
Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by Believe - 2006/11/22 03:37

Michael Richards, who played the wacky Cosmo Kramer on the hit TV show "Seinfeld," exploded in anger as he performed at a famous L.A. comedy club last Friday, hurling racial epithets that left the crowd gasping, and TMZ has obtained exclusive video of the ugly incident.

Richards was onstage at the Laugh Factory in West Hollywood. Kyle Doss, an African-American, told TMZ he and some friends were in the cheap seats and he was playfully heckling Richards when suddenly, the comedian lost it.

The camera started rolling just as Richards began his attack, screaming at one of the men, "Fifty years ago we'd have you upside down with a f***ing fork up your ass."

Richards continued, "You can talk, you can talk, you're brave now motherf**ker. Throw his ass out. He's a nigger! He's a nigger! He's a nigger! A nigger, look, there's a nigger!"

The crowd is visibly and audibly confused and upset. Richards responds by saying, "They're going to arrest me for calling a black man a nigger."

One of the men who was the object of Richard's tirade was outraged, shouting back "That's un-f***ing called for, ain't necessary."

After the three-minute tirade, it appears the majority of the audience members got up and left in disgust.

I have found a link to the video-

WARNING: WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO SEE IS PROFANE AND RACIAL

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-8044789871599060390&q=michael+richards>

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by Believe - 2006/11/22 04:29

I am a huge fan of "Seinfeld" and I just wanted to hear some feedback from other fans.

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by Teej212 - 2006/11/22 04:32

i think he was a bit drunk and got fired up because the people were making fun of him....there is no reason to say any of that though

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by Believe - 2006/11/22 06:17

In all fairness here is a link to his videotaped apology on David Letterman.

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-5727601579800432446&q=michael+richards>

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by Eye - 2006/11/22 07:45

I don't know what to make of this. I have never heard of anything before that would indicate that he is a racist. But you never know. He's seems like he just flipped out, perhaps he was drunk. Of course, that doesn't excuse what he said. It's good that he apologized though.

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by yourmom3000 - 2006/11/22 09:10

I believe that Michael Richards just lost control. It really can happen to a lot of people. ._.
I don't think he has any intolerance against people of other ethnicities.

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by blistered_avalon501 - 2006/11/22 10:37

Maybe it was playful insulting gone bad or something...but that just was completely unwarranted. Drunk or not that was wrong.

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by hayden102891 - 2006/11/22 11:51

I really like Seinfeld and even though he may have been joking, it kinda pisses me off because Kramer wouldn't do something like that!

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by Ruby - 2006/11/22 13:43

i was a bit shocked when i read this, not sure what to make of it. sometimes alcohol can bring out stuff thats already there but it can also just make u talk utter crap and be overly irrational and easily upset...its a hard one

im just curious but, do u think theres such thing as selective racism? i would say that i come from a very racist background especially where my father and grandfather are concerned but it seems to be only certain races. and religion has a lot to do with it too. last year i was working for a lebanese family and when my father overheard me mention that they were lebanese his first question was are they christain or muslim lebanese? i told him they were christain and he just said "good" scary eh?

i cant stand young lebanese men at my workplace, christain or otherwise, they have a bit of a reputation in sydney, and where im concerned theyre grabby, show a general lack of consideration for women and they start fights, i dont have to tolerate or like that sort of behaviour and i can have an opinion on it, but i dont think that makes me a racist...i would by no means call myself politically correct, i say what i feel but i think its more sexism...and ageism...i dislike certain groups of young males!!! haha

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by PumpkinJodi - 2006/11/22 17:47

Some co-workers were playing the clip at work. And as much as I love the character Kramer..he really went overkill. Even if he was drunk and angry, it's no excuse. I am glad he made a relatively quick public apology - at least he took some responsibility for his actions. I wouldn't call him a racist. I think everyone has some degree of tensions with everyone else (whether it be race, sex, age, social class, religion, etc) constantly - it's just the way life is. . . .and we all vent about these things - doesn't make him a "racist" per se, but the severity of his remarks certainly shows a lack of self control.

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by Eye - 2006/11/22 18:45

Yeah. sometimes people exhibit selective racism, although maybe to be more accurate. selective negative racism. For instance, someone could hate blacks, believing the stereotype that their criminals and of low intelligence. Meanwhile, someone could say 'but those asians are alright, they are good at a math'. Still racism, but they think of the group in terms of a seemingly more positive stereotype.

Here is a good but comical example of selective racism. This is a one of many sketches involving Mark McKinney as an ill-mannered, prejudice cab driver:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bA_mR1UkMhk

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by yteah - 2006/11/22 18:55

oh man, i think kramer just had a nervous breakdown, for realz

i just watched that video, and it looked like he had a damn nervous breakdown, he was talking fucked up, "see whats buried beneath you, motherfuckers" maybe he had a nervous break down to the world we live in, which is still pretty racist, but he doesnt seem to really understand why he did that... pretty creepy though

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by cherry - 2006/11/22 19:24

hayden102891 link=topic=788.msg11915#msg11915 date=1164225072]

I really like Seinfeld and even though he may have been joking, it kinda pisses me off because Kramer wouldn't do something like that!

That's what I was thinking too. This behavior is a polar opposite to the character Michael played on Seinfeld. I was so incredibly dissappointed.

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by 17songs - 2006/11/22 20:27

to answer the question presented as this topic's header, i certainly do think he's racist. and it's damn sad. just the day before, i was watching old seinfeld dvd's with a friend, telling him how kramer was always my favorite character. then this happened.

i don't care what the excuse is- alcohol, fatigue, anger over heckling... when you say the things he said, you are a racist. he tried to backpedal, using the confrontation of society approach, but that was bullocks. he knew he was done. what's worse is that as a celebrity, he doesn't just represent himself. in a way, he represents the cast of seinfeld, the jewish community, and white people in general. people will instantly associate his actions with all those other people.

perhaps jerry isn't biased toward anyone-black, asian, hispanic, poor, whatever. but now, plenty of people will question not only his integrity, but that of everyone else richards has something in common with.
i raise my fist in the air, shake it manically, and exclaim with clenched teeth,"KRAMER!"

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by yourmom3000 - 2006/11/22 20:58

I believe that Michael Richards just lost control. It really can happen to a lot of people. ._.
I don't think he has any intolerance against people of other ethnicities.

At that point I only saw a clip.
I saw the entire video on youtube.com and I don't know any more. I just don't know...

:(

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by hayden102891 - 2006/11/22 21:28

I really love Seinfeld and I watch it nearly everyday, this is just like a thing that kind of ruined everything.

Its like, if he made one comment and said the n word like one time in context, that would be another thing, but he went all out saying things like "Fifty years ago we'd have you upside down with a f***ing fork up your ass." That's just plain out racist and intolerable, I don't think anyone would even say things like that even if they were drunk and didn't mean it.

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by stumbleine(away) - 2006/11/22 22:43

absolutley distrought smiley

i was so sad when i read about this- seinfeld is one of my favorite shows :(
its strange because michael is nothing like kramer in person- hes practically the complete opposite- like kramer is really crazy and kooky but in person (not that i have met him) michael is quite serious and reserved. much like this outburst- you wouldnt hear kramer saying something like this.

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by hayden102891 - 2006/11/23 17:11

Its like,

Can you see Kramer, who adopted a highway and repainted all the lines on the street to his liking really saying all those racist things?

BTW i watched that episode last night, so i used it as an example.

haha

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by yteah - 2006/11/23 21:06

he had a nervous breakdown dammit! :(

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by Believe - 2006/11/24 04:24

Good Smiley Yteah!!!

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by yteah - 2006/11/24 13:50

but i guess if he did have a nervous breakdown, he would have said so in his apology, but he looked messed up there too though

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by Believe - 2006/11/24 14:16

Did anyone notice in the apology that he said he "wasn't a racist". What do you guys make of that? I mean he didn't just use the word - he went on to say that "If this were 50 years ago you'd be on a pitch fork???" Some of the people I know have had nervous breakdowns - but they never just spewed non-sense like this though. Most people who have nervous breakdowns don't attack a whole race of people. No matter how drunk I 've been (and I've been pretty drunk) - I would never turn to a person of Jewish heritage and say "If this were the holocaust you'd be in a concentration camp."

I believe that something can't come out of a person unless it's in them.

What do you guys think?

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by stumbleine - 2006/11/24 14:23

^^i agree. if somebody says (or yells) something its usually because thats what they think. it would be weird if he just said those things because he had a breakdown.

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by hayden102891 - 2006/11/24 15:04

I agree,

I don't think it was a breakdown, i think he's always been racist and he said it was a nervous breakdown because he didn't want to lose fans and people to think he's racist, i don't think he considers himself racist.

I think if he had a nervous breakdown, it would have been more obvious. He was just ranting on and on, but i think if he had a nervous breakdown, he would have been like screaming and freaking out more.

I think its a cover up because he doesn't want people to hate him.

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by hayden102891 - 2006/11/24 15:04

yteah link=topic=788.msg12002#msg12002 date=1164344765]
he had a nervous breakdown dammit! :(

OMG YOU CHANGED THE SMILEY :upset

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by venison - 2006/11/24 22:00

Well lucky for me, I never really enjoyed Seinfeld all that much, so it doesn't hit me as hard as other people. But I did see his apology at Letterman's show, and it was ghastly and awkward to say the least. But if he says he is not a racist, I believe him. In his onstage rant, he probably just got incredibly angry and said a whole bunch of stuff that was intentionally meant to offend and hurt the heckler, even if he didn't really believe in it.

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by yteah - 2006/11/25 16:24

hayden102891 link=topic=788.msg12050#msg12050 date=1164409489]
yteah link=topic=788.msg12002#msg12002 date=1164344765]
he had a nervous breakdown dammit! :(

OMG YOU CHANGED THE SMILEY :upset

thats the way i am, first i get mad, then i get sad, "subsequently"

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by dudehitscar - 2006/11/26 15:59

That is crazy. It will be a while before I can ever watch Seinfeld again without thinking about that racist bullshit. It wasn't just a slip of the tongue because he was upset. That would be a little understandable. But he went on and on and on. He knew what he was saying.

that being said; most talented actors and musicians are crazy. It's time like this when I'm happy for the internet. Shit like this needs to be exposed and talked about.

Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by hayden102891 - 2006/11/26 17:18

I was watching it last night and Kramer was accusing Jerry of being a racist against dentists.

it was something like

Kramer: You know, I heard about that joke you said about dentists, Tim Watley told me.

Jerry: He's just a dentist!
Kramer: Do you know what his people have been through?
Jerry: Dentists?
Kramer: They came to this country just like everyone else, and you don't respect them?
Jerry: He's a dentist!
Kramer: That's how it starts! First a few comments and slurs, and then you start thinking that they should be put in separate schools!
Jerry: Dentists are in differnet schools!
Kramer: See! You're an anti-dentite!
Jerry: I am not an Anti-dentite!

I just though it was ironic, just cause of this, and how Kramer was all like "NO RACISM, ONLY :heart"

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by venison - 2006/11/26 19:20

dudehitscar link=topic=788.msg12193#msg12193 date=1164585574]
that being said; most talented actors and musicians are crazy. It's time like this when I'm happy for the internet. Shit like this needs to be exposed and talked about.

That's actually the reason I kind of dislike the internet sometimes. :roll

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by stumbleine - 2006/11/26 22:35

hayden102891 link=topic=788.msg12207#msg12207 date=1164590316]
I was watching it last night and Kramer was accusing Jerry of being a racist against dentists.

it was something like

Kramer: You know, I heard about that joke you said about dentists, Tim Watley told me.
Jerry: He's just a dentist!
Kramer: Do you know what his people have been through?
Jerry: Dentists?
Kramer: They came to this country just like everyone else, and you don't respect them?
Jerry: He's a dentist!
Kramer: That's how it starts! First a few comments and slurs, and then you start thinking that they should be put in separate schools!
Jerry: Dentists are in differnet schools!
Kramer: See! You're an anti-dentite!
Jerry: I am not an Anti-dentite!

I just though it was ironic, just cause of this, and how Kramer was all like "NO RACISM, ONLY :heart"

Tim Watley!
so much drama based around this character! :D

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by descend0 - 2006/11/26 22:52

I donno what to think of the whole mess. I saw him on Letterman a few days after and it was really sad. Everybody in the audience kept laughing but on TV you could tell that what he was saying was in earnest and he was honestly trying to make some kind of amends. He was saying like..."sorry I think it was a mistake to make an apology on this show." I guess 'cause he knew everyone would think it was a big joke.

Then I saw something where there were a few people who were there and traumatised by the whole incident and they had a lawyer (what's new there?) and wanted to meet with him for an apology in front of a retired judge and let the judge decide if he thought it merited \$\$\$ compensation. Well of course if you don't meet them you look like a jerk, but if you apologise then that is admitting you are guilty and that will stand up in any court. Didn't hear how that turned out tho.

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Re: Is Kramer a Racist???

Posted by Believe - 2006/11/27 04:50

Interesting...I'll try and find out.

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