

Twitter Thread by Ben Collins



Ben Collins

[@oneunderscore](#)



I think people are generally aware that the Proud Boys are a fundamentally racist group.

I don't think people realize their very name is based on a racist joke their founder made while watching a school play.

That's the start of [@AndyBCampbell's](#) book, and it's jaw dropping.

The Proud Boys name first came to Gavin McInnes while he watched, with disgust, as a twelve-year-old boy with brown skin sang a musical number onstage at a school recital.

McInnes was pissed that he had to be in the audience at all. He'd already sat through performances of his son playing the drums and his daughter playing the guitar, and now here was this kid, singing a song from a Broadway musical. McInnes hated musicals. But because his wife, Emily, was sitting next to him at the time, he had to pretend like he was enjoying himself.

“Fuckin’ musicals, man,” he said during an early episode of his online talk show, *The Gavin McInnes Show*. “My wife’s a fag hag so I had to sit there and just not laugh. I couldn’t say to my boys, ‘Don’t ever fucking do that or I will be the opposite of proud.’”

He was ranting and waving his hands on the set of his show, a daily livestreamed video podcast on Compound Media that served as his bigoted sounding board for more than two years. He grimaced as he recalled the story for his guest, a comedian named Aaron Berg, who sat giggling at the other end of an L-shaped news desk.

You can buy the book here. It's very, very good.

<https://t.co/Y96NKqBvTd>