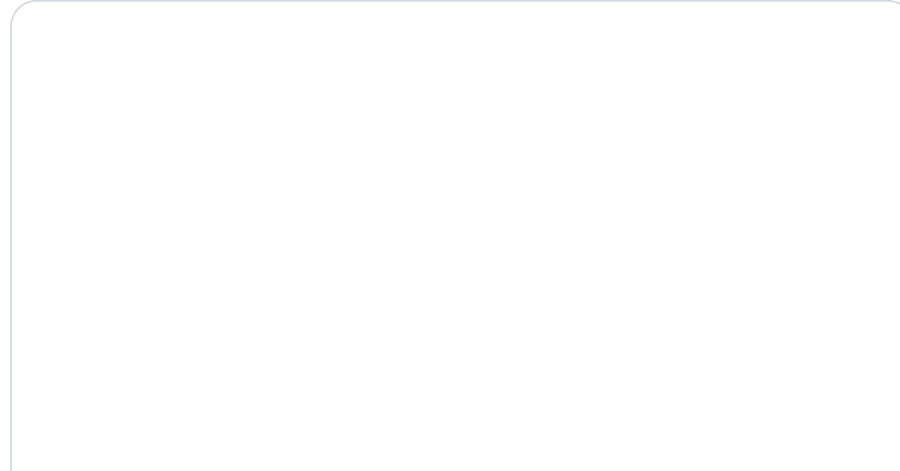
408 134 people are Tweeting about this

And the Washington Post that Falwell has resigned.

Follow Us on Twitter!

Tweet Share

I just got off the phone with Jerry Falwell Jr. and his wife, Becki. He says he submitted his resignation last night. This story will be updated soon:



Jerry Falwell Jr. confirms he has resigned as head of Liberty University
The school had announced his departure Monday, after a series of personal scandals drew criticism, but Falwell said Monday night his status...
[washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

12:32 PM · Aug 25, 2020

81 22 people are Tweeting about this

Lawyer and expert in response and prevention of institutional abuse and a former professor at Liberty University:

Boz Tchividjian @BozT

A Christian leader who engages in sexual misconduct should be terminated, not allowed to resign. It's not complicated.

12:50 PM · Aug 25, 2020

3.3K 380 people are Tweeting about this

Tuesday 3:00 pm Eastern Time.

Liberty University announces they have accepted Jerry Falwell Jr.'s resignation.

Daniel Burke @BurkeCNN

Jerry Falwell Jr. has resigned -- again. And this time he and Liberty University agree

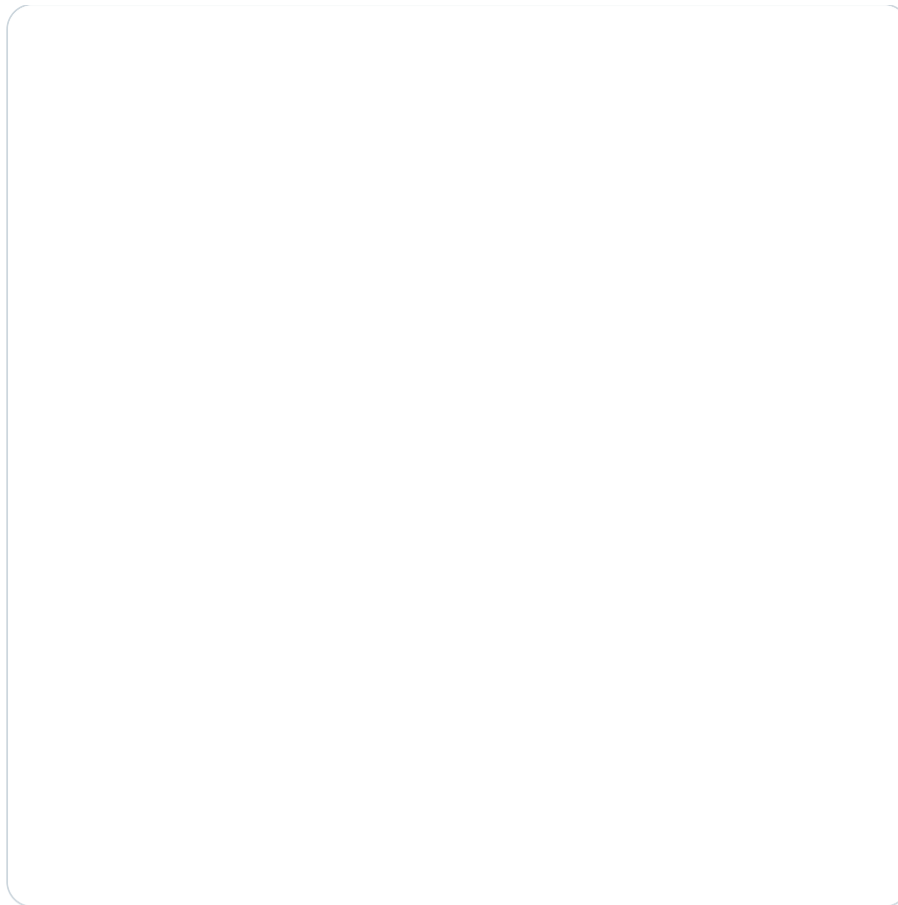
Jerry Falwell Jr. says he has resigned as president of Liberty University
Jerry Falwell Jr. told CNN Tuesday that he has resigned as president and chancellor of Liberty University, a day after reports that the embattled ...
[cnn.com](https://www.cnn.com)

2:18 PM · Aug 25, 2020

3 See Daniel Burke's other Tweets

Julie Roys @reachjulieroys

.@LibertyU has formally accepted @JerryFalwellJr's resignation. Statement says "severance compensation was dictated by the terms of his pre-existing employment




1:58 PM · Aug 25, 2020



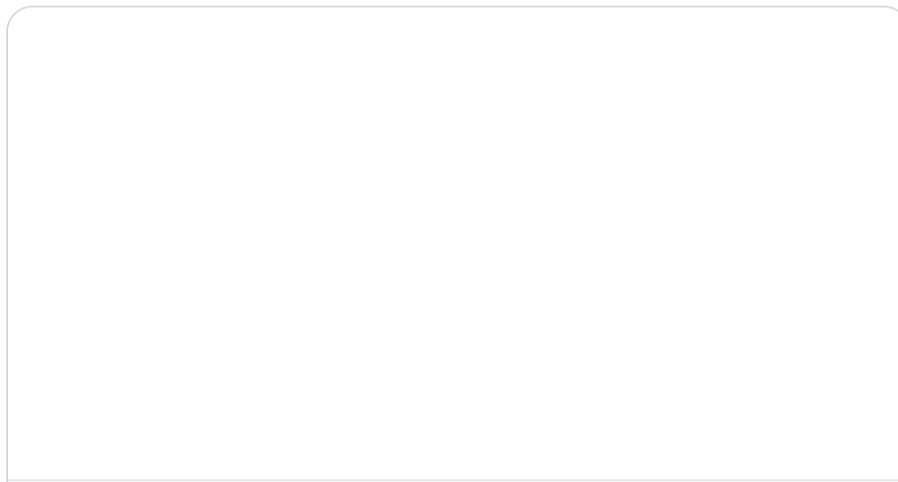
39 27 people are Tweeting about this



Michelle Boorstein 
@mboorstein



Liberty University announces Jerry Falwell Jr.'s resignation, doesn't mention any specific reason or criticism. Praises his record "The university's heartfelt prayers are with him and his family as he steps away from his life's work."



Liberty University Board Accepts Jerry Falwell, Jr.'s Resignation as Preside...
Lynchburg, VA—The Liberty University Board of Trustees acted today to accept the resignation of Jerry Falwell, Jr. as its President and Chancellor ...
liberty.edu

1:58 PM · Aug 25, 2020



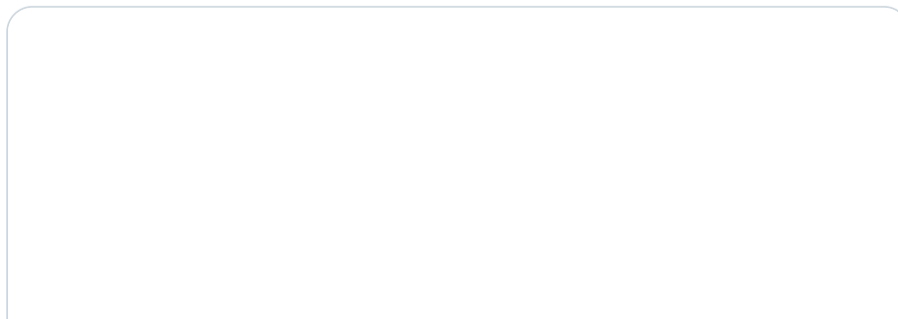
1 See Michelle Boorstein's other Tweets



Bob Smietana
@bobsmietana



A day after he resigned, then changed his mind, Jerry Falwell Jr. is out as president at Liberty. Falwell, who made just over a million dollars a year, will get severance that was part of his employment contract, according to the school.



Liberty University board accepts Jerry Falwell Jr.'s resignation (RNS) — The board of Liberty University has accepted the resignation of its president, Jerry Falwell Jr., after a roller coaster day in which Falwell ...
religionnews.com

1:48 PM · Aug 25, 2020

6 See Bob Smietana's other Tweets

Sarah McCammon @sarahmccammon

Just spoke with Jerry Falwell, Jr., and with his wife Becki. Falwell says he was preoccupied w/ work after his father died and that's "probably what caused Becki's mistake" in the form of an affair. They deny a three-way affair as reported by Reuters. 1/

1:44 PM · Aug 25, 2020

620 536 people are Tweeting about this

Maggie Severns @MaggieSeverns

New: In a statement, the Liberty University board says it has accepted Jerry Falwell Jr.'s letter of resignation from the board and as president of the college.

Falwell is officially out.

1:45 PM · Aug 25, 2020

9 See Maggie Severns's other Tweets

More quotes from Jerry Falwell Jr.

"watching his wife have sex with another. He called that story '90 percent false'"

Felicia Sonmez @feliciasonmez

"I've accomplished all I can accomplish and I want to move on," Falwell said. "I was starting to get bored."

Jerry Falwell Jr. resigns as head of Liberty University, will get \$10.5 million...
 Falwell, who is leaving after a series of personal scandals, denied allegations that he watched his wife's sexual interactions with another ...
 ↻ washingtonpost.com

3:09 PM · Aug 25, 2020 ⓘ

♡ 91 💬 129 people are Tweeting about this

'
"I never broke a single rule"

Kathryn Watson ✓
@kathrynw5

Jerry Falwell blaming this all on "something my wife did," and his wife calling him the "most forgiving person I've ever met," is gross.

Falwell says he's resigned from Liberty University
 RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Jerry Falwell Jr. announced his resignation Tuesday as head of evangelical Liberty University amid conflicting claims about a ...
 ↻ apnews.com

3:12 PM · Aug 25, 2020 ⓘ

♡ 149 💬 66 people are Tweeting about this

'
"They're honoring my contract, I have a good contract."

Kathryn Watson ✓
@kathrynw5

Jerry Falwell Jr. tells @saraecook in an interview, re his compensation: "They're honoring my contract, I have a good contract."

He says people are targeting him for delivering evangelicals for Trump in 2016. "Bottom line is it's election year and I kind of expected this."

3:21 PM · Aug 25, 2020 ⓘ

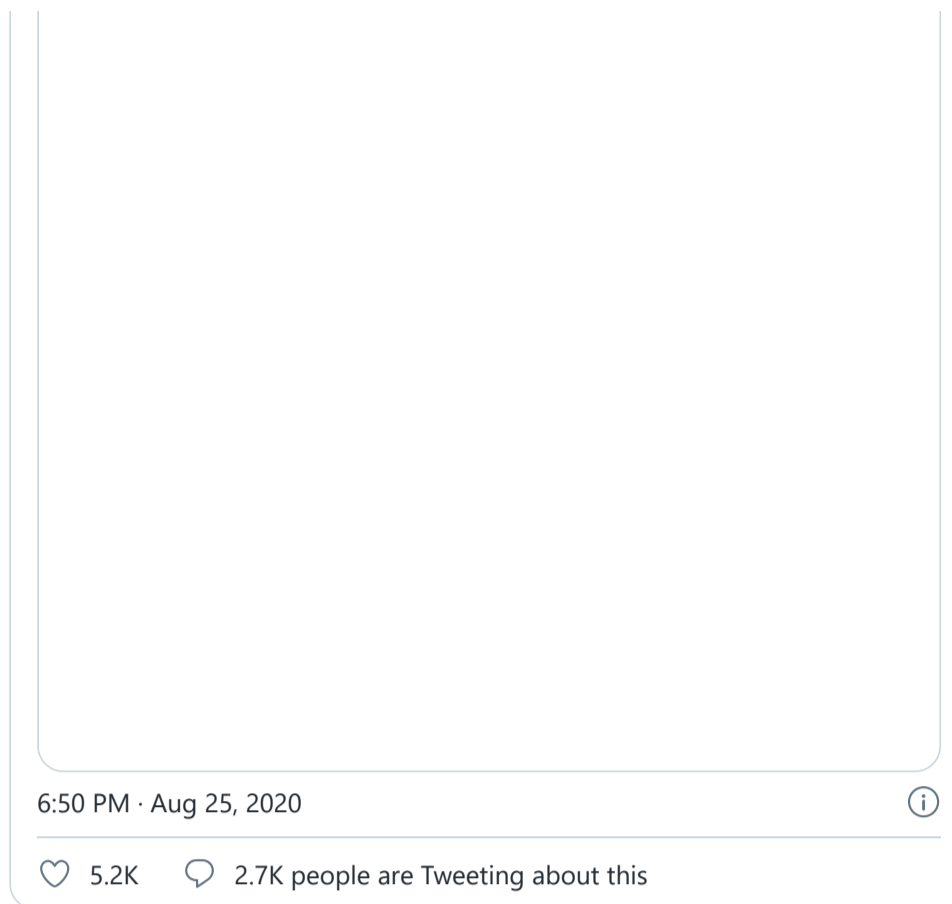
♡ 46 💬 98 people are Tweeting about this

Tuesday 7:50 pm Eastern Time

Giancarlo Granda gives a new angry statement to NPR about Jerry and Becki Falwell.

Sarah McCammon ✓
@sarahmccammon

In a statement to the press, Giancarlo Granda disputes Falwell's version of events and calls him a "predator."



6:50 PM · Aug 25, 2020



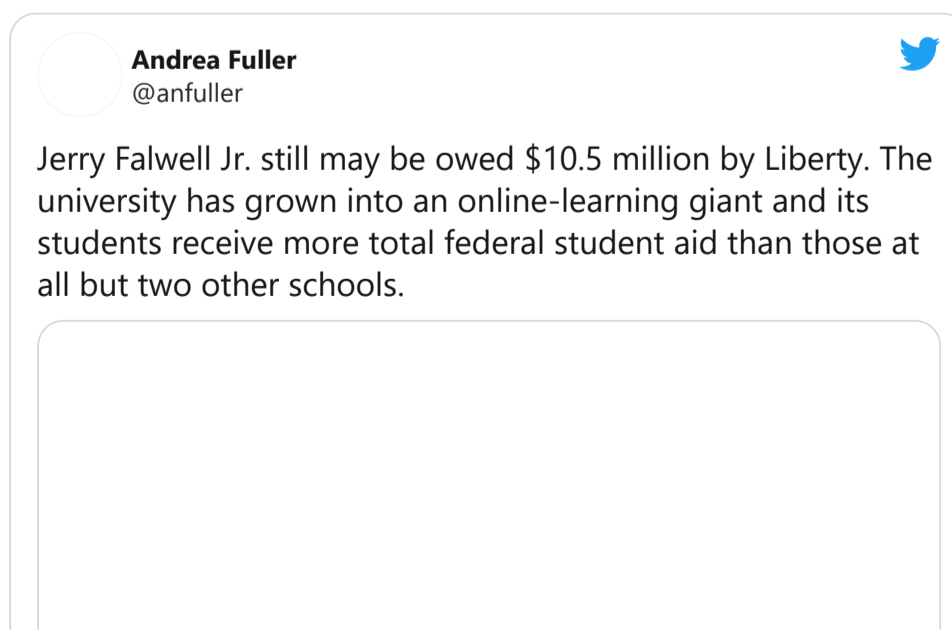
5.2K 2.7K people are Tweeting about this

Karen Swallow Prior [@KSPrior](#) unsurprisingly spoke out with courage and clarity that there were many indications over the years that Jerry Falwell Jr. was irresponsible and callous.



Tuesday 9 pm Eastern Time

[@iglovet](#) and Andrea Fuller of the Wall Street Journal report on the money Liberty University will pay Jerry Falwell Jr. according to his contract.



WSJ News Exclusive | Jerry Falwell, Jr. May Be Owed \$10.5 Million by Liber...
 Liberty University owes Jerry Falwell, Jr. a total of about \$10.5 million over the next two years after he resigned as president of the nation's largest ...
 wsj.com

7:54 PM · Aug 25, 2020

20 45 people are Tweeting about this

This Twitter account is by Liberty alumni:

Save71
 @save71LU

From a longtime @LibertyU administration official: "Our school's reputation is finished for a generation. TRBC has to fire the Board of Trustees and all the Falwells at LU and start all over with an independent investigation and a new Board."
 7:51 PM · Aug 25, 2020

179 27 people are Tweeting about this

Tuesday 10 pm Eastern Time

Audio from NPR interview with Jerry Falwell Jr.

Sarah McCammon
 @sarahmccammon

Hear excerpts of my interview with Falwell:
 'Free At Last,' Says Jerry Falwell Jr. After Resigning As Head Of Liberty University

Jerry Falwell Jr. Resigns As Liberty University's President
 Liberty University President Jerry Falwell Jr. confirmed to NPR via text message that he is resigning from his post after a confusing 24 hours ove...
 npr.org

9:08 PM · Aug 25, 2020

31 25 people are Tweeting about this

Tuesday 11 pm

A very well written account by @spulliam of an interview with Jerry Falwell Jr. responding to the latest developments about a photo of a Liberty student sent to Granda and his contract that the trustees did not contest.

Sarah Pulliam Bailey
 @spulliam

NEW: I spoke with Jerry Falwell Jr. about the terms of his resignation.
 He said he will receive \$2.5 million over 2 years. After 2 years, he will receive about \$8 million in retirement. More coming:

Jerry Falwell Jr. resigns as head of Liberty University, will get \$10.5 million... Falwell, who is leaving after a series of personal scandals, denied allegations that he watched his wife's sexual interactions with another ...
[washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

8:27 PM · Aug 25, 2020

644 891 people are Tweeting about this

Alumni of Liberty University suggest names of new trustees so that the corruption of the Jerry Falwell Jr. era is rooted out and not repeated in order to ensure the future health of the school.

Save71
 @save71LU

'It's a good day for Liberty'; alumni group says Falwell resignation is only step one | WSET

'It's a good day for Liberty'; alumni group says Falwell resignation is only ... LYNCHBURG, Va. (WSET) -- The news of Jerry Falwell's resignation from Liberty University sent shock-waves through the community. "It's a good ...
[wset.com](https://www.wset.com)

6:28 AM · Aug 26, 2020

18 See Save71's other Tweets

Money is one way boards and supervisors—who lack the courage or authority to fire a destructive employee—persuade them to go away. It makes the parting much warmer for those involved. But an outrageous payoff indicates the governance has been very sick.

Daniel Burke ✓
 @BurkeCNN

Jerry Falwell Jr. has confirmed the terms of his severance from Liberty U: He will receive about \$2.5 million over the next two years and about \$8 million after that, he told me.

6:24 AM · Aug 26, 2020


51 68 people are Tweeting about this


Rachael Denhollander, lawyer and victim, stopped the USA gymnastics doctor abusing young girls. She calls for someone to look into who else at Liberty University was involved in and turned a blind eye to Jerry Jr. and Becki Falwell's sexual predation.



Rachael Denhollander
 @R_Denhollander

"Jerry sent me an image of a female Liberty student exposing herself at their farm."

Now is the time for an independent investigation from a trusted, qualified agency, full transparency and accountability. Past time.

 **Giancarlo Granda** @GgrandaG

9:19 PM · Aug 25, 2020 

 2K  379 people are Tweeting about this

Johnnie Moore runs a public relations firm, the Kairos Company. Literally, that is his job. He began with Jerry Falwell Jr., and then Paula White-Cain, James MacDonald, and Donald Trump. His niche is defending those without integrity.

 **Julie Roys** @reachjulieroys 

Facts about @JohnnieM. Was paid \$133K as VP of comm at @LibertyU protecting @JerryFalwellJr. Then helped org Trump's Evang Advisory Brd, a job he told me he got because he was "from Liberty." Moore 1 of 3 directors on incorp docs w/ @Paula_White @DrTimClinton (now-dissolved) 1/2

 **Rev. Johnnie Moore** @JohnnieM

One thing I am absolutely certain of:


All of those who love @LibertyU - past & present - will pray & will work to ensure its brightest days are ahead.

It's mission & vision were designed for generations.


"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty."
2 Corinthians 3:17

8:28 AM · Aug 26, 2020 

Jerry Falwell Jr. says he did not break a rule so he gets his \$10 million. But Giancarlo Granda released audio of Jerry, Becki, and Granda talking about the adultery. Also Reuters (@AramRoston) saw FaceTime screenshots of Becki naked with Jerry watching.




File411
@File411





Replying to @File411

I mean if the language in the handbook is this tight - can you imagine what his Contract Language is?
Multitude of reasons for a morality clause for Ds & Os.
fiduciary responsibility
If I were Liberty U's board I'd bring in outside counsel now & negotiate
liberty.edu/media/1216/201...

9:05 PM · Aug 25, 2020



 21
  See File411's other Tweets

"I heard over and over about their worries young people would walk away from their relationship with Christ, yet they placed blame for that almost exclusively on secular professors and the liberal media. They shouldn't."
- Sociologist Jeff Guhin



Jeff Guhin
@jeffguhin



My thoughts on Jerry Falwell Jr., Trump, and the deeper theological meaning of scandal:

In the Theological Sense, Jerry Falwell Jr.'s Scandal Is Profoundly Sad
Catholicism defined scandal as being not about the person committing the sin but about the rest of us.
slate.com

1:19 PM · Aug 26, 2020



 79
  19 people are Tweeting about this

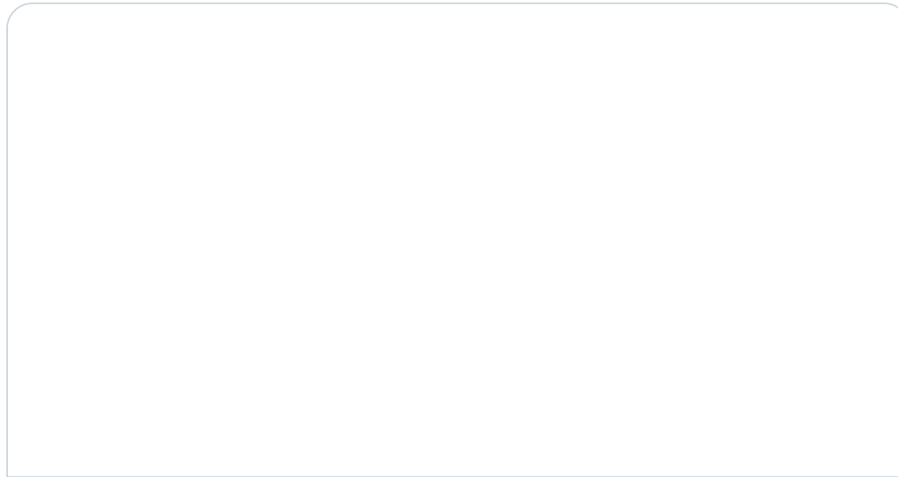
"When I was at Liberty University, from 2012 to 2016, I had to take 'Christian worldview' class ... Yet the more powerful education we received was through thrice-weekly 'convocations' — that frequently featured Republican pundits and politicians."



Kaitlyn Schiess
@KaitlynSchiess



urined to have an opportunity to tell the world that what they see of Liberty is not the best representation of Christian education.




Opinion | What Jerry Falwell Jr. Taught Me at Liberty University
Here's how a Christian education can go wrong.
nytimes.com

12:21 PM · Aug 26, 2020




479 101 people are Tweeting about this


Ruth Graham picked up on a subtext of moral outrage from Jonathan Falwell, the pastor at Thomas Road Baptist Church and Jerry's brother at the convocation.

Ruth Graham  
@publicroad

Replying to @publicroad

"Don't allow sin to creep in." It would be easy to characterize this sermon as a "subtweet," since Jonathan has not named his brother (that I've heard so far) but this is a common approach to preaching: addressing the moment without referring to specific news events.

10:47 AM · Aug 26, 2020 

55  See Ruth Graham's other Tweets

But this is bleak:

Save71 
@save71LU

In the first convocation since Falwell resigned, no one directly spoke about Falwell's sin. No one apologized for their own failures of accountability. Only Acting President Prevo mentioned Falwell, praising him for making @LibertyU wealthy.

1:41 PM · Aug 26, 2020 

102  36 people are Tweeting about this

Christianity Today podcast @CTPodcasts with @tedolsen @Mepaynl interviews Bob Andriga about board governance. "Evaluating the CEO is a primary function of the board . . . non-profits are not supposed to endorse candidates . . . there were warnings."

Morgan Pomaika'i Lee 
@Mepaynl

The parties I think we should actually be talking about in this Liberty/Falwell family scandal



Was Liberty's Board Set up to Support Falwell or Liberty?
The challenge of holding Christian ministry leaders accountable.
christianitytoday.com

12:05 PM · Aug 26, 2020

26 See Morgan Pomaika'i Lee's other Tweets

Another knowledgeable person on non-profit governance, Warren Cole Smith, agrees that the trustees of Liberty University failed here in not firing Jerry Falwell Jr. for cause.

Warren Smith
@WarrenColeSmith

Where was @LibertyU's Board?

MinistryWatch.com @MinistryWatch
Jerry Falwell, Jr., has behaved in ways that would have gotten him fired from leadership in most Christian organizations, and many non-Christian organizations.
buff.ly/3hxCMOf

2:48 PM · Aug 26, 2020

10 See Warren Smith's other Tweets

It is Thursday and Liberty University announced the resignation of Jerry Falwell Jr. on Tuesday after the revelations Sunday and Monday.

David Nasser addressed the Liberty student body and later Jerry called him and asked Nasser how he had sinned.

Julie Roys
@reachjulieroys

I'm glad @davidnasser apologized. But I'm still trying to grasp how a campus pastor makes \$381,774. (2018 IRS 990). @LibertyU paid his wife \$96,688 the same year. And we're supposed to believe Nasser was independent of @jerryfalwelljr's corrupt reign?

Liberty University campus pastor apologizes for Falwell's 'sinful' behavior
Liberty University's campus pastor, David Nasser, personally apologized to students Wednesday for the "sinful" behavior of former president Jerry ...
newsadvance.com

2:13 PM · Aug 27, 2020

Thursday evening (after the Jerry Falwell Jr. resignation was accepted on Tuesday).

Politico story from reporter [@BrandonAmbro](#):

A new allegation that Becki Falwell seduced a student in 2008.

Unroll available on Thread Reader


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<https://twitter.com/politico/status/1299114616216334342?s=19>


Miami Herald by [@doug_hanks](#):

Jesus Fernandez Jr., a close friend of Giancarlo Granda, had photos of Becki (and Jerry Jr.?) Falwell. Michael Cohen's involvement (intimidation?) in 2016 led to changing his name to Gordon Bello. Bello says Granda knows more.




Miami Herald ✓



@MiamiHerald



The flood of on-the-record confirmations in the Jerry Falwell Jr. "pool boy" saga has now connected two of the more obscure pieces of string in the scandal.

Miami lawyer: I changed my identity after Michael Cohen intervened in F...
The flood of on-the-record confirmations in the Jerry Falwell Jr. "pool boy" saga has now connected two of the more obscure pieces of string in the ...
[miamiherald.com](#)

8:03 PM · Aug 27, 2020


 34
 22 people are Tweeting about this

Former Liberty law professor wonders whether a former student at Liberty University will file a Title IX complaint.

Allegations so far: Jerry Falwell Jr. sent an inappropriate photo to Giancarlo Granda. Becki sexually harassed a student.



Boz Tchividjian

@BozT



Replying to @wthrockmorton

Not sure. But let's just say this has Title IX written all over it.

7:45 PM · Aug 27, 2020


 42
 See Boz Tchividjian's other Tweets

Liberty University graduate and Senior Class President in 2013 calls for an independent investigation into Jerry Jr. and Becki Falwell's time at Liberty University in the Wall Street Journal.



Chelsea Patterson Sobolik

@ChelsPat



I have my first opinion piece at [@WSJ](#) today.

While I'm grateful for the opportunity, I'm grieved at the circumstances I'm writing about.

 Follow Us on Twitter!

 Tweet

 Share

Opinion | Where Liberty University Goes From Here
The firing of Jerry Falwell Jr. should be the beginning of much deeper reforms.
[wsj.com](https://www.wsj.com)

6:18 PM · Aug 27, 2020

99 20 people are Tweeting about this

Giancarlo Granda gives interview with George Stephanopoulos on Good Morning America. (His testimony fits with all existing evidence that I know of).

Doug Hanks 
@doug_hanks 

In his first television appearance, a poised Giancarlo Granda lays out his side of the “pool boy” saga. Says night or two before he had his first sexual encounter with the Falwells, they visited the Miami Velvet swingers club. He said they wanted something more private.

Good Morning America  @GMA
Replying to @GMA and @GStephanopoulos
WATCH FULL INTERVIEW: Former pool attendant details alleged relationship with Becki and Jerry Falwell Jr. [gma.com/3b2N9am](https://www.gma.com/3b2N9am)

7:48 AM · Aug 28, 2020 from Miami, FL

62 31 people are Tweeting about this

Jerry Falwell III (Trey)

- Liberty VP
- owns the hostel with Giancarlo Granda.
- Liberty failed to disclose when they sold a house to him.
- He makes money from managing a Liberty-owned shopping center.
- He needs to go.

[politico.com/magazine/story...](https://www.politico.com/magazine/story...)

and



'Someone's Gotta Tell the Freakin' Truth': Jerry Falwell's Aides Break Their Silence

More than two dozen current and former Liberty University officials describe a culture of fear and self-dealing at the largest Christian college in the world.

<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2019/09/09/jerry-falwell-liberty-university-loans-227914>

My Weekend at the Falwells' South Beach Flophouse

Liberty University presents itself as a temple of virtue. But its founding family's secret Miami hostel is a cesspool of vice.

<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/08/25/jerry-falwell-miami-hostel-liberty-university-trey-falwell-215528>

Note these photos with Jerry Falwell Jr. and Trey at the hostel.

Doug Hanks 
@doug_hanks 

Hadn't seen this before, but here is a photo of Jerry Falwell Jr. and son Trey at the South Beach hostel they own in a venture with Giancarlo Granda. [miamiherald.com/news/local/com...](https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/com...)



8:32 PM · Aug 24, 2020 from Miami, FL



22 See Doug Hanks's other Tweets

Samantha Bee tried to figure out the scandal a year ago.



7:00 AM · Aug 15, 2019



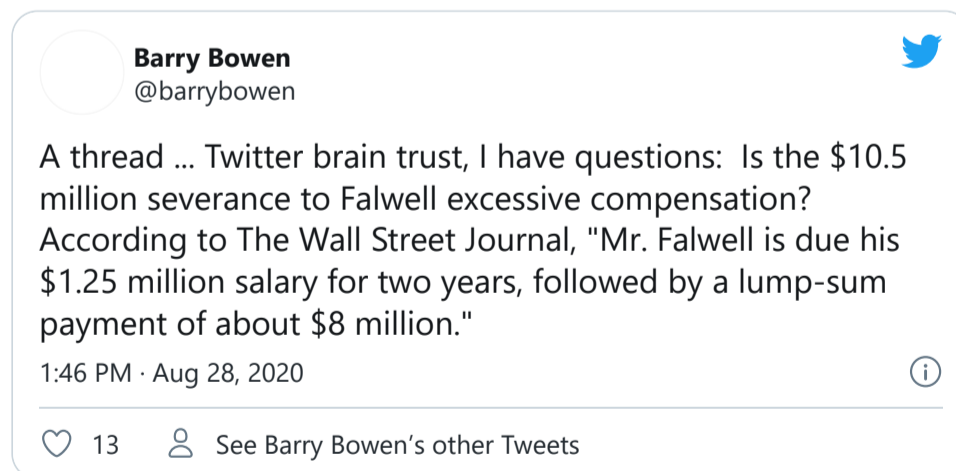
756 229 people are Tweeting about this

Remaining questions:

Where did Fernandez get the photos of Becki? What did Michael Cohen do to Fernandez so that he changed his name to Bello? Will Cohen say?

Why did Granda/Jerry buy a gay hostel?

Barry Bowen, who has some expertise in this area, begins in this thread to set out what he know about the legality of the \$10 million golden parachute that Jerry Falwell Jr. is so happy about. He also asks for others to weigh in.

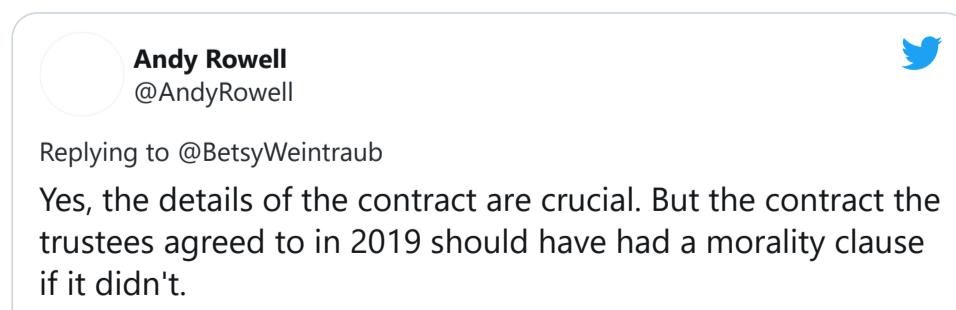


1:46 PM · Aug 28, 2020



13 See Barry Bowen's other Tweets

If it is true that Jerry Falwell Jr. signed a new contract in 2019, and if it did not have a clause protecting the school from paying millions if he embarrassed the school with gross immoral actions, the trustees failed to protect Liberty University.



Andy Rowell
@AndyRowell

Replying to @BetsyWeintraub

Yes, the details of the contract are crucial. But the contract the trustees agreed to in 2019 should have had a morality clause if it didn't.

Jerry Falwell Jr. resigns as head of Liberty University, will get \$10.5 million... Falwell, who is leaving after a series of personal scandals, denied allegations that he watched his wife's sexual interactions with another ...
[washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

10:02 PM · Aug 28, 2020 from Minneapolis, MN

1 See Andy Rowell's other Tweets

Friday night update.

Lingering questions:

- Why did Falwell / Granda / Fernandez buy a "gay-friendly hostel" for their investment?
- How did Jesus Fernandez get the photos of Becki Falwell?
- What did Michael Cohen do that made Fernandez change his name to Gordon Bello?

The Fernandez father and son changed their names to Bello after Michael Cohen got involved. "There were obviously major concerns based on threats."

Cohen claims it was a personal favor for Jerry Jr. and Becki but it was intimidation and perhaps extortion.

Miami builder in fight with Falwell shares story. He won't talk about Michael Cohen
 When Jett Bello met Jerry Falwell Jr. at a Miami Beach hotel, the evangelical leader seemed devout and sharp. But he would soon sour on Falwell.
<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/article230724554.html>

...

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