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## Karl Rove refutes atheist Christopher Hitchens' claims

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Karl Rove defended his Christian faith against allegations of being a nonbeliever by British atheist and author Christopher Hitchens. Known for his acute debating skills and acerbic wit, Hitchens wrote in an April 26, 2007 *New York* magazine article that Rove "is not a believer" and that the former adviser to President George W. Bush said "I'm not fortunate enough to be a person of faith." Rove, former Senior Advisor and Deputy Chief of Staff to Bush 43, took issue with this classification.

In an email exchange with Kamy Akhavan of ProCon.org, Rove wrote "I called Mr. Hitchens after he made his erroneous statement and as the true gentlemen he is, he apologized. He has seen a quote in which I remarked on my admiration for the faith of White House colleagues which I felt was deeper and richer than mine and

misquoted it. I am a practicing Christian who attends a bible-centered Episcopal church in Washington and an Anglican church in Texas."

Akhavan called and emailed Hitchens to confirm this information, but as of the early afternoon of February 25 had not received a response. In a release, ProCon.org declared that it was unable to find a retraction or contradiction of Hitchens' claims regarding Rove's religious affiliations. Rove, then, agreed to have his views published so as to clarify the public record. This was not covered in his autobiography, entitled *Courage and Consequences: My Life as a Conservative in the Fight*.

Rove's biography was annotated with the above information <http://undergod.procon.org/view.source.php?sourceID=010559>



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