

I recently learned that I have been misinformed about the facts surrounding Jeffrey Epstein's conviction several years ago and that statements that have been attributed to me are false. For this, I deeply apologize.

Mr. Epstein is not a pedophile by any definition of the word. [According to public records, he was convicted of procuring a person under the age of 18 for prostitution, for he has served his time.] [It is my understanding that this involved a woman just a few months short of her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.]

While I am disappointed and of course disapprove of some of the choices he has made, the Jeffrey Epstein I knew was a kind and very generous man, both to people in need and to the greater community in which he lives. It is not only his support of science for the greater good that so impressed me, but his support of so many humanitarian causes like the Starlight Children's Foundation, which aids critically ill children and their families cope with their pain, fear and isolation, the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, the Save Darfur Coalition, the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, The Robin Hood Foundation, which targets poverty in New York City and scores of others.

As a Christian we are taught to forgive. Mr. Epstein has admitted the errors of his ways and paid for those mistakes. He is focusing his life on helping others. We should all do the same.

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