

Harris accused of plagiarism for second time

By Haisten Willis

Washington Examiner, October 22, 2024

Vice President [Kamala Harris](#) has been accused of [plagiarism](#) for the second time in as many weeks, this time including Congressional testimony she gave as a district attorney and at least one instance of lifting material from Wikipedia.

[According](#) to the *Washington Free Beacon*, Harris lifted much of her 2007 testimony before Congress from a Republican district attorney in Illinois named Paul Logli. She also allegedly copied a paragraph from Wikipedia in a 2012 report on human trafficking.

In a third instance, the outlet reported that Harris passed off a fictionalized story about a sex trafficking victim as fact, only changing the location to San Francisco, where Harris was the district attorney at the time, effectively giving her office credit for helping the pretend person.

Overall, the outlet highlighted seven instances of plagiarism, comparing them to similar scandals in the past, including the one that sunk President Joe Biden's 1987 White House bid and an instance where former first lady Melania Trump was accused of stealing material from former first lady Michelle Obama.

The *Washington Examiner* has contacted the Harris and Trump campaigns seeking comment.

Last week, Harris was accused of [plagiarizing her 2009 book](#), *Smart on Crime*, including portions that also resembled Wikipedia entries.

Sen. [J.D. Vance](#) (R-OH), former President Donald Trump's running mate, quickly highlighted the allegations that Harris plagiarized part of her book.

"Hi, I'm JD Vance. I wrote my own book, unlike Kamala Harris, who copied hers from Wikipedia," Vance [posted on X](#).

The Ohio senator is well known for his memoir, *Hillbilly Elegy*.

Harris's campaign dismissed the allegations as an attack against her support.

"This is a book that's been out for 15 years, and the vice president clearly cited sources and statistics in footnotes and endnotes throughout," Harris campaign spokesman James Singer [told](#) the *New York Times*.

The book was written with the help of a ghostwriter, meaning Harris may not have been the guilty party even if the material was stolen. However, the new accusations may be harder to defend.

The first round of accusations was unearthed by Christopher F. Rufo, who is well-known for a plagiarism investigation into former Harvard President Claudine Gay that eventually led to her resignation.

“Kamala Harris has been plagiarizing her entire career,” Rufo [said](#) in response to the latest findings.

The *Free Beacon* in August [questioned](#) Harris’s claim that she worked in a McDonald’s in the summer of 1983, reporting that she had never mentioned it until her 2019 run for president and that details of the claim had changed over time. Trump [stopped at](#) a Pennsylvania McDonald’s last weekend, partly to troll Harris over the controversy.