

In today's #vatniksoup, I'll introduce an American businessman and politician, Vivek Ramaswamy (@VivekGRamaswamy).

He's best-known for his stock promotion schemes, for his staunch support of Donald Trump, and for his hot takes on the Russo-Ukrainian War.

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Ramaswamy is a stock promoter, which basically means that he promotes stocks and then allegedly performs a so-called "pump and dump" scheme.

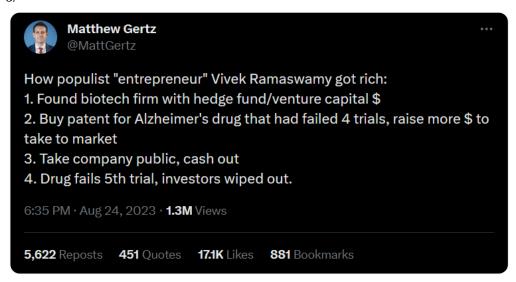
@MattGertz concluded his "get rich quick" scheme neatly: first, find a firm with hedge fund/VC money, then buy a patent for a...



...drug that's failed 4 trials already, raise more money, take the company public and cash out.

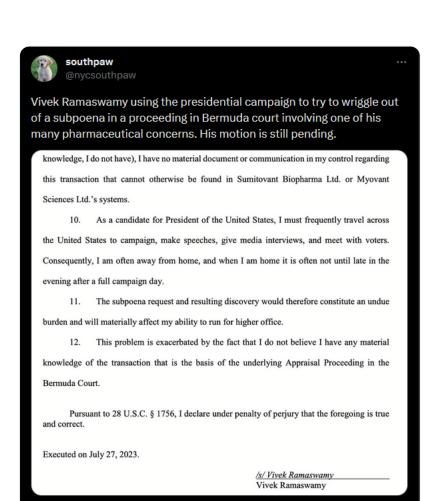
Naturally, the patent failed to deliver in the end, but Vivek and his family got rich so it doesn't matter.

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To maximize profit and minimize tax payments, the company was based in Bermuda - the man sure is a real American hero!

He's also allegedly used his presidential campaign as an excuse to dodge a legal battle.



 $8{:}08\,\mathrm{PM}\cdot\mathrm{Aug}\,24,2023\cdot\mathbf{378K}\,\mathrm{Views}$

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In 2014, Vivek established Roivant Sciences, based in Bermuda, with nearly \$100 million in funding from various investors, including his former employer, the hedge fund QVT. To legitimize his venture, he assembled an impressive advisory board, comprising both Democrats and Republicans, all convinced that they were part of an **endeavor to bring critical drugs to the market** affordably.

However, behind the scenes, Vivek was manipulating the system. He acquired a failed pharmaceutical drug, previously abandoned by GSK after **four unsuccessful clinical trials**, and rebranded it as RVT-101. With no intention of conducting new trials, Vivek used his mother, a physician, to reinterpret old studies, attempting to create an illusion of success for the drug.

The study he focused on involved 684 patients and aimed to evaluate the potential benefits of SB742457, now known as RVT-101. Interestingly, **this drug wasn't even tested on its own**; it was evaluated alongside another Alzheimer's drug that already showed positive results. In other words, Vivek's company relied on the success of an existing drug to mask the failure of RVT-101.

Despite his efforts to present RVT-101 as a game-changer, the drug continued to fail, and Vivek's elaborate **scheme began to crumble.** Investors who had placed their faith and money into the venture lost billions as the stock price crashed by over 99%.

In his presidential campaign, Ramaswamy has branded himself as a "scientist" who has "developed a number of medicines." In reality, he has Bachelor's in biology and was never a scientist but a financier and entrepreneur.

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He is the child of Indian immigrants, and "privilege," he said recently in Iowa, "was two parents in the house with a focus on education, achievement and actual values. That gave me the foundation to then go on to places like Harvard and Yale and become a scientist."

With an undergraduate degree in biology from Harvard, Mr. Ramaswamy isn't really a scientist; he made his name in the world of hedge funds and his graduate work was a law degree from Yale.

While launching his presidential campaign, Vivek's team hired a Wikipedia editor to alter his biography. The editor removed references to Ramaswamy's funding received from the George Soros-funded Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans.

Forbes

FORBES > INNOVATION > CONSUMER TECH

Wikipedia Editor Says They Were Paid To Change Vivek Ramaswamy's Page

Matt Novak Senior Contributor ⊕ FOIA reporter and founder of Paleofuture.com, writing news and opinion on every aspect of...

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May 3, 2023, 01:58pm EDT



INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, UNITED STATES - 2023/04/14: Republican presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswamy ... [+] SOPA IMAGES/LIGHTROCKET VIA GETTY IMAGES

Vivek Ramaswamy, an entrepreneur vying to be the Republican candidate for president in 2024, allegedly paid to change the Wikipedia page about him, according to a disclosure made on the community encyclopedia. The changes include scrubbing the fact that Ramaswamy received the Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans in 2011 and Ramaswamy's role in the Ohio Covid-19 Response Team.

Anyone can make changes to Wikipedia articles, but it's against the rules for anyone to edit an article about themselves. It's within the rules to pay someone else to make changes on Wikipedia articles as long as those payments are disclosed.



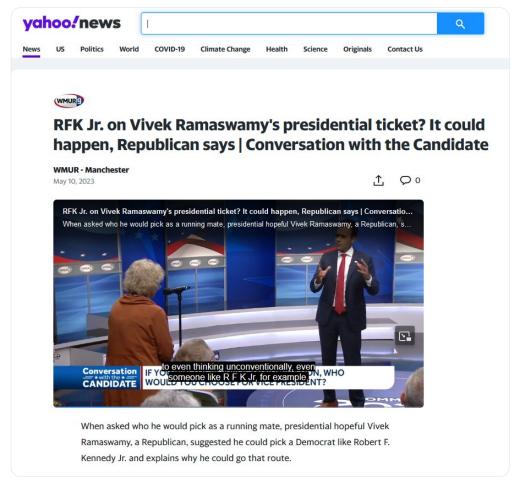
Incidentally, his team wanted his involvement with the Ohio COVID-19 Response Team scrubbed, too.

We can probably safely say, that these edits were done to appease the conservative, antivaxx and conspiratorial voter-base of the US.

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Ramaswamy's participation in the Ohio Covid-19 Response Team was also removed by the paid editor, though it's not entirely clear why. As Mediaite notes, there's no evidence that Ramaswamy advocated for draconian lockdowns, but some Republicans believe anything to do with the response to the pandemic is political poison, which might explain why former President Donald Trump rarely talks about it. The Wikipedia notes for Ramaswamy mention deleting the Covid-19 Response Team was "at subject's request."

Ramaswamy has past in the Libertarian Party, but he supported Trump in the 2020 election. He's stated that he might consider the conspiracy theorist RFK Jr. as a potential running mate.



Vivek's also dabbled in conspiracy theories, when he suggested in an interview with The Atlantic that "federal agents" might've been "on the planes that hit the Twin Towers" during the 9/11 WTC attacks.



He's also called "the climate change agenda" a hoax, saying that "people should be proud to live a high-carbon lifestyle". He also falsely stated that "more people are dying" from climate policies than "actual climate change." I guess he has no time to read the news.

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POLITICO

2024 ELECTIONS

Vivek Ramaswamy calls climate change agenda a 'hoax' during debate

"More people are dying of bad climate change policies than they are of actual climate change," he said.



By KELLY GARRITY 08/23/2023 10:04 PM EDT



GOP candidates during the first Republican debate argued over climate change, with Vivek Ramaswamy calling the agenda over the issue a hoax.

"I'm the only candidate on stage who isn't bought and paid for, so I can say this—the climate change agenda is a hoax," he said.

"And so the reality is more people are dying of bad climate change policies than they are of actual climate change," he added. Vivek Ramaswamy: "The reality is the anti-carbon agenda is the wet blanket on our economy. And so the reality is more people are dying of bad climate change policies than they are of actual climate change."

Ramaswamy didn't explain his evidence, and it was unclear what he was referencing — his campaign didn't immediately respond to us. But data from a number of credible sources shows the human toll from climate change is significant.

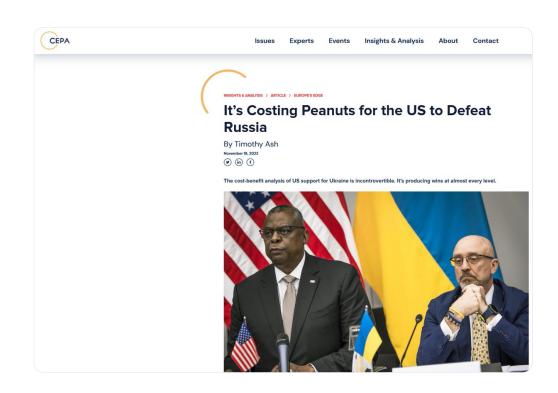
Worldwide, extreme weather disasters made worse by climate change caused more than 2 million deaths between 1970 and 2021, the World Meteorological Organization said in a May 2023 report. The World Health Organization reported in November that at least 15,000 people died due to the heat in 2022. And the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that 600 people a year die from heat-related illnesses, although experts told PolitiFact that number is likely an undercount.

Summer 2023 has set <u>record temperatures</u> in the U.S. and across the globe, with July the hottest month on record. Extreme temperatures that month were made at least three times likelier <u>because of human-caused climate change</u>, one research group found.

His views on climate change reflect how he straddles the line between sounding thoughtful and outlandish.

In an interview, Ramaswamy said he's "not a climate denier," but sees the world's warming as "not entirely bad." He says the goal of limiting carbon emissions is "flawed" and that "people should be proud to live a high-carbon lifestyle." He said "we have a far better chance" of growing out of the problem "than trying to engineer the climate itself."

In regard to the Russo-Ukrainian War, his views have been heavily supportive of Russia's goals. He favors ending all US military aid to Ukraine, he would exclude Ukraine from joining NATO & would allow Russia to occupy regions of Ukraine if Russia end its alliance with China.



MEDIA

Vivek Ramaswamy Proposes 'Major Concessions to Russia' in Contentious Interview With ABC's Martha Raddatz

By **Ken Meyer** Jun 4th, 2023, 12:21 pm



ABC News' **Martha Raddatz** cast doubts on **Vivek Ramaswamy's** approach to foreign policy, especially his willingness to give "major concessions to Russia" to end the war in Ukraine.

The 2024 GOP candidate held a broad conversation with Raddatz on ABC's This Week — during which his most recent policy speech was referenced. Raddatz focused on the part of his address in which Ramaswamy declared he would terminate U.S. military assistance to Ukraine, and that their war against Russia's invading military doesn't hold bearing on America's interests.

"You do not believe that Russia taking over Ukraine would be bad for our national interests?" Raddatz asked.

Ramaswamy stood by his view that the war in Ukraine is not a top foreign policy priority for the United States.

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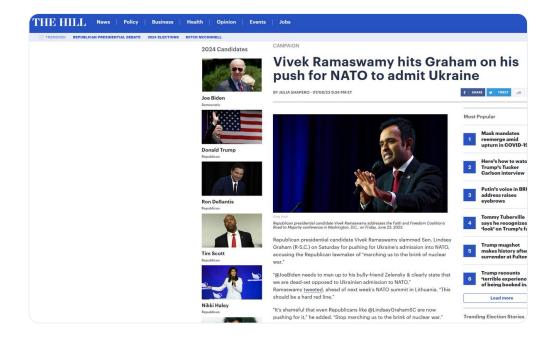
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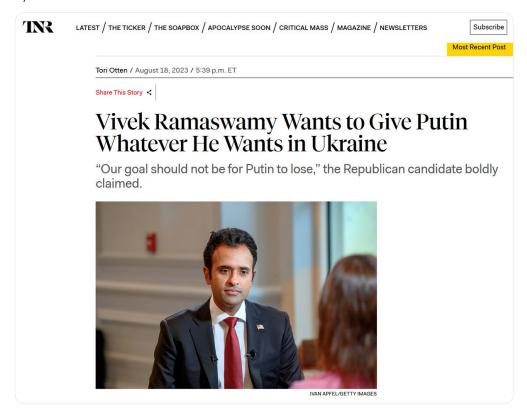


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He's also called Zelenskyy a "bully", stated in an interview that "Our goal should not be for Putin to lose," that the US involvement in Ukraine is strengthening the Russia-China military alliance, and that this can be only prevented by giving Putin what he wants.

12/16



This appeasing attitude towards authoritarian leaders is something that we saw with Trump, too, when he figuratively kneeled before Putin at the infamous Helsinki Summit in 2018:





In one of his recent interviews, Vivek claimed that a "post-Zelensky warlord" will take power in Ukraine with American military equipment, basically comparing the situation to the Mujehadeen & Al-Qaida in Afghanistan after the Soviets left.

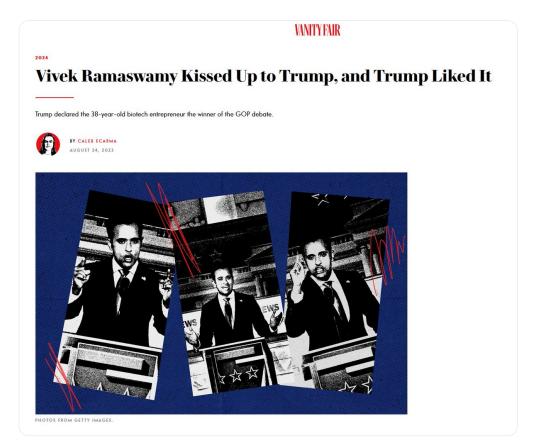


Now that DeSantis' campaign is practically over, we can expect all the other GOP candidates to suck up to Trump, try to climb up the US political hierarchy, and possibly run again in four years after Trump has been completely defeated.

15/16



To conclude, Ramaswamy is Trump's cheerleader whose wealth came from an alleged biotech pump and dump scheme via a company that wasn't even registered in the US. His views on Ukraine have been controversial, but they're also naturally in line with Trump's policies & views.



Some of the ingredients for this soup came from here and from @OldNorthShore:

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#vatniksoup is a Twitter thread series (and a hashtag!) where I'll introduce pro-Russian actors and propagandists from around the world, be they so-called "independent journalists", politicians, mili...

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Pekka Kallioniemi

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