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Barack and Michelle Obama Publicly Dismiss Divorce Speculation

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Barack and Michelle Obama have put an end to recent speculation about the state of their marriage. They addressed swirling rumors during a new episode of Michelle’s podcast, *In My Opinion (IMO)* with Michelle Obama and Craig Robinson. The former First Lady firmly shut down talk of a separation, saying there has “never been a moment” when she considered leaving her husband, despite public chatter sparked by her absence at President Donald Trump’s 2017 inauguration.

Appearing together on the podcast, the couple didn't shy away from addressing the rumors. Barack opened the discussion with humor, joking, "It was touch and go for a while." Michelle and her brother Craig Robinson laughed along, adding that people often assume something is wrong when she and Barack aren't seen together. "I know, because when we aren't, folks think we're divorced," Michelle said, lightening the tone of what's become an ongoing internet whisper campaign.

Craig added a personal story, sharing how a woman approached him at an airport and asked directly, "What did he do?" The couple took it in stride, showing the same easygoing charm that earned them public admiration throughout their years in the White House.

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Despite the jokes, Michelle offered a sincere and clear response to the speculation. "There hasn't been one moment in our marriage where I've thought about quitting on my man," she said. "We've had hard times, sure. But we've also had fun times, adventures, and I've become a better person because of the man I'm married to."

The rumors ramped up earlier this year after Michelle chose not to attend Trump's inauguration in 2017, a move some saw as symbolic or even reflective of tension in her marriage. She addressed that moment again in this new episode, saying her decision was personal and based on her own principles. "People couldn't believe I was saying no for any reason other than assuming my marriage was falling apart," Michelle said, calling out the unfair assumptions made about her.

Barack, meanwhile, admitted he's usually out of the loop when it comes to viral stories about his marriage. "I don't even know this stuff's going on," he said. "Then somebody will mention it to me and I'm like, what are you talking about?"

The episode also veered into a broader discussion about parenting, particularly the challenges of raising boys in modern society. Barack shared his thoughts on how neglecting the emotional needs of young men can lead to greater issues. "If you're not thinking about what's happening to boys and how they are being raised, then that can actually hurt women," he said. "They don't feel seen. That makes them more vulnerable to rhetoric that blames others for their struggles."

He added that while empowering young girls has been an important priority, there has been less focus on lifting up boys thoughtfully and structuredly. “We haven’t been as willing, I think, to be intentional about investing in the boys, and that’s been a mistake.”

The episode shows the couple seems as united as ever, even if the internet likes to imagine otherwise.