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## Dilbert Dropped

BY THOMAS PRESNALL

**S**COTT ADAMS, the creator of the long-running comic strip Dilbert, has found himself in the midst of controversy over comments he made on his YouTube show “Real Coffee with Scott Adams.”

According to an article by Kare 11, during the show, Adams made repeated claims that people who are Black as members of a “hate group” or a “racist hate group” in response to a survey that asked people whether they agreed with the statement “It’s OK to be white.” According to the survey, most agreed but 26% of Black respondents disagreed, and others weren’t sure; this was the percentage that Adams decided to focus on during his show.

It was revealed in another article that the total poll included roughly 130 Black Americans, meaning that Adams’s comments were made because of the votes made by 26% of the 130 Black Americans, which is roughly 39 voters when rounded up.

In the same article, it was made clear to Adams that he would no longer “help Black Americans” and that “based on the current way things are going, the best advice I would give to white people is to get the hell away from Black people.”

In an article by FOX9 about the same topic, more comments from the video were brought up. Adams said that “the only outcome is I get called racist” and added later, “It makes no sense to help Black Americans if you’re white. It’s over; don’t even think it’s worth trying. We should be friendly. I’m not saying start a war... I’m just saying get away.”

Adams defended his comments on another episode of his YouTube show, claiming that “everyone should be treated as an individual” and “but you should also avoid any group that doesn’t respect you, even if there are people within the group who are fine.”

According to the same article by FOX9, Adams also criticized the media on Twitter for misrepresenting his comments.

These comments have led to his comic being dropped by several well-known papers, such as the Star Tribune, the Los Angeles Times, the San Antonio Express-News, the USA Today Network, and the Plain Dealer in Cleveland, among others. All newspapers and media organizations gave roughly the same answer when explaining why they would be discontinuing the comic strip, claiming that the comments made by Adams violated their core values and principles and that his

comments gave them more than enough reason to no longer print his work. In the article by Kare11, Christopher Kelly, the vice president of content for NJ Advance Media, Kelly stated that the news organization believes in “the free and fair exchange of ideas...but when those ideas cross into hate speech, a line must be drawn.”

At this point, it’s unclear what will happen to the comic and his work. In this era of media, all comments made online are immortal and will live forever on the internet in his videos and the many articles and statements written in response to what he said.



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