

## 'Why don't you go f\*\*k yourself, you tiny-brained moron?' Tucker Carlson berates Dutch historian who accused him of taking 'dirty money' from billionaires in spiked segment

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- Historian Rutger Bregman released audio from the interview on Wednesday
- Carlson invited him on to praise his call for higher taxes on the rich at Davos
- Bregman turned on the Fox News host and accused him of taking 'dirty money'
- Fed-up Carlson lashed out at the Dutchman and producers spiked the interview
- Carlson apologized to his viewers for using profanity, but said it was 'heartfelt'
- Blasted notion that he is pressured into any ideological position as totally false

Newly released audio from a never-aired interview has revealed Tucker Carlson berating a Dutch historian who used an interview about tax policy to sling mud at the Fox News host.

Rutger Bregman released footage from his end of his remote interview on Friday in partnership with <u>NowThis News</u>, claiming that 'Fox News didn't want you to see' the spiked segment.

On his show Wednesday, Carlson addressed the controversy, saying that Bregman had falsely accused him of taking his ideological positions on orders from above.

'Whatever my faults and those of this channel, nobody in management has ever told us what positions to take on the air. Never. Not one time,' Carlson said in his response. 'We have total freedom here and we're grateful for that.'

Tucker Carlson (left) berated Rutger Bregman (right) in a segment that never aired, after the Dutch historian slung insults at the Fox News host during an interview about tax policy

In the spiked interview, Carlson opens with friendly praise of Bregman for calling for higher top marginal tax rates while addressing the global elite at Davos, but the interview takes a turn as Bregman repeatedly insults both Carlson and Fox News.

'What the Murdochs basically want you to do is to scapegoat immigrants instead of talking about tax avoidance,' Bregman says to Carlson, referring to the family that owns Fox News' parent company.

Seeming oblivious that Carlson is asking him to speak on how to crack down on tax evasion, Bregman continues his line of invective, accusing the conservative pundit of taking 'dirty money' from the Cato Institute, a libertarian think-tank where Carlson is a fellow.

'You are a millionaire funded by billionaires, that's what you are,' Bregman tells Carlson.

The historian said that Carlson, a former libertarian who has more recently called for sweeping reforms to support middle-class families, was 'jumping on the bandwagon' with socialists like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Bernie Sanders.

'Moron,' Carlson can be heard replying. 'You would have to be a moron...'

Bregman accused Carlson of taking 'dirty money' from billionaires to cover up the topic of tax evasion, despite being invited on the Fox News show to discuss that very topic

Bregman went on to accuse Carlson of trying to cover up the topic of tax evasion, the very topic he'd been invited on the show to discuss.

Carlson retorted: 'I wanna say to you, why don't you go f\*\*k yourself, you tiny brain - and I hope this gets picked up, because you're a moron.'

'I tried to give you a hearing, but you were too f\*\*king annoying,' Carlson continued.

The interview was prerecorded on February 11 and was apparently supposed to air on that night's show, but it was never aired.

In a statement, Senior Executive Producer Justin Wells said that the interview with Bregman had been axed after he chose to sling insults rather than discuss the topic of the segment.

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'Tucker is someone who appreciates many points of view. Sadly, the guest turned an opportunity to have a substantive, informative discussion into an obviously calculated personal insult campaign,' Wells said.

'We were disappointed in the segment and respect our audience's time too much to consider airing it,' he continued.

In his response on Wednesday's show, Carlson explained that once he had cursed at Bregman, the segment was unfit to air.

'I did what I try hard never to do on this show and I was rude,' he said.

Carlson invited his viewers to go listen to the audio that Bregman had released if they liked.

'There is some profanity and I apologize for that,' he said. 'On the other hand it was genuinely heartfelt. I meant it with total sincerity.'