

25 April 2025

STATEMENT FROM SANDY GUTMAN (AUSTEN TAYSHUS)

When I first spoke to you I told you that I couldn't clearly recall our exact relationship. I said that I thought I knew him through Kathy Lette but wasn't sure. I'm not sure if I met him. I contacted him because I thought he may be able to help me with what I perceived as lack of impartiality on the part of some journos. All I expected was some help with some interviews and that's what I got from him and Ben Latimer.

It is simply not true that I invoked Kim's name on multiple occasions to enable interviews. I remember with Tamworth being polite when I spoke to the person who answered the phone. When I said I was Austen Tayshus she became very rude. I said I am friends with Kim and all I wanted was an interview. I have had numerous interviews with the ABC which have been fine that I have got myself with no mention of Kim or anyone else that have been fine. I am talking of many many over the years.

I don't know who you spoke to but I agree there were a couple of occasions where I may have been upset at the lack of interest of some. Most however have been very keen to have me on. In a nearly 50 year career as a fairly polarising entertainer, there will be always be those who Don't get it. Some who dislike your humour, some who find you offensive, some who miss the irony some who think you are rude, some who dislike your Zionist affiliation which I have been upfront about. I would never describe my behaviour as disgraceful but that is an opinion based on other opinions. It is not objective.

Some people hate my shows. Too brazen too aggressive too on your face puerile or base, too intellectual Etc etc

Finally. Times have evolved dramatically since I began in 1979. It is harder to get an interview in the media these days. Sometimes I overreact. As I said initially, Kim did nothing wrong. He tried to help me on a couple of occasions and he did. If I overreacted on a couple of occasions that is to do with frustration and the considerable workload. I don't think any of my behaviour could be described as disgraceful. Austen Tayshus