

New Yorker writer Ryan Lizza who brought down Anthony Scaramucci fired for 'improper sexual conduct' - as ousted reporter claims it was a respectful, consensual relationship

 [dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5168979/New-Yorker-writer-brought-Mooch-fired.html](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5168979/New-Yorker-writer-brought-Mooch-fired.html)

12/11/2017

The New Yorker reporter who brought down former White House Communications Director Anthony Scaramucci, has been fired for 'improper sexual conduct'.

Ryan Lizza has called the decision to fire him after ten years at the magazine a 'terrible mistake' and insists he was in a 'respectful, consensual relationship' with a woman he dated.

The New Yorker released a statement saying the reporter was fired after they 'recently learned he engaged in what we believe was improper sexual conduct.'

They would not elaborate on the allegations except to say they had 'reviewed the matter and, as a result, have severed ties with Lizza.'

One person who won't be mourning his disappearance will be Anthony 'The Mooch' Scaramucci.

Scaramucci was fired just ten days into his role as communications director after Lizza published a secret recording of a phone call between him and The Mooch where the White House executive railed on his colleagues.

Ryan Lizza (pictured, April 29) has released a statement saying he was dismayed at the decision by his former employer to fire him for what he called a 'respectful, consensual relationship' with a woman he dated.



Paul Farhi ✓

@farhip

Follow



,@RyanLizza statement: "I am dismayed that The New Yorker has decided to characterize a respectful relationship with a woman I dated as somehow inappropriate. The New Yorker was unable to cite any company policy that was violated."

1:51 PM - 11 Dec 2017

6 Retweets 5 Likes



Paul Farhi ✓

@farhip

Follow



I am sorry to my friends, workplace colleagues, and loved ones for any embarrassment this episode may cause. I love The New Yorker, my home for the last decade, and I have the highest regard for the people who work there." MORE

1:52 PM - 11 Dec 2017



Paul Farhi ✓

@farhip

Follow



" But this decision, which was made hastily and without a full investigation of the relevant facts, was a terrible mistake." --30--

1:52 PM - 11 Dec 2017



In the now infamous phone call that took place on July 26, Scaramucci called the former White House Chief of Staff Reince Preibus a 'f***ing paranoid schizophrenic' and a 'c*** blocker and accused him of leaking his financial information to ProPublica.

He then accused senior White House strategist Steve Bannon of 'sucking his own c***'.

Lizza revealed that he received the phone call at his home at 10.30pm and that, when it ended, he immediately downloaded the audio and titled it 'Insane Scaramucci Interview'.

'It was so unusual. In 20 years of doing this, I've never had a phone conversation like that,' he told David Remnick on the The New Yorker Radio Hour podcast.

Lizza published Scaramucci's comments in a bombshell article for the New Yorker. A short time later, The Mooch resigned.

In an interview with [HuffPost](#), Scaramucci said he felt burned by the published article.

'The Lizzas and Scaramuccis have been friends for over 50 years. My dad knew his dad from construction, and we were building a personal relationship,' he said.

'Most of what I said was humorous and joking. Legally, it may have been on the record, but the spirit of it was off. And he knew that.'

“Wigdor LLP represents the victim of Mr. Lizza’s misconduct. Although she desires to remain confidential and requests that her privacy be respected , in no way did Mr. Lizza’s misconduct constitute a “respectful relationship” as he has now tried to characterize it. Our client reported Mr. Lizza’s actions to ensure that he would be held accountable and in the hope that by coming forward she would help other potential victims.”

The alleged victim debates Lizza's claim the relationship was consensual

He called Lizza a 'lowlife'.

Scaramucci even called the former New Yorker reporter the 'Linda Tripp of 2017' in series of tweets in August. Tripp was the woman who exposed Bill Clinton's affair with Monica Lewinsky to the world in 1998 after she secretly taped Lewinsky talking about her affair.

She was demonized in the media, as being motivated by money and for wanting to write a book. On 'Saturday Night Live' she was portrayed by John Goodman.

Lizza has always debated the fact that he and Scaramucci were friends.

'I've only known Anthony in his capacity as a Trump surrogate and then White House communications director. We are not and have never been 'old family friends', though I think our fathers knew each other, so maybe that's what he's talking about,' he told HuffPost.

'But again, that would not be a reason to suppress an explosive on-the-record interview.'

Now it's the writer who has come under fire as he was accused of 'improper sexual conduct'.

He has released a statement refuting the allegations and criticizing the New Yorker for letting him go.

He said: 'I am dismayed that The New Yorker has decided to characterize a respectful relationship with a woman I dated as somehow inappropriate. The New Yorker was unable to cite any company policy that was violated.

'I am sorry to my friends, workplace colleagues, and loved ones for any embarrassment this episode may cause. I love The New Yorker, my home for the last decade, and I have the highest regard for the people who work there.



Anthony Scaramucci  Following
@Scaramucci

I made a mistake in trusting in a reporter. It won't happen again.

8:50 PM - 27 Jul 2017

2,536 Retweets 7,088 Likes

8.1K 2.5K 7.1K

This screenshot shows a tweet from Anthony Scaramucci (@Scaramucci) posted on July 27, 2017, at 8:50 PM. The tweet reads: "I made a mistake in trusting in a reporter. It won't happen again." It has 2,536 retweets and 7,088 likes. The interface shows a "Following" button and a row of profile pictures of users who interacted with the tweet.

Scaramucci turned on journalist Ryan Lizza after he reported their phone call in July



Anthony Scaramucci  Follow
@Scaramucci

I sometimes use colorful language. I will refrain in this arena but not give up the passionate fight for [@realDonaldTrump's](#) agenda. [#MAGA](#)

3:23 PM - 27 Jul 2017

1,006 Retweets 2,318 Likes

1.8K 1.0K 2.3K

This screenshot shows a tweet from Anthony Scaramucci (@Scaramucci) posted on July 27, 2017, at 3:23 PM. The tweet reads: "I sometimes use colorful language. I will refrain in this arena but not give up the passionate fight for @realDonaldTrump's agenda. #MAGA". It has 1,006 retweets and 2,318 likes. The interface shows a "Follow" button and a row of profile pictures of users who interacted with the tweet.

© Anthony Scaramucci/Twitter

Scaramucci at first seemed unperturbed by Lizza's report. He defended his 'colorful language' but vowed to 'refrain in this arena'

'But this decision, which was made hastily and without a full investigation of the relevant facts, was a terrible mistake.'

Lizza was also a political analyst for CNN.

On Monday afternoon, CNN's Brian Stelter reported that the network was suspending Lizza while they investigated following the New Yorker's decision.

Lizza previously worked at the New Republic for around ten years and has written for GQ, New York magazine and the New York Times.

His firing comes amid the Harvey Weinstein sex scandal and #MeToo campaign which has seen several high profile executives in the media, entertainment industry and politics lose their jobs after being accused of sexual assault or harassment.

CONVERSATION BETWEEN SCARAMUCCI AND LIZZA

Scaramucci: Who leaked that to you?

Lizza: Oh man, I can't tell you that.

S: What did you say?

L: I can't tell you that.

S: Okay so what I'm gonna do I'll eliminate everyone on the comps team and we'll start over. I asked these guys not to leak anything but they can't help themselves. Someone on the comps team leaked that to you?

L: I can't tell you.

[...]

S: Okay but you're an American citizen. This is a major catastrophe for the American country. So I'm asking you, as an American patriot, to give me a sense of who leaked it.

L: The only thing I can tell you is it's two people in the White House who wouldn't lie to me. You know what I mean?

S: Who?

L: Come on, I can't tell you, buddy. You know I can't do that.

S: Is it an assistant to the president?

L: I'm not gonna say anything.

[...]

S: Reince is a f*****g parandoid schizophrenic, a paranoiac. [mocking Preibus] 'Oh, Bill Shine is coming in. Let me leak the f*****g thing and see if I can c**k-block these people the way I c**k-blocked Scaramucci for six months'. He leaked the CFIUS stuff on me? You know my financial disclosures have been leaked to Politico?

L: Yeah.

S: Which is a felony.

[...]

L: I wanna ask you if you want to be profiled?

S: I don't want to be profiled

L: What you're trying to do-

S: I'm not Steve Bannon. I'm not trying to suck my own c**k. I'm not trying to build my own brand off the president. I'm here to serve the country.

[...]

S: Ok, 'The Mooch' showed up a week ago. This is gonna get cleaned up very shortly because I nail these guys. I got digital fingerprints on everything they've done from the FBI and from the f*****g Department of Justice. They'll probably get prosecuted for the felony.