

Uber suspends driver targeted in rant by U-M student

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Passenger Jake Croman has also been banned from using the ride service.



(Photo: Eric Risberg, Associated Press)

Both parties involved in a [videotaped rant](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=12VeNY-QoYA) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=12VeNY-QoYA>) gone viral have been suspended from using Uber pending an investigation by the ride service company into what actually happened.

"Any type of aggression or harassment is simply unacceptable and violates Uber's [code of conduct](https://www.uber.com/legal/safety/code-of-conduct/) (<https://www.uber.com/legal/safety/code-of-conduct/>) for riders and drivers," a statement emailed to the Free Press said. "We are looking into all the details as we investigate this incident and are in touch with everyone involved."

The incident took [place earlier this month](/story/news/local/michigan/2016/03/28/um-student-rant-uber-driver-viral/82339072/) (</story/news/local/michigan/2016/03/28/um-student-rant-uber-driver-viral/82339072/>) and was documented in a video taken by Uber driver Artur Zawada, who posted it to YouTube on March 23. It has now been viewed more than 600,000 times.

It shows a group of college-aged students standing outside a car, screaming at the driver.

Then, one of the students really goes off, repeatedly using the F-bomb, along with a slur against gay men, calling him a "minimum wage f---ot."

[U-M student rant against Uber driver goes viral](http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2016/03/28/um-student-rant-uber-driver-viral/82339072/)

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The student seen screaming is U-M student Jake Croman, who claims the video only shows half of the story.

"This video shows one side of an argument I had with an Uber driver two weeks ago after he refused to pick me up on the basis of my religion," Croman said in a statement e-mailed to the Free Press by a family spokeswoman. "What you don't see in the video is that the driver had made a number of offensive anti-Semitic remarks that provoked my response. I am not proud of my reaction to his discrimination and I regret my choice of words. Shortly after the verbal altercation, I filed a complaint with the Ann Arbor police department and they are now dealing with the issue."

Zawada said he has also filed a police report. Ann Arbor police have told the Free Press they are looking into both complaints.

Croman is also a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon's U-M chapter. The national organization has said it is investigating. U-M also said it is investigating the issue.

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