

## The Enforcers of Conformity

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In the American academe of 2022, you never know who will be next on the chopping block for disputing the latest insanities. At the moment, that someone is former Princeton University classics professor Joshua Katz.

Katz is supposedly being fired for a relationship he had with a student 15 years ago and for which he

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was penalized in 2017. Actually, it's for exposing the racist assumptions of so-called antiracism in a 2020 article.

It seems Princeton has been itching for an excuse to can him. Last year, the university found its excuse when the student involved in the older controversy, provoked by the new one, revived the old complaint.

Katz's lawyer, Samantha Harris, says "the



message to would-be dissenters is clear: the price of speaking out is having your personal life turned inside out looking for information to destroy you."

Only a few colleagues have publicly supported Professor Katz.

Or even still talk to him.

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In 2020, Katz wrote: "The pressure to apologize . . . to appease one's tormentors can be tremendous, but do not give in to the pressure. If you feel you did no wrong, do not apologize."

If Professor Katz wants to put this nightmare behind him, I'd understand. If he wants to sue Princeton for a billion dollars or so, well, I'd understand that too.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.