



Written by [C. Mitchell Shaw](#) on April 30, 2022

## Woke Twitter Employees Distraught Over Musk Take-over

According to internal messages leaked this week, a good number of Twitter employees are losing their minds over Elon Musk's purchase of the social media platform. The messages — obtained by the *New York Post* — show that woke Twitter employees are afraid and angry. Some showed their disgust over the very idea of free speech.

Given Twitter's history of coddling extreme Leftists, the culture of the company is perhaps best described as "woke." And while Elon Musk is no conservative, he is not "woke." And that is a bridge too far for some of his soon-to-be employees. The shock, pain, and confusion they are experiencing is likely similar to that which conservative employees of My Pillow would experience if Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez bought the company from Mike Lindell.

And while the woke mob of Twitter employees would dispute the statement above that Musk is no conservative, he himself has made that clear. In a Thursday tweet, Musk asserted that his "conservatism" is only a matter of the Left having moved *so far* left that he looks like he's on the Right.

[pic.twitter.com/Q9OjlJhi7f](https://pic.twitter.com/Q9OjlJhi7f)

— Elon Musk (@elonmusk) [April 28, 2022](#)

None of that kept Twitter employees on a recent 45-minute meeting hosted on the business communications platform [Slack](#) from rending their garments and gnashing their teeth over Musk's acquisition of their beloved Twitter. In that meeting, CEO Parag Agrawal and independent board chair Bret Taylor fielded questions and concerns from employees. The questions and concerns were handed off by Berland. And while some questions and concerns of the woke mob of Twitter employees could be answered, many others were given answers akin to "We need to ask Elon about that."

As TechCrunch reported, Until the deal is finalized and Musk actually takes control, some things are kind of up in the air:

Until the deal closes, which could take up to six months, Agrawal said, "[Twitter] will continue making decisions as we always have, guided by the principles we've had, which doesn't mean things won't change. Things have been changing. I've been in this role for four months," Agrawal explained. "Once the deal closes, different decisions might be made. For us to gain insight into that, we'll be finding a way to have Elon talk with all of you at the soonest possible opportunity," he said.



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But that answer — being shy of “nothing will change” — was unacceptable to the censorship-happy woke snowflakes who largely populate the Twitter workforce.

As the *Post* [reported](#), “woke employees are overtaken by despair and anger about Elon Musk’s month-long effort to acquire Twitter.” And they showed it in that Slack meeting, expressing their hatred of both Musk and his stance on free speech. As Andy Ngo put it in his piece for the *Post*, “woke Twitter employees were “overtaken by despair and anger about Elon Musk’s month-long effort to acquire Twitter.”

A site reliability engineer (corporate tech-speak for website maintenance “person” who gets paid a lot of money) said, “Physically cringy watching Elon talk about free speech.” Unsurprisingly, that maintenance “person” (can’t say “guy” for obvious reasons) “identifies as a nonbinary transgender and plural person.” So — the singular “they” “are” cringing at “their” new boss addressing the importance of free speech. That is interesting, considering that Twitter has *always* claimed to give half a darn about free speech.

But perhaps a senior staff software engineer — who referred to Musk as an “a\*\*hole” (not sure the asterisks tone that down any at all, considering the limited geography of that phrase) — best expressed the sentiments of the woke crowd of Twitter employees when he said, “We’re all going through the five stages of grief in cycles and everyone’s nerves are frazzled,” adding, “We’re all spinning our wheels, and coming up with worst case scenarios (Trump returns! No more moderation!). The fact is that [Musk] has not talked about what he’s planning on doing in any detail outside of broad sweeping statements that could be easily seen as hyperbolic showboating.”

His fear that the “worst case scenarios” include President Trump being allowed to return to the platform and the inability to silence conservatives is a great indicator that he never needed to be a software engineer for a major communications platform — senior or otherwise — in the first place. And just in case anyone is laboring under the misapprehension that his reference to “moderation” meant anything other than the silencing of conservative voices, the long habit of Twitter allowing almost any level of abuse and threats from liberals while calling simple statements of fact — such as “men are not women” — as “threats” and “violence” should suffice to quell that confusion.

One senior staff video engineer made it clear that there is not a place in Musk’s Twitter for his talent, stating, “Not the place to say it perhaps, but I will not work for this company after the takeover.”

At some point in the meeting, some seemed to realize that the angry gripe-fest could be searchable on Slack, so the employees moved their conversation over to encrypted channels, such as Signal.

One interesting point that comes from all of this is that even some senior management at Twitter seemed to realize that having a bunch of hurt, angry, woke-warriors with access to the keys to the kingdom was a bad idea. In response, Twitter locked its source code to prevent those employees from making unauthorized changes that could scuttle the company. As even Bloomberg — which cannot be accused of a conservative bias — [reported](#):

Twitter Inc. locked down changes to its social networking platform through Friday after accepting a \$44 billion bid from billionaire Elon Musk, making it harder for employees to make unauthorized changes, according to people familiar with the matter.

For now, Twitter won’t allow product updates unless they’re business-critical, said the people, who asked not to be identified because the situation is private. The company



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accepted a \$54.20-a-share bid from Musk after a whirlwind courtship that began with the Tesla Inc. magnate disclosing a 9% stake in Twitter earlier this month.

Product changes will require approval from a vice president, the people said. Twitter imposed the temporary ban to keep employees who may be miffed about the deal from “going rogue,” according to one of the people.

And while Leslie Berland — who is listed as “Chief Marketing Officer” and “Head of People” at Twitter — [tweeted](#) that an audio clip from the meeting has been “leaked, edited and misrepresented as” her “views” and those of Twitter, it appears she was referring to a version of the audio of the meeting that was edited before being leaked via Twitter. The version of the conversation provided to the *Washington Post* does not appear to be — and has been *alleged* to be edited. The full audio is available for anyone to hear for themselves:

It's here. <https://t.co/9tWzpKtljg>

— Brian (@Brian95244102) [April 27, 2022](#)

The outrage exhibited in the “all hands” meeting had been growing for weeks, beginning with the idea that Musk might actually succeed in buying Twitter. As the *Post* reported:

Leading up to Monday’s deal, Twitter employees had already been venting for weeks on Slack about Musk and defending the platform’s moderation enforcement.

A M\*sk-owned Twitter is one of the greatest threats to the 2022 and 2024 elections. We are f\*cked if this happens. <https://t.co/ozWltj3IwG>

— laura i. gómez (@laura) April 25, 2022

A reliability engineering manager said Musk’s views on free speech “is cover for ‘I want to not be held accountable for saying or amplifying harmful things.’”

Another engineer wrote that “self-reported censorship is sometimes just horrible people f—king around and then find[ing] out.” A senior content strategist responded, “and it doesn’t happen often enough.”

And much of the bellyaching building up to the gripe-fest was led by Senior Content Strategist, Connor Campbell, who went so far as to reply *directly* to a tweet from Musk addressing the censorship of tweets related to the story of Hunter Biden’s laptop.

Twitter engineer [@ConnorC94096361](#) replies to his new boss [@elonmusk](#) defending their takedown of the Hunter Biden laptop [pic.twitter.com/Q6M9QN0ZiG](https://pic.twitter.com/Q6M9QN0ZiG)

— Saagar Enjeti (@esaagar) [April 26, 2022](#)

As the Musk era of Twitter approaches, the woke folks working there are horrified that they may lose the power they have wielded to push their woke agenda while silencing almost anything approaching dissent. And while — again — Musk would not exactly pass for a conservative, the reaction of his future (and soon, likely, *former*) employees is at least one reason to celebrate his take-over of Twitter.



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