



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on October 4, 2025

## Va. AG Nominee Fantasized in Texts About Murdering State House Speaker

The far-left Democratic nominee for Virginia attorney general, Jay Jones, fantasized about murdering a GOP state legislator, and accused the lawmaker and his wife of raising “little fascists.”

Jones attacked then-House Speaker Todd Gilbert in a series of text messages he sent to the wrong person.

[National Review \(NR\)](#) obtained the frightening messages from 2022 and published them Friday.

### “Two Bullets to the Head”

Back in 2022, Jones was furious that GOP lawmakers were “eulogizing [then-]recently deceased former state legislator Joe Johnson Jr., a moderate Democrat with a long tenure in Virginia politics,” [NR reported](#):

Republican legislators like House [of Delegates] Speaker Todd Gilbert had begun making public statements honoring Johnson’s memory and political legacy, and some of those statements were making the rounds in state legislative group chats.

In early morning texts, Jones revealed just what he thought to GOP Delegate Carrie Coyner. “Jones derided Johnson’s political centrism and scoffed at the ‘glowing’ tributes that were being made in his honor by Republicans in the wake of his death,” *NR* reported.

Though Jones realized he had mistakenly texted Coyner, he joked about “what ‘that POS’ Gilbert ‘would say about me if I died.’”

That’s when Jones derailed, [NR continued](#):

“If those guys die before me,” Jones wrote, referencing the Republican colleagues who were publicly honoring the deceased Johnson’s memory, “I will go to their funerals to p\*\*\* on their graves” to “send them out awash in something.”

That language is typical of the Left, as was Jones’ telling Coyner that if he had to choose between murdering Gilbert or two dictators, “he’d shoot Gilbert ‘every time.’”

[NR produced](#) the exchange with Coyner:

**Jones:** Three people, two bullets



AP Images  
Jay Jones



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Gilbert, hitler, and pol pot

Gilbert gets two bullets to the head

Spoiler: put Gilbert in the crew with the two worst people you know and he receives both bullets every time

**Coyner:** Jay

Please stop

**Jones:** Lol

Ok, ok

**Coyner:** It really bothers me when you talk about hurting people or wishing death on them

It isn't ok

No matter who they are

Obviously, Coyner was more than a little concerned about Jones' assassination fantasy, so Jones called her to explain himself, "a source familiar with the exchange told *NR*."

## Wishes Child Would Die

"According to the source, the Democratic former legislator doubled down on the call, saying the only way public policy changes is when policymakers feel pain themselves, like the pain that parents feel when they watch their children die from gun violence," the [website reported](#). Frighteningly, Jones told Coyner that he "wished Gilbert's wife could watch her own child die in her arms," which might cause her husband to change his politics. Coyner hung up.

More frighteningly, the unhinged Jones didn't stop there. He continued texting Coyner. When the GOP legislator upbraided Jones for his murderous remarks about Gilbert's kids, he responded thusly, [NR continued](#): "Yes, I've told you this before. Only when people feel pain personally do they move on policy."

But he didn't stop even there:

I mean do I think Todd and Jennifer are evil? And that they're breeding little fascists? Yes.

That exchange isn't the only skeleton pulled out of Jones' closet. The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* uncovered his conviction for reckless driving. Jones was hurtling down Interstate 64 at 116 mph; the speed limit is 70.

"His punishment: a \$1,500 fine and 1,000 community service hours, 500 of which he spent working for his own political action committee, a remarkably convenient sentence for a crime that can land convicts in jail for up to a year," [NR observed](#).

## Other Violent Rhetoric

Jones' deranged fantasy about murdering Gilbert is nothing new from far-left Democrats. For years, they have been [stoking violence](#) with [unhinged rhetoric](#), not least during President Donald Trump's campaign against former President Joe Biden.



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In June, the Libs of TikTok X feed posted more than two minutes of video in which Democrats call for violence.



**Libs of TikTok**   
@libsoftiktok · [Follow](#)



Two and a half minutes straight of Democrats calling for violence.

The Democratic Party is the party of violence.



9:42 PM · Jun 14, 2025 

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**Kamala Harris** ✓  
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Donald Trump is out for unchecked power. He wants a military like Adolf Hitler had, who will be loyal to him, not our Constitution.

He is unhinged, unstable, and given a second term, there would be no one to stop him from pursuing his worst impulses.

**Kamala HQ** ✓ @KamalaHQ ·

Vice President Harris: "Trump said he wanted generals like Adolf Hitler had. He wants a military that is not loyal to the Constitution, but loyal to him... This is a window into who Donald Trump really is from the people who know him best"



10:55 AM · Oct 23, 2024



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As [The New American](#) reported in April, almost 60 percent of leftists polled think assassinating President Trump is justified, and almost 50 percent favor the same treatment for X proprietor Elon Musk.

"Political violence targeting Donald Trump and Elon Musk is becoming increasingly normalized," reported the [Network Contagion Research Institute \(NCRI\) at Rutgers University](#):



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Following the July 13, 2024 attempted assassination of President Trump, tolerance — and even advocacy — for political violence appears to have surged, especially among politically left-leaning segments of the population. This pattern builds on a broader trend NCRI identified in two December 2024 reports which analyzed how viral social media narratives were legitimizing political violence, particularly in the aftermath of the UnitedHealthcare CEO's assassination. ...

Over half of those who self-identified as left of center (56%) reported that if someone murdered Donald Trump, they would be at least somewhat justified.... This includes 14.1% who said this murder would be "Completely Justified." Similarly, half (50.2%) of those who self-identified as left of center said the murder of Elon Musk would be somewhat justified (or greater), with about 10.7% saying this is "Completely Justified." ... Over 1/3 of all respondents believe it is at least somewhat acceptable to destroy Tesla dealerships to protest Elon Musk's involvement in the Presidential administration.



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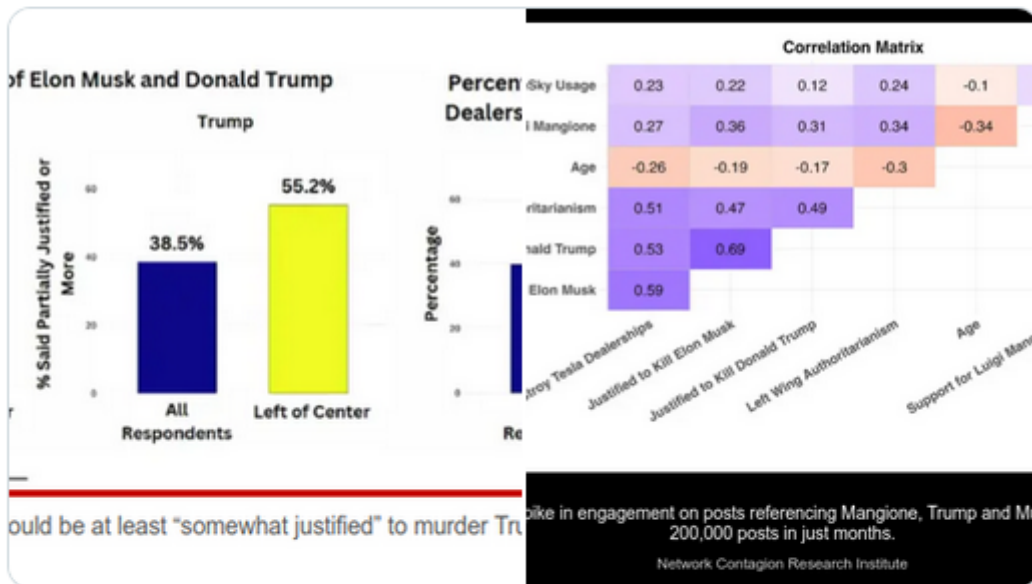


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Democrats are forming an 'assassination culture' as Trump rises in power, new study reveals | Jasmine Baehr, Fox News

A disturbing new report reveals that violent political rhetoric online, including calls for the murder of public figures like President Trump and Elon Musk, is [Show more](#)



4:25 AM · Apr 8, 2025



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In other words, Jones' deranged texts to Coyner fit with the thinking of modern leftists who see assassination as acceptable.



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