

A couple weekends ago, my six daughters (who I'm beyond proud of) took me aside to do a surprise "family intervention" because of some silly things I've said in two recent interviews &...I have LEARNED MY LESSON! Let me tell you, I'm so grateful for my daughters because they aren't scared to stand up to their daddy. I am an imperfect human & I'm not afraid to say it. And I'm sorry & I'm not afraid to say it.

When you've been fortunate enough to have lived such a long & crazy life (& you've recently stopped drinking - three years ago!), certain details about specific events (which do NOT paint the full picture of my intentions nor experiences) come flooding back all at once, & even at 85, it's apparent that "wordvomit" & bad-mouthing is inexcusable. One of the hardest things about this situation is that, this bad-mouthing has contradicted the very real messages I tried to relay about racism, inequality, homophobia, poverty...you name it. And of course I don't want that. I have already reached out to my friends privately, but when you live a public life, you have a responsibility to be an example, & since I do lead a public life, I wanted to make a public apology.

I'm sorry to anyone whom my words offended & I'm especially sorry to my friends who are still here with me & to those who aren't. These friends are like blood family to me. To my dear family & friends...thank you for your grace. Thank you for calling me out when I've clearly made a mistake...many mistakes. Even though sometimes it's difficult to receive criticism or discipline (especially publicly), I want you to know I hear you. I hear ALL of you...& I thank you. So, I encourage you all to please grow with me & keep on keepin' on. Love, an 85 year old bow-legged man who is still learning from his mistakes. ((:0))