

*CBS Mornings*

04/28/26

7:00:52 a.m. [TEASE]

13 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Kimmel Under Fire]

MAJOR GARRETT: The President and First Lady are calling for the late-night host Jimmy Kimmel to be fired for a joke he made about the couple before the attack in Washington.

JIMMY KIMMEL [on ABC's *Jimmy Kimmel Live!*, 04/27/26]: It was a very light roast joke about the fact that he's almost 80, and she's younger than I am.

(....)

7:10:00 a.m.

2 minutes and 46 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Calls for Kimmel's Firing]

GAYLE KING: In the wake of that attack, the President and the First Lady are now demanding that late-night host Jimmy Kimmel be fired over remarks he made before the White House Correspondents Dinner. Melania Trump accuses Kimmel of using hateful and violent rhetoric. Last night, the comedian responded. Nancy Cordes is at the White House with the latest on this. Nancy, good morning.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Trump & First Lady Call for Kimmel to Be Fired]

NANCY CORDES: Good morning to you, Gayle. As you know, this is not Kimmel's first run-in with the upper ranks of the Trump administration. In fact, the President has routinely suggested the late-night host should lose his gig. Now, the new joke has reignited Trump's anger.

KIMMEL [on ABC's *Jimmy Kimmel Live!*, 04/23/26]: At the Correspondents Dinner, typically someone funny shows up and roasts the luminaries, and the President, and everyone, but our President is a delicate snowflake.

CORDES: It started last Thursday when Jimmy Kimmel skewered the lack of a comedian at the upcoming White House Correspondents Dinner by hosting a pretend roast of his own.

KIMMEL [on ABC's *Jimmy Kimmel Live!*, 04/23/26]: And of course, our First Lady, Melania, is here. Look at Melania – so beautiful, Mrs. Trump, you have a glow like an expectant widow.

CORDES: Initially, Kimmel's comments didn't get much pickup. But after Saturday night's attempted attack at the real Correspondents Dinner, the First Lady issued a rare rebuke of Kimmel, writing in part: "Enough is enough. It is time for ABC to take a stand." And Trump then

chimed in to writing: “This is something far beyond the pale. Jimmy Kimmel should be immediately fired by Disney and ABC.” Last September, facing pressure from the Trump administration, ABC did suspend Kimmel for nearly a week.

KIMMEL [on ABC’s *Jimmy Kimmel Live!*, 09/15/25]: We hit some new lows over the weekend.

CORDES: – after the late-night host accused the “MAGA Gang” of trying to score political points from the assassination of conservative activist Charlie Kirk.

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP [on 09/18/25]: They give me only bad publicity, or press. I mean, they’re getting a license. I – I would think maybe the license should be taken away.

CORDES: Late last night, Kimmel responded to Trump’s latest call for his firing.

KIMMEL [on ABC’s *Jimmy Kimmel Live!*, 04/27/26]: It was a very light roast joke about the fact that he’s almost 80, and she’s younger than I am. It was not – [LAUGHTER] – by any stretch of the definition of call to assassination. And they know that.

CORDES: We asked Disney, the parent company of ABC, for comment and all this, and we haven’t heard back yet. Mentalist Oz Perlman, the hard – headliner for this year’s White House Correspondents Dinner, was at one point slated to be on Kimmel’s show last night, but he ultimately did not appear, Gayle.

KING: Nancy, I’m glad you put it in context that the joke was made before the Correspondents Dinner. Jimmy Kimmel’s not some crazy person who would wish the President to be killed. That’s – he just would not do that.