

# The Links Between Jeffrey Epstein and Bill Gates Explained

Microsoft founder admits meetings with sex offender were ‘huge mistake’

By [The Week](#)

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*Bill Gates has admitted that fundraising meetings held with the late-billionaire paedophile Jeffrey Epstein were a “huge mistake”.*

*Discussing the role that his relationship with Epstein played in his divorce from Melinda Gates, the Microsoft billionaire told [The Sunday Times](#) that “at the time” he “didn’t realise that by having those meetings it would be seen as giving [Epstein] credibility”.*

“You’re almost saying, ‘I forgive that type of behaviour’, or something,” he added. “So clearly the way it’s seen, I made a huge mistake not understanding that.”

Speaking publicly about her separation from Gates for the first time in March, Melinda told [CBS News](#) that although “many things” contributed to her decision to end the pair’s marriage, she “did not like that he’d had meetings with Jeffrey Epstein, no”.

She also told the broadcaster that journalists should ask Bill whether he had cheated on her during the course of their marriage. Asked by The Sunday Times’ associate editor Alice Thomson whether he would answer that question, he refused, saying: “No.”

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According to [The Daily Beast](#), Melinda was present for a meeting between her husband and Epstein at the latter's Upper East Side mansion in September of that year, and afterwards told friends that "she was furious at the relationship between the two men".

Melinda described "how uncomfortable she was in the company of the wealthy sex offender", the site said, and "told friends she wanted nothing to do with him".

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"I had nightmares about it afterwards. So, you know, my heart breaks for these young women, because that's how I felt and here I'm an older woman. My god, I feel terrible for those young women. It was awful," she said.

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Gates has "done his best to minimise his connections" with the disgraced billionaire, [The New York Times](#) (NYT) reported, telling [The Wall Street Journal](#) in April 2021: "I didn't have any business relationship or friendship with him."

However, the NYT found that "beginning in 2011", he "met with Epstein on numerous occasions", including "at least three times at Epstein's palatial Manhattan townhouse, and at least once staying late into the night".

Employees of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation "also paid multiple visits to Epstein's mansion", the paper added, while "Epstein spoke with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and JPMorgan Chase about a proposed multibillion-dollar charitable fund".

The Gates' charitable foundation has "championed the well-being of young girls", The New York Times said. But at the point at which the meetings began, Epstein had already served jail time for soliciting prostitution from a minor and was registered as a sex offender.

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One former employee told the magazine that Gates would often leave the Microsoft headquarters just hours after arriving, saying: "We all assumed that it was when he was with women. I knew there were many off-site meetings that were not on his calendar."

Others told Vanity Fair that allegations against Gates have been "largely suppressed by Gates's liberal use of nondisclosure agreements, ostensibly to keep more damning details under wraps".

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Sources in the room said Quick did not raise his links to the late-billionaire paedophile Jeffrey Epstein. A third attendee told the paper he appeared "agitated" during the appearance, adding: "Bill Gates was pretty much a total asshole."

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