Twitter Thread by ■■ Ethereal Bisexual Chanda Prescod-Weinstein



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@IBJIYONGI

I woke up this morning really pissed off that I had to write this thread because a senior guy who doesn't like me very much just happened to write this article about things I was tweeting about and in the process downplayed homophobia and got the story wrong ■

> So let me be really clear: a lot of astronomers believe that new evidence has been uncovered that James Webb has been unfairly maligned as a homophobe. The evidence actually shows:
> - he wasn\u2019t the first homophobe (shock)
> - after 1950 he knew about it, was in charge, did nothing
>
> — \U0001f1e7\U0001f1e7 Ethereal Bisexual Chanda Prescod-Weinstein (@IBJIYONGI) January 25, 2021

I'm pissed also at everyone who read that blog entry and walked away thinking, "oh he sounds like a good guy who has been unfairly maligned who should have a space telescope named after him." Excuse me, what?

Most of you would never been foolish enough in 2021 to say such a thing about a man who sanctioned institutional anti-Black racism but you think that's an ok message to send to queer people, including Black queer people?

And he's gonna get away with it too. No matter what I say, that blog entry will keep making the rounds and people will believe it even though it hasn't been through a formal edit and fact check process.

Next time Hakeem should maybe send me an email rather than write vague, unprofessional personal attacks like: "astrophysicist who propagated unsubstantiated false information as if it were true without performing proper scientific rigor to investigate its veracity"

I should say that I have had Hakeem blocked on twitter for a couple of years and I actually really don't want to go into why, but the Hitler was a good guy joke at the last NSBP meeting I attended was gross

I want to be clear that I interpret that blog entry as the leader of a professional society and a senior scientist going out of his way to:
- justify historic homophobia
- attack a junior queer Black woman professor for being angry about homophobia because ...he doesn't like her

Hakeem and I once had a procedural disagreement during an NSBP business meeting in 2011 when I was a first year postdoc and *10 years later* he is writing poorly researched articles that are basically hit pieces on me, and I am fucking tired

Any astronomers who have seen the piece in circulation should speak up with their chest to people who are posting it about both its factual problems and its moral failings