Daedalus

J D

Joined Jun 27, '13 Last Post 1 day Seen 1 day Trust Level member

- All (647)
- Replies (647)
- Responses (472)
- Likes Given (423)
- Likes Received (2845)
- Mentions (8)
- Edits (11)
- Badges (12)

Naomi Wolf wants young women to stop speaking with "vocal fry" 1 day

Oh no someone's speaking with a crackle in their voice! Quick, call the whaaaaambulance. Yeah, sign me up for the I Don't Get It newsletter. Perhaps rather than investigating vocal fry we should be investigating the folks whom it drives bananas?

Naomi Wolf wants young women to stop speaking with "vocal fry" 1 day

Is it weird that I think vocal fry is kind of attractive? Everyone on the teevee machine keeps telling me its awful, but it has this sort of "no fucks were given" aplomb vibe to it in my mind that is kind of delightful. But I'm a weirdo. And also it's not a lady's job to be attractive to me. [stu…

'Death comes soon' to U.S., wrote Facebook user believed to be L… 1 day

White men are just inherently violent and racist and probably should be caged like the Neanderthal apes that they're related to. * Also: WTF, conservatives.

Weird clown startles couple at cemetery in the night 1 day

I'm infinitely more upset by this lady's offended reaction than I am by the idea that there's goofballs dressed as clowns hanging out in cemeteries weirding people out. I live near a cemetery. Might have to bust out the clown suit. [wink]

Even Donald Trump thinks Sandra Bland's arrest was unacceptable 1 day

This response is bizarre. It's like: "Yeah, I think the cop was overly aggressive. But I'm not going to DO anything about it, and in fact, I'll go ahead and make it worse." But I suppose my big mistake was looking for coherence from a Republican, and my bigger mistake was looking for coherence fro…

3 days

Study confirms that sexist men are losers

The condescending sarcasm isn't convincing anyone that you're right or that your opinion should be respected.

Are remote-firing gun drones legal? 3 days

The most recent step on a path to the inevitable push for the banning of civilian drones.

Texas releases full dashcam video of Sandra Bland's arrest 3 days

It'd be less tough and dangerous if there wasn't this authoritarian brutality and persistent racism, though! If your ego is so fragile that the reflexive way you deal with disobedience with violence, you shouldn't be a cop. Sadly...

Study confirms that sexist men are losers 3 days

Fundamental Attribution Error.

How Ayn Rand became Libertarians' sociopathic pixie dream girl 4 days

True. Those 2 book reviews don't exist in a vacuum of course - there's a whole litany of people who have experience with Rand's work. Jill and Milo fit in somewhere along the continuum, and have their own histories that their reviews stands in the context of. Yes, there are many things where …

How Ayn Rand became Libertarians' sociopathic pixie dream girl 4 days

Yeah, that's absolutely the case - you SHOULD trust people with expertise in these things over your own intuition! Like, I was raised Catholic. I would not pretend to "understand Islam," though I know quite a bit about it. I absolutely trust someone who, say, is a Muslim to have a more accurate…

How Ayn Rand became Libertarians' sociopathic pixie dream girl 4 days

This argument always struck me as weird. Like, do you need to get poisoned by

radiation to know that it will kill you? Do you need to eat dog shit to know that you wouldn't like it? Do you need to get kicked in the junk to truly understand what it's like to be kicked in the junk? But then, I rem…

Study confirms that sexist men are losers 4 days

Absolutely - like I said, I think it's a reasonable explanation, but it's no excuse - sexist dudes SHOULD feel ashamed of themselves, and it's no one's responsibility to glad-hand them to personal acceptance. They should be able to figure that stuff out their own selves. It just means that if y…

Study confirms that sexist men are losers 4 days

Yeah, that's an awkward paragraph. To make it more coherent: often, the reaction to sexist assholes is to shame them. That's an appropriate response to sexist assholes - they should be ashamed of their behavior. Many breeds and styles of feminist criticism is thus rhetorically and wisely confronta…

Study confirms that sexist men are losers Jul 20

Seems to be that the suggestion is that BECAUSE they are losers, they BECOME sexist. It'd be a point in favor of a positive-reinforcement-based antidote to hostile sexism - if they feel less like losers, they will become less sexist. Which sort of explains why feminists get the brunt of the assa…

How should we talk about Final Fantasy VII's crossdressing se… Jul 20

Yeah, I think ultimately the message of FFVII is self-acceptance. I think that's part of why Cloud is an anti-hero in the beginning: he's putting on a tough-guy act because he can't accept his own failings, can't even conceive of them at the game's opening. This reaches its climax in Aerith's deat…

Mobile game of the week: Little Inferno Jul 20

It's worth noting that World of Goo had a similarly anti-capitalist bent to it that was quite enjoyable and involved more physics puzzlin'. These dudes make some nice games, though.

Obama snubs NYC's Waldorf Astoria hotel over China bugging … Jul 17

I mean, we'd do it, why wouldn't they?

Man runs from cheetah chasing him through a hallway Jul 17

Ah, I probably missed that 'cuz of victim-blaming being a horrible thing not often used in the context of a joke! Yeah, killing potentially dangerous animals is definitely not a sustainable approach to biodiversity!

Man runs from cheetah chasing him through a hallway Jul 17

I don't think you're using that word right. Like, is the man the victim? He's running, but no harm comes to him and nothing suggests that he was killed or anything. Is the cheetah the victim? I mean, probably running through halls is not natural, but maybe it's a zoo cheetah raised in captivity…

How should we talk about Final Fantasy VII's crossdressing se… Jul 17

I was nodding along the whole time! I think it's OK that Cloud is uncomfortable, not happy with what he is asked to do (this is a character for whom image is really important - he's mimicking the powerful men in his life, and this is a scene where he needs to stop doing that for a minute to get wh…

Mayor called Obamas "monkey man" and "gorilla face", but "I'… Jul 16

Cor blimey, he is like a stereotype of every white family's callous, proudly ignorant, pontificating asshole of a conservative uncle. I look at this less as an embarrassment for Airway Heights and more as an opportunity for us all to make it fucking crystal clear that this is racism, too. LETS …

Why aren't ethicists better people? Jul 15

Time erodes all nuance, fo sho!

Why aren't ethicists better people? Jul 15

Yeah, the Greek gods were explicitly and very seriously NOT aspirational. You weren't supposed to act like Zeus or be like Hermes or try to ask What Would Apollo Do?

That's hubris - that's the kind of thing people get cursed and transmuted for. Mortals or demi-mortals like Achilles or Odysseus …

Why aren't ethicists better people? Jul 15

Looks like the article is saying, essentially, "because they're people." Socrates, Jesus, Buddha - all creatures of myth and marketing. Inhuman fictions, the lot of 'em. More modern moral leaders - Ghandi, MLK, even Mother Theresa - are more nuanced, more flawed, more human. Why wasn't Ghandi…

Her Story, a murder mystery game with a tragic flaw Jul 15

This is one of my favorite reviews of this game, specifically for noting this. We should try to make a world where mental illness isn't regarded as some sort of plot magic that can excuse away whatever twist the writers want to put in.

Church of Cannabis sues Indiana for restricting its religious lib… Jul 15

You'd have to ask Hobby Lobby how frivolous religious freedom is.

Upcoming O'Reilly conference on the future of work: WTF Jul 14

This is a bit of techno-utopianism that I think is a little reckless. In order to transition to a post-work society, we're going to require a new social ethic that supplants the centrality of capital and labor in our moral world. Social ethics change much slower than technology does. It's also dan…

Satan's merry pranksters Jul 13

Part of what I like about these guys is that it's not just "pranksterism." It's not about the laffs. They've got deeply held convictions that they use Satan as a way to manifest. It's a religion (as far as that goes), just not a metaphysical one. That gives it legs and standing where the simple p…

TIL that CEO Ellen Pao is out at Reddit, and co-founder Steve … Jul 13

Hey, my offer for us to get some waffles some time still stands! I do not lightly joke about delicious breakfast desert-meals, they are kind of the only reason to get up before noon on the weekends...

Humpback whale exhales a beautiful rainbow Jul 13

Not so sinister - the whales just got news of the SCOTUS ruling because it takes a few weeks to translate that kind of stuff into mournful moans and clicks.

Why Final Fantasy VII matters Jul 10

Nostalgia is a hell of a drug. Though I confess I like FF10 better from both a design and story perspective, and the polygons of 7 never quite had the emotional range or variety that the pixels at the height of the SNES era had, it's hard to deny how this game affected an entire generation.

Pirate MEP's copyright reforms voted in by Europarl with "Righ… Jul 10

This would seem to be kind of a big deal!

Donald Trump loses temper in Twitter exchange with Modern Fa… Jul 9

I came in here to post about how awesome Modern Family actually is, but fuck it, I'm gonna get Johnny Cash In The Bushes Eating A Cake High.

What is marriage, anyway? Sesame Street's Grover and a cute c… Jul 9

As a complete aside, this whole thing is much sadder with my "Grover is a lonely bachelor with crippling social anxiety" secret narrative running through it.

Movies edited down to only the parts where non-white actors s… Jul 8

I like this as a supplement to the Bechdel Test. It doesn't tell you if the movies are any good or thoughtful or whatever, it just points out the issues with representation, powerfully.

Planes and stocks both freeze this AM over computer glitches Jul 8

Countdown to some weirdo claiming it was terrorisms on the internets in 5....4...

Mad Max: Muppet Road Jul 8

The Wives are all chickens.

The International Love Ultimatum inspires DIY games about rela… Jul 7

I CAN'T GET THE MURIEL ENDING (ノ °□°）ノ ︵ ┻━┻

Judge is unsure that Christian terrorist who made elaborate pla… Jul 7

Well, we can be reasonably sure that the Judge is a threat, then.

Bear in Minnesota zoo hammers glass barrier with rock and shat… Jul 7

I feel like "he was just being a bear!" is what the zoo employee in the movie says right before the jump-cuts of bears mauling and eating people and using tools and picking up firearms and building tanks and marching on Washington. And then a black screen, silence, and the title slowly fades in.....

South Carolina State Senate votes to remove the Confederate fl… Jul 7

Robert E Lee and Strom Thurmond are rolling in their graves! I do gotta give SC a little credit - my first thought was that they were probably going to go all CONSERVATIVE DOUBLE-DOWN (tm), but they've been doing the right thing here. You know finally, after more than a century of endless persec…

L.A. plans to build massive skyscrapers over fault line Jul 7

I can tell ya one thing: I'd love to be the guy getting commission for selling them earthquake insurance.

DIY Underlit LED Skirt Jul 7

She's got a distinctive, deliberate appearance that she's clearly worked hard on and wants to show off. Her LED skirt project seems to be connected to that - something that can get people to look and go "wow" and ask more questions about. 'sides, can't be much harder than talking taxes with a m…

DIY Underlit LED Skirt Jul 7

Yar, judging by her other pics up there, attracting attention is kind of A Thing for her. I can empathize - I do it in my own way, too. [smile] Regardless, I like where she's going with this project. Mad props, cyborg-lady. You get high fives from me and lets have some waffles some time.

Adventures in racism at the supermarket checkout Jul 2

It can. But the truth resists simplicity, so I think we can get an improved understanding of a situation from letting these topics build each other up, not tear each other down. It's about understanding racism as a psychological and cultural shortcut rather than just mocking one racist cashier for…

Adventures in racism at the supermarket checkout Jul 2

I'm not really asking you to accept hypotheticals. I'm just saying that the cashier's statement - "people like that just don't keep track of their money. They think they have all of it on their cards, but they just don't budget well." - is likely including in the group of "people like that" people…

Adventures in racism at the supermarket checkout Jul 2

Nah, for me, it's because classism is a Big Deal, and something that doesn't get talked about nearly enough - and didn't get talked about at all in the blog post, despite being very fucking relevant. It's not like I'm diminishing the racism by pointing out that there's more than just skin-color-ba…

Adventures in racism at the supermarket checkout Jul 2

THIS. Classism and racism are side-by-side in this parade of horrible human behavior.

'No Gays Allowed' in this East Tennessee hardware store Jul 1

Plus, pretty comfortably in line with public decency codes!

'No Gays Allowed' in this East Tennessee hardware store Jul 1

Yeah, all those places in Grainger County, East Tennessee that put signs on their windows saying "NO CHRISTIANS ALLOWED" are really crossing the line....

Video games' influence on popular music Jul 1

Kondo Uematsu Even Koshiro Mmmmmmmmm

Internet preacher: Because SCOTUS gay marriage ruling, Putin … Jul 1

The exegesis of the hateful is never very carefully considered. If it was, they'd have to admit that God is Love. [stuck_out_tongue]

Two chatbots talk to each other and it almost makes sense Jun 30

Lost my shit at "I love crayons, but you are not dressed." And then the conversation about how fat she is while she is standing right there naked in front of you - damn, man, even our BODILESS AI's can't get away from body image issues. [smile] Then it gets a little porny, but good to see they h…

Crashed truck releases millions of bees on highway Jun 30

Nicholas Cage could not be reached for comment. [image]

Rape scenes are lazy Jun 30

Que the defenders in 5...4..3...2..

Animated interview with Ayn Rand Jun 30

[image]

Animated interview with Ayn Rand Jun 29

It took me a minute to find the link. But the gif and the headline and no actual interview gives me the idea of a TUMBLR of horror movie gifs juxtaposed with Ayn Rand quotes. Something like: "The question isn't who is going to let me; it's who is going to stop me." And then [image]

What profession is least diverse? Jun 29

It's frustrating to see so many union-related professions on this list (http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2013/11/the-33-whitest-jobs-in-america/281180/). I'm a big supporter of the good that unions can do, but damn, they don't do themselves any favors sometimes.

CNN thinks comedy dildo flag at London Gay Pride is "ISIS FL… Jun 29

This is a slap to the face of bondage enthusiasts everywhere. Thanksfully, bondage enthusiasts everywhere were reported to quite enjoy the slap to the face and would like to you please do it again.

Video games without people of color are not 'neutral' Jun 26

That sounds annoying. I think they should! My god, I'd LOVE to see a big-budget RPG that even tried to tackle some of the complexities of a pseudo-medieval Spain. Give me the mountains and the deserts and the Alhambra and the cathedrals and the religious tensions and add in a frickin' dragon …

Video games without people of color are not 'neutral' Jun 26

None of this means they can't have dark-skinned, curly-haired characters. The reality of Eastern Europe is that it was and is a place where there are more than just white people. The reality of the world that W3 is released in is that it is a place where there are more than just white people. Both…

Supreme Court OKs gay marriage, ends nationwide bans Jun 26

I can appreciate the "courts shouldn't have anything to do with marriage" position, even though I think it's completely divorced from reality. Scalia can go put his head in a bag. I've got a plastic one I'd be happy to tie around his face and leave there for a while. [wink]

Video games without people of color are not 'neutral' Jun 26

"White default" makes it hard for people to play and have fun, so they get upset. And also: nothing ever changes if you don't get upset about the way things are.

Video games without people of color are not 'neutral' Jun 26

For me, I think, sure, why not. It's a fictional mythical China that never really existed, so why can't it have black people in it? There's no reason it shouldn't (we're not trying for historical accuracy here, you can evoke an age without monolithic skin tone). There's a few reasons it should, in…

Supreme Court OKs gay marriage, ends nationwide bans Jun 26

Happy Pride Week, everyone. [smile]

Video games without people of color are not 'neutral' Jun 26

The international context of this is one of the more interesting angles on race (and gender) in games. Internationally speaking, the US is pretty damn well ahead of most of the rest of the world on these issues (probably moreso on race than on gender). The exposure most game devs had in their chil…

The Mad Max Furiosa comic, created entirely by men, is terribl… Jun 25

Well, that was a fun glimpse of the world that could be while it lasted.

Since 911, domestic radicals deadlier in US than Jihadis Jun 24

It probably shouldn't be - actual deaths occur from slow things and systemic things. Heart disease. Cancer. These are news articles in part BECAUSE they don't happen very often. Also because freak-outs drive ratings and it's hard to freak out about slow, creeping deaths. Also because it serves cer…

Since 911, domestic radicals deadlier in US than Jihadis Jun 24

....I wonder if this means we can start calling Fox News what it is - a breeding ground for and ideology that encourages acts of terrorism against the democratically elected government of the United States of America....

Cable bills cut after FCC complaints Jun 24

...and if you wanted to let the FCC know what these guys are doing to YOUR account: https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_id=38824

Pixar's 15 movies ranked Jun 19

Hard to disagree much with their order, honestly. I mean, the fact that Cars 2 is arguably better than 95% of movies anyway means that this is totally the rich complaining about how dirty their money is, but if you're going to get a list goin', I suppose this is a list I agree with more than not (th…

White terrorist bingo Jun 19

Yeah, I think the ultimate thing is that "evil"/"a terrorist" is an othering tactic, it's how you signify someone wasn't "like us," but I really think it's important to realize that "terrorists" are like us, they are part of us, they are damaged, desperate versions of us. We can't fix that problem…

White terrorist bingo Jun 19

I think that's a problem with the media's use of the term, not the fact of the matter that perfectly sane and stable people - and also the huge majority of the mentally ill! - don't go around shooting others or flying planes into buildings or planting bombs. They see the humanity in a white guy, t…

White terrorist bingo Jun 19

It kind of annoys me that mental illness is used as an out for shits like this. I mean, yeah, they probably are mentally ill! Sane people don't bear such irrational animosity toward someone for the color of their skin! Sane people try not to be racist. Sane people don't walk into buildings to shoo…

Darth Vader leading real humans in presidential poll, Donald Tr… Jun 9

Hahaha, those are all VILLAINS, too, which is hilarious. But congrats to Bernie being #1 among flesh and blood people, and generally slightly positive! For a politician, that's a good sign. [smile]

Why people don't like the word "moist" Jun 9

"Moist Paradise" is my new band name.

Thousands of American kids are getting free university educati… Jun 9

I think I'll ride the Bernie Train 'till it stops. Lefties in the US have this sort of abused-dog tendency to shoot themselves in the foot sometimes. "Oh, we'll never get what we REALLY want, so lets just compromise and agree on that?" (and then the Reps don't compromise and we wind up with rightw…

How and why to default on your student loan Jun 8

The point in disupute is that society should pay for education because it provides better results. Education, in the case of child mortality, is shown to provide better results. If education provides better results for a society, it follows that society should pay for it. What part of that …

How and why to default on your student loan Jun 8

yeah, I got carried away there. Try again, maybe this time paying attention to the point.

How and why to default on your student loan Jun 8

What metrics do you want? Childhood mortality? Are less dead babies a "better result" than more dead babies? What other metrics might you be interested in? That's part of what's getting folks into trouble - the idea that this is all that a student loan agreement is. (edit: removed link that …

How and why to default on your student loan Jun 8

Again: So yeah, people shouldn't be punished for not being wealthy. Morality doesn't hinge on the availablity of leisure time. People who don't have esoteric knowledge of arcane college finances shouldn't be financially fucked for decades because of that. This wouldn't be controversial if you …

How and why to default on your student loan Jun 8

If you imagine that everyone who takes out a rapacious loan is simply lazy your moralizing is thick with ignorance. In reality, many people actually can't be bothered exploring other options, or can't see other options. A cursory examination of poverty shows this. https://youtu.be/u6_scuce5TA , fo…

How and why to default on your student loan Jun 8

Strawman. Like I said above:

How and why to default on your student loan Jun 8

You're incorrect and this has been clarified, Or are you just not interested in the slightest in discussing the substance of your argument?

How and why to default on your student loan Jun 8

No one said it was. But the language of apologetics has a regrettably limited vocabulary regardless of the context of the horrific power dynamic: "It's not the (person who did the bad thing)'s fault, it's the fault of (the person who the bad thing was done to)" applies to a lot of different "bad…

How and why to default on your student loan Jun 8

Great then, we're on the same page now: when you excuse the predations of lenders as the fault of the borrower for accepting the loan, you sound like you've been victimized in a context where you feel the need to excuse your victimizer. To elaborate, by presuming that one can "not play" or "not ta…

How and why to default on your student loan Jun 8

If it was unclear: when you excuse the predations of lenders as the fault of the borrower for accepting the loan, you sound like you've been victimized in a context where you feel the need to excuse your victimizer. The only way that could be "foul" is if you regard victims as somehow inherentl…

Sisters of serial child molester Josh Duggar: when he molested… Jun 8

….damn. Those poor young women and their inevitable asshole husbands… This is how this shit persists.

How and why to default on your student loan Jun 8

Have you see this video of Josh Duggar's sisters? Because you and them are starting to sound a lot alike.

Simple comic explains how not to derail conversations about g… Jun 5

In the spirit of the comic: start with this, and find out for yourself! [smile]

Death of a Content Creator, a short film by UCB video Jun 5

too close to home. [smile]

House easily passes further anti-surveillance amendments Jun 4

Sure took 'em long enough. Benghazi and teh gays and Chik-fil-ay and birth certificates and OH YEAH MASSIVE SURVEILANCE STATE and lets just put a little photo up in your womb before we guilt-trip you about killing your baby and RICK SANTORUM 2016 - "Maybe you have forgotten about that internet thi…

House easily passes further anti-surveillance amendments Jun 4

I am kind of glad that THIS is the issue that gets some bipartisan support around here. As much as I think there's a lot of right-wing loonies in the House, leveraging their government paranoia to do things that ACTUALLY curb the ACTUAL abuses of government is a good thing!

Laverne Cox shares her thoughts about Caitlyn Jenner Jun 4

Thanks for sharing! It's interesting - I suppose becoming a woman and thus becoming subject to that male possessiveness doesn't necessarily translate to a greater awareness of that dynamic (ie, they don't see men acting that way toward them as much ciswomen might). Certainly speaks to the cultura…

The red hot ball of nickel has met its match Jun 4

Watermelon and eggs held up surprisingly well! Nature apparently knows how to resist

red hot balls of nickel better than man.

#GamesSoWhite hashtag attempts race in games convo, goes … Jun 4

I think part of the nuance that is often lost in this conversation is that a lot of old-school, formative game stuff was concocted in a Japanese cultural context. A context that is like, maybe 1940's USA when it comes to gender and racial dynamics. Japan has more institutional and casual racism a…

Franchesca Ramsey explains what makes some stereotypes ra… Jun 4

Yeah, you could probably make a case that men making fun of women for liking Starbucks is subtly misogynist, too, for much the same reason that white people making fun of black people for liking fried chicken and watermelon is hella racist. But it's a more nuanced case to make (something about nee…

Hollywood loves pairing Emma Stone, Jennifer Lawrence, and … Jun 4

I like Don Jon for exploring this very avenue. I mean, Don Jon was a pretty honest movie, so it also explored the problems there, and it wasn't just formulaic. But I'd absolutely encourage more of this thing.

Franchesca Ramsey explains what makes some stereotypes ra… Jun 4

I think Franchesca handles this quite ably when she talks about white girls and Starbucks: "That joke isn't keeping anyone from having equal rights." When a group is oppressed, it's pretty mean to then take a shit on them by telling jokes about all their wacky stereotypes because those stereotyp…

Watch this 12-yr-old boy eat Plutonium (9 Million Scoville) Mad … Jun 4

I'd hate to clean the bathrooms at their house.

Laverne Cox shares her thoughts about Caitlyn Jenner Jun 4

One of the WEIRDEST things about Caitlyn and Laverne is seeing the media treat them like women. And by that, I mean considering how hot they are to be a very relevant thing to discuss. I mean, guess it's a kind of success of sorts for Laverne and Caitlyn and trans women everywhere - to be so con…

US Senate proves climate change is not caused by humans by … Jun 3

FWIW, Johnson (R-WI) is up for re-election, possibly against the dude who voted against the PATRIOT act back in 2001, Russ Feingold. I dunno 'bout the rest of 'em, but that guy seems bootable. [smile]

Teen bullying linked to depression in adults Jun 3

You learn that you are worthless. That no one will help you. You accept suffering, learn it's normal. Depression is how you cope - if you care, you'll go mad. Better to not care. Go numb. No one can hear you anyway.

Politician proudly displays own penis in campaign ad Jun 1

I dunno from this guy, but it sure beats sheepishly displaying their own penis in a twitter picture, so at least there's that!

Honest Trailer for Jupiter Ascending celebrates the film's absur… Jun 1

Man, if this was a pulp book series in the '90's, I'm sure 13 year old me would've been all up in it.

PATRIOT Act expires -- now what? Jun 1

Now Russ Feingold can say "Maybe next time y'all should listen to me?"

If the PATRIOT Act ends tonight, what will that mean? May 31

Rand Paul is probably a reprehensible person for 99,999 other reasons, but this is a Good Thing. Even as a symbolic gesture, it's a Good Thing. This is the JOB of the opposition party - to hit the administration on the relevant things they are actually weak on. Obama's been shameful on this shit, an…

Suicide Girls: It would be "fucking awesome" if appropriation … May 30

I read it. She answered. I accept that answer.

Ice Cream named after Hitler in India is tasteless May 29

Well, that's nightmarish. Fuuuuuuuuuuuuuck certain people in India, I suppose.

Ice Cream named after Hitler in India is tasteless May 29

[image]

Suicide Girls: It would be "fucking awesome" if appropriation … May 29

Hilarious. Rock on, Missy.

Terrifying video of Blanco River flood tearing into Texas home May 28

Woah. That suuuuuuuuuucks. I just...why are those people even there? Also, clearly, climate change is a hoax. Fun fact: Hays County, TX, where the flooding is especially bad, is home to tea party christian scientist SOPA-SPONSOR whackadoo Lamar Smith. But also home to other congressional distr…

It's pretty darned easy to pull off a nutritional "science" hoax May 28

Rob beat you by an hour, bro! You owe us a blog post. [wink]

The whispery world of ASMR enters virtual reality for the first t… May 27

I get the tingle, but I'm a jaded mofo and can't do this for more than about 3 minutes before my eyes kind of roll out of their sockets. [stuck_out_tongue]

Mad Max mocks machismo May 27

It most definitely is a thing most of the left has not taken as seriously as it should. It is like after the Regan presidency, the progressives in the country have abandoned all hope and have been reduced to infighting and purity-policing, giving cancers like MRA time to gestate. When we can get b…

Poverty is a tax on cognition May 26

Pretty genius stuff (verging on the obvious for those who are close to it!).

Mad Max mocks machismo May 25

I get the impression you don't know what you're really on about here, but debating the meaning of a work with the creator isn't the same as seeing only what you want to see.

Mad Max mocks machismo May 24

Cultural conservatism this time around is on the rise. It was on the decline for a solid generation or two after the 50's and 60's, but now we have the children of the '70's and '80's reacting against that.

High school calls teen's innocent rainbow Big Gay Ice Cream t… May 22

Evil Plan: Big Gay Ice Cream should sponsor an Ice Cream Day at the school.

This comic makes privilege incredibly easy to understand May 22

The strip is good! One thing that I want to see more of in convos about privilege is the idea that "doing OK" doesn't mean you're spoiled and wealthy or that you never had to work for anything. I think folks get defensive whenever they see their "privilege" depicted as a kid who gets hand-outs and…

Popehat on depression May 22

....maybe I'm just all politically upitty today, but this encapsulates to me the rot at the heart of most Conservative rhetoric these days...and not unlinked to when Regan dismantled the (admittedly pretty shitty) state-run mental care in the US. ...I wonder now how many of those folks are jus…

Miley Cyrus sings a song about her dead blowfish while dress… May 21

Girl gets a lot of haterade, but I, for one, find the absurd weird cheeky Miley a HUUUUUUUUUUGE step up from the tweenage pop star Miley.

May 21

George Takei supports Taylor Swift, throws shade at Marvel

I suppose it does, if only because it's sort of Taylor Swift's monologue, and the lady she has bad blood with doesn't get to respond...

Simon Pegg discusses geek culture and the infantilization of … May 21

Simon Pegg for President of Earth.

Mediabreaker: remix tool to foster the next generation of Jon … May 21

Inderect, sure. Though it is something that breaking up that hegemony into something more diverse would likely address in the breaking of it - more competition and more voices and all.

Mediabreaker: remix tool to foster the next generation of Jon … May 20

Basic idea is that by only representing male technowizards, you aren't including women in your galaxy of "people who are awesome at computermajigs" and thus (a) deny the reality of actual lady technowizards, (b) reinforce the "computers are for boys" stereotype, and (c) lead to less women viewing …

The Unbreakable Furiosa May 20

But...they not all alive! Hehehe, nice.

George Takei supports Taylor Swift, throws shade at Marvel May 20

Come on, ladies, you know the rules. You can be action heroes, but you have to dress and move in such a way that I get boners from it. I mean, what more can you expect?

Sketch comedy team performs all-new episode of Seinfeld, an… May 19

.....pretty spot-on, I've gotta say!

In "Unbowed, Unbent, Unbroken", Game of Thrones mocks th… May 19

I didn't know they were even offering cultural criticism. What was David Benioff's take on the new Avengers? Did Dan Weiss find The Rumperbutts formulaic?

In "Unbowed, Unbent, Unbroken", Game of Thrones mocks th… May 19

TIL that apparently some people think showrunners that make cultural criticism (what?) are oppressed by "feminists." (...what?)

In "Unbowed, Unbent, Unbroken", Game of Thrones mocks th… May 19

Right, there's no characterization, no humor, no worldbuilding...y'know, it's CSPAN with tits and beheadings. So everyone should run their cultural criticism past you first? You certainly must be important.

Dueling car ads highlight subtle sexism May 18

It'd be great if someone actually interviewed some admonkey about this shit and got some falsifiable claims and data and suchlike actual journalism...I can see it's happening, but it's hard to imagine why.

Mad Max: Fury Road [Review] May 18

'twas a blast. I do wonder why the R rating - it's violent, but not gory.

In "Unbowed, Unbent, Unbroken", Game of Thrones mocks th… May 18

My point was that it had two women who had a conversation about something other than a man in a male-dominated society, which was proclaimed as an impossibility. Nothing here contradicts that.

In "Unbowed, Unbent, Unbroken", Game of Thrones mocks th… May 18

I watched the new Mad Max yesterday. In a plot defined by male ownership of women, and with limited time away from the action for dialogue, those women talked about seeds, about hope, about practical plans, about grief and loss... If you imagine there's nothing for them to talk about other than …

In "Unbowed, Unbent, Unbroken", Game of Thrones mocks th… May 18

Do you imagine in a male-dominated society that it's somehow impossible for women to discuss something other than men?

WATCH: Louis C.K.'s SNL monologue on racism, child molest… May 17

Pretty solid from where I'm sitting. Confessional, funny, envelope-pushing, nice stuff.

Marvel replaces Black Widow with Captain America for its toy l… May 15

Ah! Children's marketing strikes again! You see, if your toy is labelled as "for boys," there won't be any girls on it. Disney has decided that princesses are for girls and superheroes are for boys and that this is how they'll be telling children that the world works. It's seriously about time …

Watch great moments in recycled Disney animations May 14

You could fill an entire tumblr with recycled BoingBoing posts, I imagine! …though this is the first time I've seen it. (a) That one scene in Robin Hood was lifted from a lot of places, and (b) how much time needs to pass before your "recycling" becomes more of an "homage" (Sleeping Beauty / Bea…

First look at CBS' Supergirl is very promising May 14

….for a long time in that video I was reminded of the SNL Black Widow parody. Then she did awesome stuff and now it might be OK!

Video charts women's ideal body types throughout history May 13

This is awesome. A little Mediterranean/Euro-centric, but of course that's where we have most depictions of female beauty somewhat akin to representation from history. I wonder if the loosening hold of centralized pop culture is also loosening the idea of One True Beauty, or at least letting competi…

Female reporter harassed on camera, eloquently fights back May 13

It's a good point. Bad things happening to people who did a bad thing doesn't magically

make them good things.

Female reporter harassed on camera, eloquently fights back May 13

As much as I loathe the idea of companies firing people over nebulous "code of conduct" violations when outside of work, I gotta say, this was kind of satisfying. And I feel much less bad about it knowing he made $100k because holy fuck.

Man sneezes out toy lodged in his nose for 44 years May 13

Mail Online? As in the UK Daily Mail? "True" he says....hmmm.....

The naked hypocrisy of Game Of Thrones' nudity May 12

'zactly. Wink wink nudge nudge but no for real we need tits because the perv audience is vital to our success it's not really porn smile nod. I suppose presuming that an adaptation of a fantasy novel into a television series on HBO would NOT be basically porn is wildly off base of me.

The naked hypocrisy of Game Of Thrones' nudity May 12

I wasn't saying anything with the observation that gratuitous nudity implies that the show is for people to masturbate to that the dude in the article who called for more nudity to appease the "perv audience" didn't already say. And while it's not a problem to make things for people to masturb…

The naked hypocrisy of Game Of Thrones' nudity May 12

Perhaps more pointedly... I feel ashamed by this. If you're willing to pretend to have a position that you don't actually hold just to accuse someone of shaming, why should anyone take anything you say seriously? In refusing to participate honestly, you've demonstrated that you're more inte…

The naked hypocrisy of Game Of Thrones' nudity May 12

They'd also sell a few more copies if they offered them for download on the internet, so clearly there are some standards there...

May 12

The naked hypocrisy of Game Of Thrones' nudity

I mean, you're still posting here, so clearly.

The naked hypocrisy of Game Of Thrones' nudity May 12

Actually, yes.

The naked hypocrisy of Game Of Thrones' nudity May 12

The troubling phenomena treating other peoples' bodies as spectacle should be baldly obvious in its dehumanizing cruelty to you. If it's not, it's clear we have to work on your empathy. If you feel ashamed of your need to wank to GoT, that's not really a problem I can help you with, brah.

Could this beautiful game signal the end of our dystopia fetish? May 12

We've had dystopia fetishes since we've had utopia fetishes, so "the end" is a mite shortsighted. But dystopia has its place, so we shouldn't WANT it to end. What we should want - and what this game might help bring if it ever emerges from its hole and lives up to its impossible hype - is more t…

The naked hypocrisy of Game Of Thrones' nudity May 12

What's wrong with wanting to be filled to the brim with gratuitous T&A? The narrative points to women being more than just objects, but the T&A objectifying women displays the hypocrisy in that narrative (or points to a hypocrisy that shouldn't exist visually if it doesn't exist narratively) It…

The naked hypocrisy of Game Of Thrones' nudity May 12

The pandering is kind of painful. Look, this isn't the 80's. The pervert audience has a whole internet to fap to. HBO doesn't need tits to sell its make believe dragon fairy magic dorkfest.

Finance deserves its corrupt reputation May 11

Only in a context-free vacuum. For the individual actor in the short term it certainly seems rational. But at scale and consistently implemented, you see the thing that the law was meant to prevent happen. So for the stability of the system, you must refrain from the irrationality of instan…

Appeals Court rejects NSA's bulk phone-record collection prog… May 8

This is a great thing. NEED MOAR, but this is a toe-hold in the edifice of awful that is mass government surveilance

---

Can you please stop with Cards Against Humanity May 7

While I agree that the cultural obsession with "lets be taboo to be taboo!" is juvenile and destructive, I don't think that's the fun in CAH. The fun is in the unexpected, the comedy of violated expectations, like MadLibs. The taboo just ups the level of unexpected and gives it a bit of a punch. S…

Joss Whedon on claims that feminists chased him off Twitter: … May 7

Nah, the idea is more always criticize everyone forever and don't get too sad about criticism because guess what, you are worthy of it, and so is everyone, and we all need to accept our imperfections and move the fuck on with life.

Joss Whedon on claims that feminists chased him off Twitter: … May 6

Hahaha, well, you know, I'm American, so of course I presume we're somehow special unique snowflakes. [smile]

Joss Whedon on claims that feminists chased him off Twitter: … May 6

Which is weird, because you'd think that saying "You're wrong and evil and going to hell" would be right within the wingnut Right's camp, but it turns out that the Left can't get rid of that classic American passtime of being judgy as fuck about everything.

The 2002 roots of the Apple Watch's Digital Touch May 6

I'm sure their patents say otherwise...

May 6

Joss Whedon on claims that feminists chased him off Twitter: "Horses…

I agree with his frustrations about the left constantly self-policing and I think a big dose of how we might overcome that purity culture is by accepting that none of us are the perfect people we strive to be - we can only be better than we were yesterday, and mistakes and problems are inevitable. W…

This is what Americans *don't* want in their president May 5

I mean the chart is a little open to misinterpretation - you'd think that a middle-eastern muslim man would have a great chance of winning by this chart, but I'm reasonably confident they have less of a chance of winning than an evangelical tea partier. I'm pretty convinced that the only role for …

Somewhere a mountain is shouting your tweets May 4

1 - Read this post. 2 - Thought it would be a better idea if you could pay someone somewhere to actually shout your tweets into a mountain valley. 3 - Proposed it to 'vestors, now I gots 10 mil in venture capital burning a hole in my wallet. Carry on.

Gun attack on anti-Islam event foiled May 4

Okay, lets lock 'em all in a cage and let Samsara sort them out....

Baltimore State's Attorney: Freddie Gray's death was a homicid… May 1

Damn, that was kind of exhilarating. MOSBY FOR PRESIDENT.

The best and worst fonts to use on your resumé, according to … May 1

HIS NAME IS CRAIG AND HE HAS A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN HUMAN RESOURCES FROM A REPUTABLE LOCAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND LIKES DOGS. I mean, er, of course HR doesn't self-justify its existence by refusing to admit that it's just keywords and throwing darts, no, that's not a thing...

Ta-Nehisi on Baltimore: “Nonviolence as Compliance” Apr 29

Often....no. Fires are a natural part of the ecosystem and a periodic burning of the old, dry, brittle wood allows new shoots to emerge from the ashes. Though as far as the analogy goes, I don't think anyone was proposing that this isn't illegal, just that calling for restraint is not actually f…

Translation: once they learn the truth, techies hate and fear us Apr 29

The thing reads like a bit of a puff piece. The straw man is "technies don't want to work with the defense agency!" That's not really true. What IS true is that they've learned they can't TRUST the defense agency to not be utterly awful. That's an appropriate response. It's on the government's head …

Ta-Nehisi on Baltimore: “Nonviolence as Compliance” Apr 28

Ta-Nehisi Coates is on point here. I'm firmly of the belief that if people don't want forest fires, they shouldn't be playing with matches in the dry leaves.

Watch: The Saudi prince who's challenging video game stereo… Apr 28

The issue is that pretending that you can understand their situation without having lived that experience is incredibly arrogant. Well-intentioned, perhaps, but prone to misunderstandings and oversimplifications. Because you will never be a part of that community, your experiences will never be th…

Watch: The Saudi prince who's challenging video game stereo… Apr 28

I mean, it looks like the girls in his game can drive - they've got a car (and rocket launchers!). I'm suspicious of a male game dev claiming to fight for women's representation (I mean, why aren't there WOMEN game devs doing that?), but pushing the needle even slightly gives others the brain-s…

Middle school principal's (non) helpful email to parents about … Apr 27

This is true, but it can seem quixotic - no matter how good we get as a society about eliminating bullying, I don't imagine there's a world in which it is entirely prevented or that tragic things don't happen. Which is just to say, "we must always work hard at this, and it might never be good enou…

Middle school principal's (non) helpful email to parents about … Apr 27

I am not sure Jason knows what a Strawman Argument is, because that is not one, but other than that pet peeve of mine, I like his thinkin'. And to carry through with his (perhaps misguided) belief that the only valid criticism is one where you propose an alternative, I'll say he should've said thi…

Ruby Rose explores gender fluidity in beautiful short film Apr 27

I dig the change in attitude as she shifts gender expression. From quiet demure confidence to explicit aggression and challenge, it seems to convey some interesting ideas about what it means to perform as a particular gender.

Let the boys of Marvel teach you how to apologize (and how n… Apr 24

I do so loathe the nonpology.

Petraeus receives no jail time for leaking. Whistleblowers face … Apr 23

Only thing that's changed with time is how recently the oligarchs have been reminded of their proper place: at the end of a pitchfork...

Petraeus gets 2 years probation, $100K fine, can travel to spea… Apr 23

The opposition party should be pissed off as fuck about this and making it a 2016 election issue but unfortunately there is a collusion because they'd do the same fucking thing for someone in their trusted inner circle (and worse). It is a goddamn old boy's club and this has not changed just beca…

NBC News profiles transgender children and their families Apr 23

There's plenty of pictures of me as a kid dressed up as a girl. And having a preference for things "soft" and "pretty" and preferring mom to dad and wanting sisters and not brothers. I'm still a fairly well-adjusted cishet dude. Because these traits in kids aren't necessarily signs of actual tra…

Sony should not be able to tell journalists what to print Apr 23

….+1 for "It was an inside job" Sony conspiracy theory… …because it would be really

convenient if Sony could write legislation that would forbid people from talking about things that it decided were illegal....and it has the deep pockets and Washington connections down pat with this link.... …

New York City subway popular with riders Apr 23

NYC is one of the few places on earth where having a car is usually an actively bad idea. And while everyone works in Manhattan, living there is beyond the pay grade of most people. Subway rides are a fine way to spend an hour + commute.

Reporter confirms low-rated restaurant is bad Apr 23

Awww, that interview makes me feel bad for the owner... ....but then, it's like, why weren't you trying for the last 5 years, brah?

NBC News profiles transgender children and their families Apr 22

This is good! But I am...skeptical...of sticking labels on the gender identity of a 2 year old. Gender identity can be a fluid, changeable thing over the lifetime of any individual, and my understanding is that this is not quite the same thing as trans, but can overlap with it (a male toddler can …

Mila Kunis "stole my chicken" Apr 22

In before the "Mila Kunis can have my ROOSTER" jokes.

I'm afraid to die in games Apr 21

I'm just saying that this doesn't make death special. There's an infinity of ways to present a simple, in your face, logical fail state. Death isn't any better or worse than any of them. It is chosen more often, and maybe it should be chosen less often, because it is often used as a lazy default r…

Could TV's current acceptance of powerful women help pave t… Apr 20

[citation needed] I mean, isn't one of the big points of democracy that you don't need any special experience to be grand high poobah of the acknowledged dinkus brigade that is our fellow human? That literally, that guy next to you on the train would be as good a leader as anyone else?

Could TV's current acceptance of powerful women help pave t… Apr 20

I mean, the idea that we couldn't possibly be ready for a female president until/unless TV started showing us powerful ladies is a little patronizing... ....not necessarily wrong, mind you, but a little like "oh, the stupid chimps can't see the baldly obvious logic unless its pointed out to them w…

I'm afraid to die in games Apr 20

I mean, not that big of a problem. Games have been doing clear fail states that aren't character death since before they were on a screen, and continue to do that now that they're on the screen. You can get to "retry" without shuffling off the mortal coil, though. I think you're unnece…

Helen Keller, feminist, radical socialist, anti-racist activist and … Apr 20

Please point to a purely capitalist nation that has done well. Or is nuance hard for your manichean little worldview to accommodate?

I'm afraid to die in games Apr 20

Games should probably explore a diversity of fail states. One of the hilarious/poingiant thinks about Katamari Damacy is that you don't risk death, you risk the ire of a father with impossible expectations. Which might be more relevant to players than "death", which is always an impersonal result, b…

Helen Keller, feminist, radical socialist, anti-racist activist and … Apr 20

I feel like there's a movie trailer in here... RELATABLE NEOPHYTE: "All my life, I've been told that the only way to justice is wealth, they only way to peace is prosperity, the only way to independence is to know my place, and that wanting to share freely what I have with others is the root of al…

Slack's CEO gives charmingly bullshit-free justification for $2… Apr 18

Just that he seems to be saying there would be a "bottom" to any crash his company would experience, and that bottom would depend on the actual value/revenue his company produces - that the stock would only fall until the rising revenues of Slack

would "catch up with it." That seems to sweep un…

🔒 **Sony pirated ebooks on hacking** Apr 18

...+1 for "it was a Sony inside job" conspiracy theory...

🔒 **Slack's CEO gives charmingly bullshit-free justification for $2.…** Apr 18

Yeah, he addresses that in the interview - he seems to believe it's over-valued, too, and that the price will fall, but it will only fall "until they catch up to it." ....which seems a little unrealistic to me. I mean, if the market's over-exuberance can give you WAY TOO MUCH money, the market'…

🔒 **All of Disney's "I Want" songs, ranked** Apr 17

Obligatory

🔒 **Comic strip critiques Batman's odd logic** Apr 16

Yeah, Hint #1 you might not be cut out for working with the mentally ill: you find insanity charming. [smile] But that's just the finger pointing to Gotham's bigger problems. I mean, Harley was considered good at her job and an ace student by her teachers and was allowed to see a client she CLE…

🔒 **Comic strip critiques Batman's odd logic** Apr 16

That's 'cuz this lady was a shitty shitty shitty therapist! [smile] I mean, therapy 101 is proper boundaries with yer clients.

🔒 **Comic strip critiques Batman's odd logic** Apr 16

I mean, if it was just the Joker, maybe. What would be good for Jack is hospitalization and powerful meds and a good therapist. Face punching isn't going to get him to give up his destructive persona. You can't end violence with more violence. Batman can bludgeon one perp into submission, but the…

🔒 **Comic strip critiques Batman's odd logic** Apr 15

"Any sufficiently advanced financial system is indistinguishable from magic" -- Arthur C. Buffet

---

Comic strip critiques Batman's odd logic Apr 15

My first thought -- no joke -- is Captain Planet, whose cornball omnipotence is born out of the efforts of mortal folks. Probably no coincidence given its central and repeated aesop. And not particularly well-executed. But you could probably learn a lot from the ways that series fails about how to…

Comic strip critiques Batman's odd logic Apr 15

That is kind of why Batman is THE WORST! At least, like, the X-men are mostly fighting racists and genocidal maniacs (and themselves). At least they don't imagine that they can fix the world without fixing how people think about the world. …which is a big part of why Americans have crappy h…

Comic strip critiques Batman's odd logic Apr 15

The relationship between poverty and crime is complex, but they are statistically correlated - areas of high poverty are areas of high crime Why that correlation occurs is not entirely clear (personal hypothesis: poor people are more likely to be incarcerated for the crimes they do commit than the…

Japanese game show in which guys sing karaoke while being … Apr 15

I can't tell if they are winning or losing when they...er...finish...

Comic strip critiques Batman's odd logic Apr 15

Yeah, Wayne Enertprises is usually cast as "good big business." But in-universe-logic, you'd be forgiven for thinking it's a bit of a whitewashing campaign. Wayne Enterprises has good jobs...but that doesn't help people move out of Gotham's ubiquitous slums? Wayne Enterprises does charity work.….

Not all South Asian food is curried Apr 15

Fun series. Fawzia Mirza is pretty hilarious.

Comic strip critiques Batman's odd logic Apr 15

Batman kind of makes me angry. You're a charismtic zillionaire, Bruce, you could enter government, win elections, and do the hard work of changing Gotham so that crime is cut off at its source - prevent other kids from suffering the same fate that you suffered by removing the need for the poor to …

Gentleman accuses girlfriend of sleeping with entire Wu Tang … Apr 14

TIL "bus down behavior."

When fashion is frightening Apr 14

This is really a cool article. It's not often that you get the perspective of an "non-native" on what it means to be a woman, or how that context dovetails in fashion and videogames (two areas fraught with very different but still very present issues around gender). Thanks for sharing, Anna.

Artist creates Instagrams for Disney characters Apr 14

Hehe, kind of fun.

What if we limited the number of white men in film and TV? Apr 13

Yeah like I said, kind of semantical - just sayin' that you could totally have a believable playboy billionaire black Tony Stark.

What if we limited the number of white men in film and TV? Apr 13

I think the overall point should be made that gender and race -- and economics! -- should matter to a multidimensional character, because they matter to us real human beings. "White guy default mode" isn't much fun. I might dispute that because I don't know if you've read Kanye West's twitt…

What if we limited the number of white men in film and TV? Apr 13

It's a fair cop - part of the reason this happens is because it's white dudes all the way down, so they don't see anything weird about it. Though rather than "better," I might

say that it's "prerequisite" - you're going to need someone other than a fish to make the show including everyone living a…

What if we limited the number of white men in film and TV? Apr 13

This article brought to my mind The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt, which is hilarious and amazing and features no white men in any permanent roles. Or for a different demographic, The Boondocks, with its predominantly black cast, set in a white suburban world. That is actually complete and total bu…

Big Hero 6 fabric excludes girl characters because boys think … Apr 10

The change is awesome! This is part of what marketing niches do, o'course - when you're targeting "boys 6-12", you ignore female characters because the received wisdom is that boys 6-12 don't care about female characters, because they haven't been exposed to them by marketing teams....vicious litt…

The Washington Post explains the double standard of welfare … Apr 10

The real welfare queens are the ones in the boardrooms.

Explaining Intersectionality and feminism: men are burgers, wo… Apr 9

Intersectionality has been too "jargon-y" for me to really follow, but this video makes perfect sense and yeah, the more unified the voices calling for change, the more likely they are to be taken seriously. Cheese pizzas should definitely strive to recognize deluxe pizzas. And speaking as a burg…

Simple comic strip explains the complexities of white privilege Apr 9

Hahaha, fair enough - though I think the fact that I got it wrong just proves my point about complexity and layers of meaning and language being imprecise (even in science, where it's important to be VERY precise, there's ambiguity)

Simple comic strip explains the complexities of white privilege Apr 9

Great, we have a baseline we can agree on. Light is both a particle and a wave and depending on how you're looking at it, the definition may change, and yet it is insisted upon that we all accept this property of light. So light is bullshit? Global warming will

make some regions of the glob…

Simple comic strip explains the complexities of white privilege Apr 9

I was: having to prove yourself the equal of a white man in a world that presumes you aren't. It is not a binary state, there are levels and gradients. Reality is complex. Yes, it is a multi-faceted thing. Reality is complex. So you think complexity means things are bullshit? So medi…

Simple comic strip explains the complexities of white privilege Apr 8

This canard is getting repetitive. Once more, perhaps. Privelege isn't the absence of all struggle. Life ain't unicorn farts and puppy rainbows for ANYONE. Privilege is simply the absence of certian kinds of struggle. Like the absence of having to prove yourself the equal of a white man in a wor…

Simple comic strip explains the complexities of white privilege Apr 8

This is wrong. If you think this what I am saying you are wrong. If you would like to know what I am actually saying and what that is based on, I'm happy to clarify, but first you must confess that you are wrong in your current understanding - that you have made a mistake, and that you will not pu…

Simple comic strip explains the complexities of white privilege Apr 8

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all [hu]men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. The majority group holds that value, or at least would self-identify as holding th…

Simple comic strip explains the complexities of white privilege Apr 8

How The Irish Became White is a good (though not entirely perfect, and pretty academic) primer on this transformation, if one isn't familiar.

Simple comic strip explains the complexities of white privilege Apr 8

Yeah, that sucks. But we all gots problems, man. I mean, you know how much it sucks to grow up poor, to have to rely on taxpayers - why wouldn't you want to band

together with folks who know that suffering too, and try to change it? Why wouldn't you see what you can do (which might not be much!) t…

🔒 **Simple comic strip explains the complexities of white privilege** Apr 8

It's one of those cognitive dissonance things. "Do you believe that all people are created equal?" you ask the American, and he says, without hesitation, "Yup." "Do you believe that a person from Mexico or Palestine should be able to become a US citizen as easily as your ancestors became one …

🔒 **Simple comic strip explains the complexities of white privilege** Apr 8

...unless that majority group holds basic human equality as a value. Nah, step #1 is to realize that you are never hired solely on your merits, and neither is anyone else. Step #2 is to use that knowledge to make the world near you better in whatever small way you are able. Like, if someo…

🔒 **Simple comic strip explains the complexities of white privilege** Apr 8

Man, imagine if people who have been afforded cultural advantages could be honest with themselves and admit it instead of trying to obfuscate and detract from any conversation about it.

🔒 **Science Babe takes down Food Babe** Apr 7

The thing is, that's not the origins of her fearmongering. Why would someone be scared of Nitrogen on airplanes? Because they don't understand what Nitrogen is, and more than that, because they're afraid that the companies that run airlines don't have the best interests of the traveler in mind whe…

🔒 **Science Babe takes down Food Babe** Apr 7

Yeah, this is the kind of thing I'm talking about...like, the counter-takedown says Also, I think it’s important to note, Amvac [Yvette d’Entremont's previous employer] has a collaboration agreement with Monsanto to co-market Roundup ready platforms. The same Roundup that has glyphosate, which ha…

🔒 **Science Babe takes down Food Babe** Apr 7

Food Babe is totally full of shit. But lets understand, not just critique. The fundamentals of her philosophy are grounded in a well-founded fear and skepticism of the things that we eat that make us fat/sick/unhealthy/etc. - of food over-processed, of science harnessed for artificial tastes and pre…

John Oliver interviews Edward Snowden Apr 6

Genius. In as much as the job of journalism is to make people care about things that should be important to them, this was the best journalism I've seen in years.

Sophie McDougall brilliantly explains the problem with "Strong … Apr 4

"Upset" is the wrong word, and no one was talking simply about "nudity," but it is important in the context of "strong female characters" to note that nudity and sexualized violence on TV carries gendered baggage along with it.

Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai… Apr 3

No one in this conversation. And most relevantly, not the person you've been replying to: me. Oswalt hasn't mentioned idealized grammar in any of those tweets, so your characterization simply isn't accurate. He has mentioned what he perceives to be over-sensitivity, and my assertion that he h…

Sophie McDougall brilliantly explains the problem with "Strong … Apr 3

I think you're right, but it's worth pointing out that both characters exist in a setting that is monstrously sexually violent and on shows that treat nudity as nearly essential. They're good characters. They're also still within the gravitational tug of awfulness.

Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai… Apr 3

No one is asking Oswalt or Noah to have idealized grammar.

Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai… Apr 3

I'd be happy to talk about these off-thread. This convo is about Patton Oswalt, not about idealized grammar, and while grammar is an intrinsically interesting topic (especially as it relates to personal identity and freedom of expression), I'd hate to distract from the point of Caroline's article,…

Watch the Vlogbrothers argue about Batman in song Apr 3

Hank makes some good points, but I'm still with John. If Batman ACTUALLY wanted to clean up Gotham, he'd pay more taxes and fix up the police department and improve the mental health care. But he'd rather play vigilante in his big playground than institute lasting change. But, narrative requiremen…

How Scandinavian players 'killed' LARPing to save it Apr 3

This sounds pretty awesome, but I am very unfamiliar with this direction. Hmmm....

Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai… Apr 3

Sorry I was a jerk and called you a clever chimp. I figured with your bellicose language that you'd handle it well, but I must've hit a sore spot. I neglected the old grade school heuristic of those who dish it out being least capable of taking it, and often struggling with their own shit and lash…

Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai… Apr 3

Yes. The point Oswalt was dumb on was mocking the feeling, not the scavenger hunt. You aren't the give-a-shit police, you don't get to tell other people what to give a shit about, and other people don't have to run their feelings past you for your critique for them to be valid. THAT's the …

Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai… Apr 3

Anything, thoughtfully. Nothing, recklessly. And that was dumb, because that's not actually what's going on there. Noah told some fucking tasteless jokes. Oswalt focused on mocking the people who were offended rather than on mocking the fact that we obsessively trawl twitter for dirt on peopl…

Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai… Apr 2

You're not illiterate, so you can fully appreciate that "not equal" means that the experiences are not equivalent, not the same, not identical. This doesn't imply that any are greater or lesser, simply that they are not equal - not the same as each other. You're clearly not illiterate, so I can…

Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai… Apr 2

"Ranked?" I dunno what kind of pathological outlook you have where people's sufferings can be measured like it's some sort of pissing context, but in the world of people who don't have an ignorant axe to grind, suffering not being equal doesn't mean that it's greater or less, merely that it's diff…

Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai… Apr 2

Do you even history, bro? Context matters. Among rapist, holocaust survivors, 9/11 survivors, Sandy Hook parents, orphans, and the Irish circa the mid-1800's, not all this suffering is equal. Only some of those groups have been systematically de-legitimized when they seek justice for the crimes …

Anita Sarkeesian's new video is about what games do right Apr 2

Just joined an hour ago? Is hyperbolic and missing the point? In an Anita Sarkeesian thread? Oh, I suppose... Wait...huh.... Guys, either the trolls have gone all meta on us in an effort to make a future false equivalence bid, or I am becoming paranoid.... At any rate, excellent vid as alway…

Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai… Apr 1

I hear ya there. But I suppose if the process could've been done the nice way, we wouldn't even be havin' the conversation, 'cuz Oswalt would've been like "Yeah, no, Noah said some dumb shit, but you can have people saying dumb shit, or you can not have people." Only he woudl've said it funnier be…

NYPD detective who verbally abused Uber driver will be transfer… Apr 1

Sounds positive. Not "FIRE HIM" positive, but for cops, admitting that they were being a dick is a HUGE step forward.

Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai… Apr 1

I couldn't disagree more and I think this is the damage that Oswalt's flagrant point-missing does. The concept that "proper progressives" know when to shut up and know when to sit down and know their place is fucking toxic to actual change. No, Virginia,

the answer isn't to shut up and sit dow…

🔒 **Patton Oswalt's epic Twitter rant about Trevor Noah, and the fai…** Apr 1

Sometimes, lefties are as guilty as batshit conservatives about being others' morality police... For me, Oswalt just missed the point. Noah's old posts might've been in bad taste or whatever, and folks point that out, and the response to Noah being called out on that isn't to BEMOAN THE STATE OF…

🔒 **Writer takes down those who mock One Direction's young, fe…** Mar 31

It's kind of a ranking of what it's OK to be emotional about. Pop songs and cute folks are not OK to be emotional about, according to The Haters. But tribal identity and ritualized violence is A-OK.

🔒 **Arrested for same crime, in newspaper white suspects get yea…** Mar 31

Yeah, that is an environment that encourages lazy journalism. That's kind of the point, here - it's not the "factual narrative" that we're concerned with, it's the story's implied narrative. Which is remarkably different for the two stories that are superficially quite similar.

🔒 **The existential dread of fighting games** Mar 31

It's the kind of desperate salivating for victory and the accolades of others mentioned in this article that turns me away from fighting games (and most competitive enterprises in general). In the eyes of a lot of folks, that has made me less of a "man," less "brave," of questionable masculinity, es…

🔒 **Arrested for same crime, in newspaper white suspects get yea…** Mar 31

Man, that is the definition of lazy journalism! "It's much easier to do this, so I'm going to do it" isn't industrious journalism or thorough journalism!

🔒 **Indiana's terrible anti-gay law could help religions that use ca…** Mar 31

ALL HAIL MOLOCH! ALL HAIL MOLOCH OR I WILL NOT SERVE YOU AT THIS LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD PIZZA HUT! Moloch...pizza....hard choices there in Indiana

---

Arrested for same crime, in newspaper white suspects get yea… Mar 31

Notice the headline, too! White People: "Oh, these three COLLEGE STUDENTS did something! It's a shame that these college students did bad!" Black People: "These people are burglars."

Trevor Noah will replace Jon Stewart as Daily Show host. Here … Mar 30

He's good at mimicry, which I think will serve him well in news commentary, and, oddly, is not something Stewart has ever been strong in. Stewart's the master of the befuddled reaction shot coupled with a scathing takedown, Noah seems like he'll be a bit more of a imperious mockery, which is going t…

Artist steals top 1-inch piece of England's tallest mountain Mar 30

Excellent, back to the classics! Anonymous is dada.

Artist steals top 1-inch piece of England's tallest mountain Mar 30

Man, I am looking forward to this next art movement where trolling is an art. It is going to be aggravating and amazing.

Indiana's terrible anti-gay law could help religions that use ca… Mar 30

Time to get the old-school child sacrifices back in the mix. "I'm sorry, my lord Satan demands child sacrifice, so if you want to charge me with murder and kidnapping, you're just stepping all over my religious freedoms, and we know how Indiana feels about that!" ....also would make it legal to …

Welfare encourages entrepreneurship Mar 27

Dearth of money-time, lack of available capital, and a sensitivity to risk, by and large. Can't start a business when you can't get a loan and you don't have connections to people with disposable income to spare on your little project. Yeah, lots are. But rich doofuses start businesses by ha…

Welfare encourages entrepreneurship Mar 27

I dunno, but there's a BUTTLOAD of variables to control for there, which is why these studies are a little better. The same population, with assistance and without, what effect does it have on starting new businesses? Looks like a positive one. Which, honestly, mirrors how rich doofuses start bu…

Artist draws beautiful international mermaids Mar 27

It's cool, but the stereotypes kind of jive me out of it. Like, of course you need to have your "African Mermaid" holding a spear, how else would you know? But maybe I'm thinking too hard about fish ladies. Cool to see some of the artwork, anyway, I really like the fluidity of the sketches and an …

Guy creates video mocking grief of One Direction fans after Za… Mar 26

COPYRIGHT'D! Booo

Book of Mojo on Indiegogo Mar 26

Sold at the word "street witch."

You can't 'just keep politics out of it' Mar 25

Oh, man, so much! But lets focus on some of the things that you tease out. Absolutely, but that's not the "consequences" I was talking about. The risk of bad politics isn't you being brainwashed, it's numb general acceptance. If you are spending time and effort and presumably money on those…

You can't 'just keep politics out of it' Mar 24

The first bit contradicts the second bit. Or maybe more pointedly, lets unravel that "misguided" bit: in what way is you playing a "girl in distress" game not political? Because if it's just because you don't personally see it that way, I would like to introduce you to this novel idea that goes…

You can't 'just keep politics out of it' Mar 24

I really can't believe folks keep tossing around Tetris as an example of an apolitical game. You're going to tell me with a straight face that a puzzle game featuring standardized blocks being arranged in monolithic towers is magically completely

independent of influence from cold-war era Soviet soc…

You can't 'just keep politics out of it' Mar 24

Exactly. The red fish knows how important it is. The blue fish hears and understands the words, but fails to understand what that means about how he should live his life. Which is why he winds up dead. Except, if you really got it, you'd understand that it isn't actually something you can saf…

You can't 'just keep politics out of it' Mar 24

Once upon a time, there was a pond with two fish, a red fish and a blue fish. A man went fishing in the pond and caught the red fish. The hook went in its mouth, and it was dragged out of the water. It flopped and flipped around on the deck, trying to breathe, flapping its gills desperately. It st…

You can't 'just keep politics out of it' Mar 24

It should note that not all gamergaters are horrible people (though the same could be said about Nazis or ISIS supporters). Godwin'd! But seriously: human beings are generally not horrible, but are capable of doing absolutely monstrous things in pursuit of goals that may be laudable. It's all fr…

Turking for a living: the humans who do the work of Mechanic… Mar 24

It's not about the barriers anymore, it's about how much time you can spend on indulgences.

You can't 'just keep politics out of it' Mar 24

There is no such thing as apolitical. Even I Am Bread has a context in history and society that makes it a representative. Even the attempt to be apolitical is itself a political act.

Turking for a living: the humans who do the work of Mechanic… Mar 23

Let humans do work that takes creativity or special abilities and leave the rest to robots. I like the plan, but to get there we need to actually value work that takes creativity and special abilities - and we are not an economy set up to support a class

of artists and social commentators.

🔒 **Turking for a living: the humans who do the work of Mechanic…** Mar 23

The Future of Employment.

🔒 **In fantasy worlds, historical accuracy is a lie** Mar 23

Right. Again - exceptional exceptions are exceptional and notable for being exceptions. And lost empires and the like can give you context for those exceptions. But the point of diversity in fantasy worlds isn't to reflect history, it is to reflect the audience, which is more important than dead bon…

🔒 **In fantasy worlds, historical accuracy is a lie** Mar 23

Yeah, late paleolithic sounds about right. And you totally can have exceptions. Hence "pretty much." Though the Roman Empire was probably HEAPS more diverse than medieval farming villages, not to mention within spittin' distance of most of Africa (versus, say, the British Isles). Still, a "fallen …

🔒 **Watch: Indian comedians nail Seinfeld** Mar 23

8/10, would watch again. Very nice.

🔒 **In fantasy worlds, historical accuracy is a lie** Mar 23

The point is well-made, but I see a bit of complexity in the problem that Tanya D. doesn't seem to see or mention - videogame characters, and fantasy characters as a whole, tend to be fairly thin tropes regardless of their skin color or cultural signifiers. Fantasy often trucks in archetypes and arc…

🔒 **Pastor says sign comparing gays to Satan "did not mean to of…** Mar 23

Debatably, yeah. There's nothing in the text suggesting that A&E wanted to become equal to god, the Serpent more explicitly appealed to human defiance ("Hey, God told you not to eat that fruit...but you totally want to eat that fruit, don't you?") than to pride. Still, motivation can get mixed up …

Mar 23

Pastor says sign comparing gays to Satan "did not mean to offend"

Right. Biblically-speaking, Satan isn't a thing. Mythologically speaking, Satan is around doing stuff, but the moment you involve that entity, you're off the book.

Pastor says sign comparing gays to Satan "did not mean to of… Mar 20

He's not right, biblically-speaking. Biblically, the first one to ask for equal rights was arguably Cain, who felt like God was playing favorites, because God actually was totally playing favorites. One lesson of the Cain and Abel story might be: sometimes God will treat you like shit and God exp…

Arizona shooting suspect is member of white power group tha… Mar 19

I can't help but see this through the lens of race and terrorism. If this guy was brown, or even a member of a group sympathetic to brown people, we wouldn't be seeing pictures of him in high school or talking about how he became a racist - we'd be fucking freaking out and instituting martial law an…

Near-Death Experiences examined scientifically Mar 18

There's a lot of curious parallels between NDEs and hallucinogenic experiences...

In a secluded green forest, a very long automated xylophone Mar 17

That was nice! But at the end it was all [image]

Trailer: John Cusack is the Beach Boys' Brian Wilson in 'Love … Mar 16

Cusak's my boy, but that trailer is a garbled mess.

White House exempts itself from Freedom of Information Act Mar 16

Hypothetical Republican would be hypothetically awful, hypothetically (certainly no reason to believe that McCain or Romney would be any better, and plenty of reason to believe they'd be much worse). But actual Obama has been actually awful and is actually deserving of actual shit being thrown his…

🔒 **Jeb Bush sold patronage and favors to his top political donors** Mar 15

They aren't the same on everything. But here they are probably the same. Which points to the system being the problem. If this is what achieves success, how do we engineer it so that changes?

🔒 **Hillary Clinton isn't the only US politician who used a private a…** Mar 13

Never a list you want to be mentioned in. I don't hate Hillary as much, but she done fucked up.

🔒 **FCC releases 400-page Net Neutrality order** Mar 12

Any person engaged in the provision of broadband Internet access service, insofar as such person is so engaged, shall not unreasonably interfere with or unreasonably disadvantage (i) end users' ability to select, access, and use broadband Internet access service or the lawful Internet content, ap…

🔒 **Fastest increase in U.S. oil inventories on record** Mar 12

I think a lot of the business practices of frackers are abhorrent as hell, but I gotta admit, I do see cause for hope in less dependence on oil. Would that I did not have to choose between two awful things to run my laptop...

🔒 **RIP, Terry Pratchett** Mar 12

The Worst Day. Time to read all of every single discworld novel until I process my fanboy grief. [cry] "The sun rose slowly, as if it wasn't sure it was worth all the effort."

🔒 **Associated Press sues State Dept. over Hillary Clinton's emails** Mar 12

Regardless of skin tone, part of what helped Obama win was that his campaign was about the possible future of change and optimism that America really wanted as a whole. His melanin levels probably helped him represent as an outsider (hard to be seen as a wielder of power when you're black in America…

🔒 **Associated Press sues State Dept. over Hillary Clinton's emails** Mar 11

I don't necessarily share your optimism, but I'd support that reality. At any rate, we can all agree that the idea of Hillary Clinton as president gives a lot of democrats a bit of an "...ick..." feeling, and that this would probably be enough for a rightwing nutjob in a competently-run campaign t…

Associated Press sues State Dept. over Hillary Clinton's emails Mar 11

I like Sanders. Elizabeth Warren would be fucking amazing, too, though I don't know that she wants the position. The challenge those two face is that it's easy to write off lefty coast-folk. It'd probably be hopeless to put Russ Feingold back in the running, but I like him, too.

Piketty on the pointless cruelty of European austerity Mar 11

I like being told why everything is shit by Piketty. He seems to at least be cogently describing reality, which is something economics often struggles to do.

Associated Press sues State Dept. over Hillary Clinton's emails Mar 11

It might. All Reps need to do is demoralize Dems into not turning out for Hillary. If they can get some people who are a bit on the fence or not a big fan of her fuckery to stay at home or vote independent, they can leverage their massive base of frothing idiots and arrogant libertarians into…

Video games' "breast physics" issue Mar 11

While I respect where folks are coming from -- discomfort is fair -- I sometimes worry that those well-intentioned lines of conversation bring the focus back onto women's bodies as somehow The Problem, especially in the context of games or comics that are intentionally silly or joyfully stupid t…

Proprietary vibes: a new dawn for copyright trolls? Mar 11

But wouldn't it be something if the music business was nailed by artists--or their living descendants--using the interpretations of copyright that the music industry bought to protect its own interests? This. The petard-hoisting is very interesting. If this is half as horrible as it seems to be,…

Anita Sarkeesian on what she couldn't say Mar 10

....it must take a lot of effort to maintain this worldview. I wonder what he's afraid of confronting in reality that makes him cling to the lurid fantasy with such desperate conviction.

Parliamentary Office of Science & Technology tells Cameron T... Mar 10

This ain't a post about flawed cryptography, this is a post about some political boob trying to ban (even flawed) cryptogrpahy by fearmongering in an effort to assert state monopoly over communications. KEEP UP, FRANCIS. [stuck_out_tongue]

NYC public schools to close for two Muslim holidays Mar 5

Oh no, an east coast city is doing something decent and noble for its resident population! QUE THE WINGNUTS! "Them muslims ain't takin' my kid outta school!" one obese blowhard in rural Kansas was heard to say.

GOP presidential contender says prisons prove homosexuality ... Mar 5

This would be why we are fucked.

GOP presidential contender says prisons prove homosexuality ... Mar 4

Again: why is the opposition party fucking around with this and not holding the president's feet to the fire about things like surveillance and economic inequality and OH GOD WE ARE FUCKED.

The weirdly common co-occurrence of genius ideas Mar 3

I love this stuff. The mythology of geniuses and brilliant minds and other paff needs a good deflating.

Boy, 8, calls newspaper “idiots, jerks, [and] shitholes” for killin... Mar 2

Wait until he discovers whoever his generation's Joss Whedon will be...

Cookie Monster ponders the mysteries of the universe Feb 27

Cookie Monster: the spirit animal of folks stoned out of their goddamned minds the world over.

Climate change denying senator throws snowball on Senate fl… Feb 27

….waiting with baited breath for the "snowman throws climate-change denying senator on the floor" comeuppance!

Net Neutrality wins Feb 26

FYI: - Ajit Pai, apparent shill for Verizon: Twitter / Wikipedia - Michael O'Reilly, seems to be a conservative lifer : Twitter / Wikipedia ….if you'd like to try to pin down some of the public faces of the goobers who oppose this.

New York at night in 3,454 oil paintings: animated music video… Feb 25

Nice. and now, the album.

UK bans "world's thinnest phone" commercial: "sexually sugg… Feb 25

Man, this is pretty tame even by puritanical US standards. What, you Brits need some elected nannies to tell you that you can't handle a lady in her underwear? I mean, yeah, the ASA's criticism is pretty spot-on, but neither do bikini models have anything to do with the cars they stand next to, or…

FedEx won't ship milling machine that makes untraceable guns Feb 24

I want the NRA to make this a pet project just to see the circus. "FEDERAL agents are taking our guns!"

Watch: Slow moving sea creatures time-lapse is a trip to anoth… Feb 23

I feel like if HP Lovecraft were to time-travel and see this video, he would basically poo hisself to death.

Blind daters wear eyeglass videocams on new Guardian series Feb 23

Heh. Cyoot.

🔒 **"Megacities" documentaries explore the inner workings of Ne…** Feb 19

It has that whole History Channel "EVERYTHING IS GOING TO KILL EVERYONE OMG" tone that is really off-putting.

🔒 **The James Risen case and Eric Holder's tarnished press freed…** Feb 18

I wonder why the ostensible opposition party in this country busies itself with shouting about immigrants and muslims and god and guns and taxes and other obfuscating stupidity instead of fucking doing its job and actually opposing shit like this. It's almost like they want the ability to do the …

🔒 **Cognition, categories and oppression** Feb 16

The more people you know who are not like you, the more true that becomes. "Except for that one I know" might apply to one, but it won't apply to the 5 or 10 quite as easily.

🔒 **Cognition, categories and oppression** Feb 13

Man, that is a list of modifiers. And it's not even complete (what about not-adult?) or true in every case (you say not-fat, but then you have things like Jamie Oliver getting shit for nutrition plans because it's not American to be healthy apparently). I think it may be more useful to not try an…

🔒 **Gov Walker caught lying about his rewrite of the U Wisc mission** Feb 7

Oh! Don't forget Randian ubermensch Paul Ryan! ....as an expat Badger, I confess that I point to people voting for these knobs as part of the reason I'm not around the place as much these days anymore...

🔒 **Family fake-kidnapped 6-year-old to teach him to mistrust stra…** Feb 6

...and ain't no one stranger than family. You get it? You guys....hey, guys...you guys....get it? 'Cuz...hey....

How to change someone's opinion in an argument Feb 5

Is this the best way to win an argument? How about you describe for me, step by step, from start to finish, the causal path from this practice to the effect of changing someone's opinion that it is supposed to have. Perhaps once you've tried that, you may realize that you don't have a good underst…

The pleasures and sorrows of micro-apartment living Feb 5

...an example of the free market at work!

GOP senator: abolish hand-washing regulations in restaurants Feb 5

Oh, Unions were pretty much always "regulated" (Those with capital have always wanted the government to introduce regulation to protect their position, plus Pinkerton murderers!), but I think you're right that there's not a black of white answer. The free market works OK in the hands of a governme…

GOP senator: abolish hand-washing regulations in restaurants Feb 4

Free market fundies are why we can't have nice things up in this hiz.

Ocean Gravity: freediver Guillaume Nery “flies” underwater in s… Feb 4

deep breath Man....that was...dizzying. My lungs hurt. Thanks, mirror neurons.

Philip Glass will score The Fantastic Four Feb 3

Interest level: piqued.

What questions would Stephen Fry ask God at the pearly gates? Feb 2

Yeah, I mean, if God knows all, and Christianity is true, then he's just going to sigh and say something like "You think I invented childhood bone cancer? I put you all in a disease-free paradise when I made you, and it was your choice to leave. I'm ready to go back to that disease-free paradise t…

Feb 2

School calls 9-year-old's Lord of the Rings play a 'terroristic threat'

What might one who might be miffed about this do? Phone numbers with which to voice displeasure: Kermit School District at (432) 586-1000, Elementary school at (432) 586-1020. Prolly the most effective.

Heavenly Nostrils: If Hobbes was a snarky unicorn and Calvin … Feb 2

Very good! I'm into it.

Saved by the bell hooks Feb 2

This is fuckin' genius. [image] Yessssssssssssss.

Superb owl repeatedly attacks jogger Feb 2

THEOWLSARENOTWHATTHEYSEEM

Photos: "The Cartoonish Femininity of Lolita Fashion" Feb 2

So much cosplay at anime cons is kind of like this. Anime itself can be crazy sexualized (thanks in no small part to Japan's rather backwards cultural norms about gender roles), but the women I've known who have cosplayed definitely feel like they're in control of the situation. I wonder if part o…

Gentleman from Aryan Brotherhood who pocketed $6 of Hot Po… Feb 1

Right, but the reason he doesn't HAVE a job is because minorities and jews and immigrants and suchlike. So you see, he's TRYING HIS BEST. He just hasn't gotten that call back from any of the Texas Republicans' offices he's put in resumes at...

All dogs go to heaven. And all dogs grieve, when a loved one … Jan 30

Also, that lobsters can be happy, that ferns get anxious, and that certain mosses, under certain circumstances, display an ever-so-subtle condescending sneer.

Jan 30

Appalling racist abuses and assaults Native American children on awar…

They should be forced to attend classes on native american history at the school, and maybe a class on how to "be nice to others" taught by the kids they harassed.

A trans Magic: The Gathering card Jan 29

Fantasy is an interesting genre to deal with trans issues in. I recall Terry Pratchett doing a pretty good job with this, too. Interestingly, I don't know of any trans characters who partake of magic or whatnot to actually change their body type into that of another gender, but all IIRC simply prese…

Nevermind what Silicon Valley thinks of women, what the hell i… Jan 28

Myth....plausible! [image]

French couple forbidden from naming their child Nutella Jan 26

If corporations can be people, why can't people be named after corporations? Man, this is just opening the door for corporations to claim ownership of peoples' names. [stuck_out_tongue]

Japanese Twitter users mercilessly mock ISIS with memes Jan 23

Sure. I'd support the idea that 4Channers shooping terrorists who threaten to kill Americans is pretty brave, and that the US or Japanese government, if they were to create a totalitarian state in response to this, would be behaving in a cowardly manner.

American student arrested for Arabic flash cards in airport afte… Jan 23

I suppose it's official that everyone who speaks or writes Arabic is "suspicious" now....

Japanese Twitter users mercilessly mock ISIS with memes Jan 23

I think you're too centered on the individual, here. I mean, what does ISIS hope to gain from random anonymous Japanese people by showing their video to them? They hope to intimidate those people. The threat isn't direct, but it's a threat, and I consider

confronting threats with ridicule to be us…

Japanese Twitter users mercilessly mock ISIS with memes Jan 23

I'd say brave because it responds with courage to something designed to make the targets afraid. The goal of ISIS here is to scare Japan into complying with its wishes. Turning them into buffoonery shows that there's no actual intimidation. That's bravery -- responding to intimidation with mockery…

Japanese Twitter users mercilessly mock ISIS with memes Jan 23

This is the appropriate response! High five, Japan. This sucks, and your response is brave and awesome. If those monsters want to try to intimidate you, they've chosen the wrong country apparently! Well done.

They put a Pirate Party MEP in charge of EU copyright reform: … Jan 22

It's big that this is being nominated. It's a beacon of hope for those who want sensible copyright legislation, because it gives a model that can work. Even if it gets a watered down, half of this would still be awesome to do.

President Obama's tech-centered State of the Union: full text, … Jan 21

Man, First Past the Post has given us some shitty choices. Plus, I'm of the opinion that Hilary won't win an election she's in. Maybe, but it looks to me like a Hilary candidacy is just the first step toward a Republican presidency. She is going to monumentally struggle to get votes out there in…

We have exactly one thing to say about Paris suing Fox News Jan 20

This is cruel! The mentally disabled should not be allowed to fight in court for our amusement! Both "being FOX NEWS" and "trying to outlaw Stupid Speech" count as criteria for mental disability, yeah?

FOX affiliate considers saving $816 over 65 years news Jan 17

It's turtles all the way down, man! …for me, I think my wince with the article isn't that its "newsworthy," it's the tone of "your fatherly advice to always save your pennies pays off, just listen to your elders!" when in fact it is horrible advice to follow and you'll

need a whole lot more th…

🔒 How crowdfunding helps haters profit from harassment Jan 17

Depends on your people, o'course. Presuming you sometimes chat about video games, starting with some of the poins Sarkeesian raises in her videos ain't bad. Chatting about games, mention how weird it is how many of them have princesses in castles for boys to rescue and isn't that kind of messed up…

🔒 How crowdfunding helps haters profit from harassment Jan 17

Yeah, people would say the same thing about the BS-capacity of, I dunno, slavery apologists or racist dickweasels. The goal ain't perfection, it's just progress. A better world doesn't happen when people shut up and bear their pain, it only happens when people talk about it and make it not OK to i…

🔒 How crowdfunding helps haters profit from harassment Jan 17

And if your goal is to change the internet hate machine, you stuff it full of shit until it bursts open and we can finally get some wolves in to feast on its putrescent carcass.

🔒 Vox received no threats for supporting Hebdo, many threats fo… Jan 16

Yeah, Capitalism is awful, but it has produced some great art and science!

🔒 How crowdfunding helps haters profit from harassment Jan 16

No, I said they aren't equivalent because on the one hand, we have people run out of their home due to these threats, and on the other, we do not, and thus they are not equivalent because the same things haven't happened. Herp a derp. Unless you are trying to deliberately muddy the issue, that sho…

🔒 Vox received no threats for supporting Hebdo, many threats fo… Jan 15

Free Speech means what I tell you it means, citizen.

🔒 How crowdfunding helps haters profit from harassment Jan 15

I ain't said doodly-squat about response. What I said was these aren't equal. That comparing them is false equivalence. Because the conversation is actually about how GamerGate is a movement that exists due to misogyny and continues to harbor violent misogynists within it, and comparing what t…

Digital rights advocates, brace yourselves: Obama administrat… Jan 15

Like, during empty campaign promises? Which is more than half of the candidates for president do.

Digital rights advocates, brace yourselves: Obama administrat… Jan 14

Goodbye, internet. You were nice while you lasted. [frowning] OTOH, if there's any chance of this not being messed up, Obama would be the one I'd trust with it. No telling what whatever Republican who wins the next presidential election would do with a bill like this…

How crowdfunding helps haters profit from harassment Jan 14

Okay, but that wasn't the accusation, so maybe you could start paying attention? Perfect, nothing here disturbing my understanding of everyone who uses the term SJW to be a complete and utter knob.

How crowdfunding helps haters profit from harassment Jan 14

Pfft. Wake me when they've successfully run someone out of their house. 'till then, this is false equivalence.

The American science-denial playbook Jan 11

I mean, look at the guy who beat him to see what that means. How do you make the scion of a wealthy family born with a silver spoon in his mount and spoiled into adulthood look less elitist than Al Gore? Dubbya.

New antibiotic hailed as a breakthrough Jan 8

"QUICK, lets develop it so that we can inject our cows and pigs with it and keep them in horrible conditions and never have to change!" - Factory farm owners

---

Charlie Hebdo will print 1 million copies of next issue instead o… Jan 8

Desperate. [wink] I like that their response is to ramp up production. Intimidation like this can't stand. Some might say "good riddance," but if free speech doesn't protect indiscriminate assholes, then it doesn't do its job well. More. Louder. More vulgar.

Scarlett Johansson to star in live-action "Ghost in the Shell" m… Jan 5

Kind of depends on what they do with it. Like, they can't re-create the anime, but they could tell the same story in a new way that honors what has come before. At its core, these are crime dramas, and that's a story Hollywood can tell, even if the antagonist is a sentient AI and S-Jo plays a cybern…

Finding out that you're not the Rebel Alliance, you're actua… Dec 31, '14

Yeah, after recognizing that injustice is personal and that a lack of universality doesn't de-legitimize, it is an important step to go beyond bemoaning and listing the injustices. But labeling privilege isn't about putting the blame on the privileged any more than it is about a suffering pissing …

WATCH: Designer uses nose and lips instead of hands Dec 31, '14

Oh sure, when she does this with her nose and lips, she's a genius, but when I pull down my pants in the office and rub my turgid wang all over people's trackpads I'M AN HR VIOLATION. Ugh. Such a double standard. Such a cross to bear as a man with an innovative design sensibility.

Finding out that you're not the Rebel Alliance, you're actua… Dec 31, '14

I don't know if you realize that the concept of a SJW is a phantasmal bogeyman invented to hide in the closets of ignorant people and scare them into tacitly supporting a corrupt system.

Finding out that you're not the Rebel Alliance, you're actua… Dec 31, '14

There's a lot of good to be gained from his line of thinking, but I think he blurs white privilege and male privilege together until it obfuscates the real difference between them. Male privilege isn't as much about economics as white privilege -- men and women exist at all economic levels. Which …

This year's flu vaccine is not working Dec 31, '14

Could be a lot of things. Viruses tend to like warmer places (though this doesn't necessarily explain WI and MN). The mutated strains might've appeared first there. General health infrastructure might be worse, so the things that pop up might be more prone to spread to more people before anyone th…

Finding out that you're not the Rebel Alliance, you're actua… Dec 31, '14

Gender dynamics in tech are less about class directly than the race dynamics are. Upper-class and middle-class boys had access to the world of tech and the world of education in a way that girls from the same economic strata did not. Laurie Penny is making the case that just because you were pers…

'Put aside the protests,' NYC mayor tells (orders?) citizens … Dec 22, '14

Replace "policy" with "practice" and the officers drawing this conclusion would be entirely correct. Which is, again, why the issue is a deeper rot than an individual officer's abhorrent dehumanization of others.

'Put aside the protests,' NYC mayor tells (orders?) citizens … Dec 22, '14

One officer killing an unarmed civilian is a matter of individual officers. Dozens of unrelated officers across the nation are killing unarmed civilians, and we have a systemic issue plaguing the collective. What about attacking the root of the problem and not excusing the system due to a few …

'Put aside the protests,' NYC mayor tells (orders?) citizens … Dec 22, '14

The day is today. The time is now. If you want to prevent deaths like this, the only way to do it is by holding the police actually accountable for their actions. Anything else is just kicking the ball down the road.

The 20 games you shouldn't miss in 2014 Dec 22, '14

All of the videos are muted and I don't understand?!

Dec 19, '14

Cops cancel "let us search your house for guns" program

Heh. One of my dad's old co-workers, this was. Beloit, man. Some crazy ideas come out of my hometown.

Spectacular, weird horror movie as pharma infomercial Dec 18, '14

The AS people have a tendency to love non sequitur. They're dadaists at heart, delighting in the inherent absurdity of their medium. If anything, I would say that "Too Many Cooks" showed a surprising amount of coherence for them (in space? in a cartoon? SMARF?! ALL RIGHT THEN). This kind of meanin…

Derby the dog runs with the help of 3D printing Dec 17, '14

An emotional carapace! COME ON! You can't 3D-print emotions. ....although that does sound like something that might pop up in a scifi novel.

WATCH: Sneak preview of the last episode of Serial Dec 17, '14

Folks is gonna hafta wrestle with the unknowable vagaries of life come Thursday. Internet's not gonna be happy.

Spectacular, weird horror movie as pharma infomercial Dec 17, '14

Also, wangs. Hur hur.

New threat from Sony Pictures hackers: “Remember the 11t… Dec 16, '14

Most of me wants to say "LOL North Korea," but the main thing I remember about 9/11/01 was that a pack of goofballs with an insane plan out of an action movie actually did something horrible, so it's actually a little unnerving. Still, making me feel that watching a probably-awful Seth Rogan movi…

Barbaric, backwards ancestor worship Dec 16, '14

Since it's part of what is at work whenever some group expounds upon the "correct" way to use a language, yeah, it's pretty necessary. Class dynamics are at work, too,

but at least we can TALK about the race stuff.

Why it matters whether or not torture works Dec 15, '14

I think the reason it matters whether or not torture works is because we can see the goal here was pure sadism. The people who perpetrated these horrors on other human beings wanted to see other people suffer. They didn't want information, and they didn't really want confessions (you'd think there…

Wealth of white U.S. families is 13 times greater than media… Dec 12, '14

I imagine this is in part because 99% of the wealthiest knobs on the planet are among the pale. If only it wasn't so easy for those wealthy knobs to drive a wedge between poor people based on their skin colors, it might not be so hard to get them to be more equitable.

US Christian terrorism: the other white meat Dec 12, '14

Silly Cory. You misunderstand! "Islam" is code for "Foreign!" Ratcheting people up about Islamic terrorism is ratcheting them up politically to oppose things like "not going to war" and "having a sensible immigration policy." I mean, we've gotta have the people afraid of something.

Parable of the Polygons: segregation and "slight" racism Dec 10, '14

Hahaha, no need for all that, just go have an uncomfortable conversation about racism with someone who doesn't share your politics and we'll call it even! Well, jumping into traffic might be less painful, come to think...

Meet James Mitchell, CIA's post-9/11 torture architect whos… Dec 10, '14

Florida. Criminey. The guy seems to have that slightly more nuanced take than I'd originally suspected, but still can't see the moral line that he (and those who went along with him) crossed in the utter dehumanization of people that are at your mercy. His argument basically seems to boil down t…

Parable of the Polygons: segregation and "slight" racism Dec 9, '14

I don't understand how my position of "not the most precise use of the term, but don't

let that distract from the good the post is doing" doesn't demonstrate that acceptance? Not eliminating the "common usage," just pointing out that the "common usage" has problems (though not problems so lar…

🔒 **Parable of the Polygons: segregation and "slight" racism** Dec 9, '14

Nah. I'm just trying to make the case that saying "I'm not racist because I think black people are just the same as white people" is only Step 1. There's a whole context for this thing that still needs to be dismantled. Notably, I'm not saying anything about the main point of the blog post. Lik…

🔒 **Parable of the Polygons: segregation and "slight" racism** Dec 9, '14

Acknowledging the problem but feeling futile in the face of it > not acknowledging the problem. Once enough people are on the left side of that equation, we can move toward doing something about it.

🔒 **Parable of the Polygons: segregation and "slight" racism** Dec 9, '14

It's kind of the opposite, though. If racism is just in your head, cognitive biases come into play and reaffirm that of course you, yourself, are not racist, and so, of course, because you don't hate black people, everything you do is fine. That's a mentality that actually exists for a LOT of folk…

🔒 **Parable of the Polygons: segregation and "slight" racism** Dec 9, '14

Certainly! But use of the term like this conflates simple prejudice with systemic bias and makes folks able to entertain the idea that the "aren't racist" because they have some black friends while saying that, I dunno, stop and frisk isn't racist because it happens to white people sometimes, too.…

🔒 **Parable of the Polygons: segregation and "slight" racism** Dec 8, '14

His use of the term "racism" in the heading to denote prejudice rather than a system is not accurate, yes. It is counter to the goals of fighting racism to make the perfect the enemy of the good. The thing the post points to is a worthy thing, and posting about it on BB is reaching a large audie…

🔒 **Parable of the Polygons: segregation and "slight" racism** Dec 8, '14

Think of the way a river flows. Now think of what sewage systems were like for most of recorded Western history. Now tell me what end of the river you'd prefer to be on.

Parable of the Polygons: segregation and "slight" racism Dec 8, '14

Nice! A good starting point. The word "parable" really should've keyed you off to that.

Grumpy Cat makes more money than Gwyneth Paltrow Dec 8, '14

We live in an era where memes get turned into movies. Welp!

Did this 1975 anime inspire Disney's Little Mermaid? Dec 8, '14

Oh, olde tyme fairy tales, your moralizing on how people should not disobey authority is so reassuringly anvilicious! The interesting thing about this for me is that the reason this was an anime before it was a Disney was probably because of the popularity of Dutch fairy tales in Japan after the …

National Response Center: now THAT's a logo Dec 5, '14

Protecting America from skeletons with downs syndrome, nuclear energy, pepsisplosions, bad hair days, licorice plants that jump into your awaiting hand, 1980's-era heavy metal band Biohazard, and misaligned typography. The NRC: your most essential resource.

In Wayzata, Minnesota, a school spies on its students Dec 5, '14

There might be different working definitions. I see the presence of a filtering system in the first place to be pretty pointlessly paranoid. I appreciate now that there's requirements that fall onto folks in your position from above, but that just changes the target of the attention. Ultimately, t…

In Wayzata, Minnesota, a school spies on its students Dec 4, '14

I think part of the issue is that it's kind of a waste of time and energy to be overly paranoid that it's not. Ultimately, you can't effectively police this stuff. You need to make the students self-policing, relying on intrinsic motivation, not extrinsic

limitations. Like putting in a firewall …

In Wayzata, Minnesota, a school spies on its students Dec 3, '14

Much appreciated clarity, Nathan, thanks. Not that shocking that the administration basically abdicates tech decisions to the people they've hired for it (not the most responsible thing, but at least not actively horrible). Looks like we've got Wade Phillips and the policy board to most directly…

In Wayzata, Minnesota, a school spies on its students Dec 3, '14

I'm infuriated that the school is wasting time and money on pointless firewalls, censorware, and spyware in their technology while wasting even MORE time and money harassing a kid for being smart enough to get his education in any way he can. They are paying authoritarian fools to be ineffective a…

In Wayzata, Minnesota, a school spies on its students Dec 3, '14

That's fine. They'll know that people are watching. And then it'll be up to them if they've got something to hide or not.

In Wayzata, Minnesota, a school spies on its students Dec 3, '14

It is WILDLY irresponsible to operate under a mantra of "if you've got nothing to hide, you should not fear surveillance." If you disagree, by all means, post your credit card information and home address. Unless you're doing something you shouldn't with them, that is?

In Wayzata, Minnesota, a school spies on its students Dec 3, '14

It's a fair point. Read them the kid's side of the story, see what they say! Ask them if it's true! And THEN ask them why they are using the same logic used in Communist Germany to spy on innocent people to watch kids in their school district...if it's true...

In Wayzata, Minnesota, a school spies on its students Dec 3, '14

Cor, this is infuriating. Thankfully, there's stuff you can do if you're as incensed by this as I am. School contact information: http://www.wayzata.k12.mn.us/Page/1093 (I recommend calling!) School board: http://www.wayzata.k12.mn.us/Page/890

(specifically, Linda Cohen, who is the chair on po…

---

25 Invisible Benefits of Gaming While Male Dec 2, '14

Important video! And cool to see it coming to men, from men -- interesting twist, that. But, it's a little...surface. I might've enjoyed a more in-depth take on fewer items rather than a list-blast that doesn't make me stop and think. Like #1. Totally TRUE! As a dude gamer, I've got the luxury of…

The hidden history of gay country music Dec 2, '14

MY FAVORITE PART IS THE SUBTLETY! IT IS SO GENTLE AND EASY TO MISS, LIKE A FREIGHT TRAIN. Heh.

All you need to know about racism in America is in this one … Dec 2, '14

This American Life did an interesting story on why different tribes might be motivated toward different thresholds for membership that drives home the arbitrariness of race pretty nicely: **http://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/491/tribes?act=1** Radiolab also has an interesting st…

Creationist "just can't" with museum's evolution propaganda Dec 1, '14

You seem to take it as a given that evolution by natural selection is (1) a cruel and amoral process with (2) a possible alternative. Christians who embrace evolution would challenge those points by saying that (1) the purpose of evolution is to create a creature capable of morality, making it a p…

All you need to know about racism in America is in this one … Dec 1, '14

Shortly, he can claim to be whatever he feels like claiming to be. People will accept his claim or not depending on their own views on what he is. There isn't a "real" answer because race isn't a "real" thing. That can be a counter-intuitive idea, so let me try and break it down a bit: when you…

Creationist "just can't" with museum's evolution propaganda Dec 1, '14

Well, from the perspective of a lot of the more coherent Chrisitan viewpoints, death isn't something that happens to souls, it just happens to bodies, which are flawed and

fragile because we live in a world dominated by evil. Most animals aren't capable of having souls, which means they are kind o…

All you need to know about racism in America is in this one … Dec 1, '14

It's not blaming you for what others have done. It's blaming you for not realizing what others have done, and the advantages that gives you (whether you asked for them or not). That is a great place to start. To build on this, an important part of "seeing racism" is looking at your life, and …

All you need to know about racism in America is in this one … Dec 1, '14

Prejudice is not the same thing as racism. People can be prejudiced for all sorts of reasons. It takes a structure to create and perpetuate racism.

Creationist "just can't" with museum's evolution propaganda Dec 1, '14

It tends to be a sadder state of affairs than this. The Bible is a nuanced document and people of legitimate faith have been able to read it in a way that accounts for evolution without contradicting its "big-T-Truth" for them. See, for instance, the Catholics, who are quite comfortable with the…

Great treatment of trans characters in Dragon Age Inquisition Nov 27, '14

I also don't play games with biological characters or a coherent narrative or comprehensible rules. Only abstract modernist impressionist shape-games with no identifiable people or storyline where button presses are only tangentially and arbitrarily related to in-game outcomes for me, thanks!

Dungeons & Dragons & Philosophy Nov 25, '14

PLANESCAPE PLANESCAPE PLANESCAPE PLANESCAPE PLANESCAPE That is all.

Dead Raisers, a traveling band of evangelical resurrectors Nov 24, '14

One should seriously doubt that, if one is being reasonable and honest. In fact, the only reason one should NOT doubt that is if one has a particular brand of blind, un-Christian faith. Because the Bible instructs those who believe in it to not have such a

faith (1 Thessalonians 5:21 for example),…

🔒 **Meet Feminist Hacker Barbie, avenger of girl nerds** Nov 21, '14

Smalltalk is for Turing-complete AI's. Feminist Hacker Barbie's got shit to do.

🔒 **Valencia FC' soccer team's new logo mysteriously familiar** Nov 21, '14

Wait, do those pillars spell out LOL? Oh, Valencia, trollin' the future.

🔒 **Video: She & Him cover Dusty Springfield** Nov 21, '14

Zooey Deschanel, M. Ward, and 1960's AM Radio? Toss this on the jukebox in a gentrified neighborhood in what was once a genuine dive bar, and you may just have achieved the Hipster Singularity!

🔒 **Leaked docs detail Big Oil and Big PR's plans for a opinion…** Nov 21, '14

"....and we will call it Fox News!"

🔒 **Newscasters' purple preference during elections** Nov 14, '14

All your sanity and wits, they will all vanish, I promise. It's just a matter of time.

🔒 **Butt Dance: classic GIF and video #butts #butts #butts** Nov 13, '14

After farting around on youtube, it's pretty crystal that this is Pendleton. Which makes it even cooler. Makin' braincandy since at least 2000!

🔒 **Americans believe things** Nov 13, '14

Rupert Murdoch Perfect Storm: The unemployed, pregnant Muslim teenager was arrested for a grisly murder last week....

🔒 **Forever 21 Meets The Fountainhead** Nov 12, '14

Well, what would Rand tell those who aren't born enlightened to do? Those parasites at the bus stop are clearly dragging retchdog down, overall.

Forever 21 Meets The Fountainhead Nov 12, '14

I've heard that quote a lot from the douchiest douches in my professional experience, but never knew it was from Rand. Those guys now trouble me more deeply…

The Oatmeal to Ted Cruz: Net Neutrality is not Obamacare Nov 11, '14

Ted Cruz is the Obamacare of the Senate.

Net Neutrality activists blockade FCC Chairman Wheeler's h… Nov 11, '14

"Nice house ya got here. Almost quaint. I bet you're real thankful to the lobbyists who paid for it. Real thankful. Maybe even think you owe them something. For this nice. house. Oh, is that a ground level window? No, no, no reason. Bet it lets in a lot of light. So it's hard to hide in the dark….

The truth about the dungeon master who disappeared in th… Nov 11, '14

Satanic Panic has ruined so many lives. So many innocent kids who just "don't fit in" completely ruined by an out-of-control religious extremism. I feel like this is getting better, but the people who were in their 20's when this happened are the goofballs pushing right-wing lunacy on us today in of…

A guide to Serial: the best podcast in the world Nov 10, '14

I still like some better (Radiolab, TAL, 99%I), but Serial is very good! It's a little frustrating, because I get the sense that there's never going to be a real payoff for all this work. It's pretty clear we won't know the truth at the end ('cuz, y'know, reality), which makes me wonder what we're b…

WATCH: The first two episodes of Natasha Allegri's Bee an… Nov 10, '14

It's QUITE good. A+

Obama tells the FCC to class the Internet (including mobile… Nov 10, '14

Step 1: Fire Tom Wheeler?

Obama's "Plan for a Free and Open Internet" Nov 10, '14

I don't know why he doesn't just say "these guys should be common carriers," since that's basically the plan he outlines. But isn't the president in control of the appointment of the FCC's bigwigs? So didn't he put us in this dangerously precarious position to begin with, where the guy in charge …

The snacking, sassy heroism of Madeleine Flores's Help Us … Nov 7, '14

This is hilarious and awesome.

Brianna Wu explains why #gamergate death-threats won't s… Nov 6, '14

I love this lady. I worry a bit about the "pink ghetto," though. If devs make games "for" 40-year-old mothers, and it's clear that this market segment is who the game is "for," then it still won't reach the 13 year old dinkuses, and you'll just have a "separate but equal" zone. But if they make a …

WATCH: suspicious roadblock Nov 6, '14

Unfortunate Superhero Name #63: Prostate Man!

StoryShift is a new storytelling medium. Why hasn't it caugh… Nov 5, '14

I'm reminded of how MSPaint Adventures started. Hussie moved away from audience participation, but I've always wondered how this might turn out in the hands of authors who moved the other way and owned it.

Gamergate's color scheme is a rape joke Nov 3, '14

I think saying "they might not know it" is giving them too little credit. The lulz run deep over there.

Putting your foot in your mouth Oct 28, '14

New favorite web series. BUSINESS WORK.

Popehat's #Gamergate rants Oct 27, '14

Nuanced and fairly rational, so sure, a good view. I wonder how much benefit-of-the-doubt they'd continue to give Gaters if they knew the stats showing that it is overwhelmingly about harassing certain female game devs more than anything else, but allowing for the hypothetical possibility that no…

The Dalai Lama Will Not Return to Lead Tibet (He Has Some… Oct 24, '14

It's gotta be an interesting position, to be deciding how to thwart a totalitarian usurpation of your reincarnated identity. Could always go the Jesus route: "I'll be back. You won't know when, you won't know where, but it's going to happen, and when it does, all these people that have been oppres…

Disney Princesses Are My (Imperfect) Feminist Role Models Oct 24, '14

Really cool perspective. In pointing out the massive problems with a lot of Disney Princesses, we can loose the fact that they are a step (awkward, but a step) toward better things. I propose the next Disney princess be maybe a little chubby. And Latina! If only Aztec myth didn't almost inevitably…

Gamer Felicia Day on Gamergate Oct 23, '14

I can't wait until we live in a world where someone can say, "This game is fun. Also, it would've been fun without all the stupid sexism. The sexism sucks." I mean, we can already say, "This game's stealth mechanics are fun. Also, the game's story is hastily crapped out. The story sucks." Genders …

Gamer Felicia Day on Gamergate Oct 23, '14

Some gamers are sexist assholes. They banded together with some Anons and some right-wing fundie D-listers to run women critical of them out of their homes, and to bilk a few big tech advertisers (Intel, Adobe) into imagining they were legit for a minute by tossing around journalistic ethics and (…

Music: "You Were Cool," The Mountain Goats (2015) Oct 22, '14

Man, John Darnielle knows my brain. Lovely.

Top Saudi cleric: "Twitter is the source of all evil" Oct 22, '14

It's hip to be jaded about Twitter and all, but the article makes a good case for people in SA loving it because it gives them an avenue for freer discussion. People who want to control you tend to both (a) be attracted to religious office and (b) use that office to condemn forms of speech they do n…

Adobe walks into Gamergate, staggers around confusedly Oct 22, '14

I mean, just listen to them! If they weren't winning, why would they have to scream so loudly? Clearly, all winners must at all times proclaim their victory to everyone. History is screamed by the victors, after all!

Geek Girl Con is an oasis of acceptance Oct 21, '14

Sounds like a really great place, and I hope it has a really positive effect on everyone who goes there. The world needs places like this, where folks can go to be energized by a diversity of peers, highlighting specifically the diversity and what that brings to the table.

Vultures circle GamerGate Oct 21, '14

It is true! Whackjob fundies look the same no matter which flag they're waving. …of course, this doesn't really apply here, where abso-fucking-lutely nobody is taking anything away from anywhere or proposing any standards or ban lists or anything of the sort. All this frothing nerdrage is beca…

Vultures circle GamerGate Oct 20, '14

The venn diagram of the overlap here is probably not EXACTLY a circle, but I bet it's pretty close.

Eron Gjoni, unrepentant jerk Oct 17, '14

He still thinks it's about him "calling out" Zoe Quinn? When every substantial element

of his original screed has been discounted and proven false? And he doesn't even care about the medium? Then there's his self-aggrandizement as the an ongoing leader-figure for the jerks? Then that last little b…

Game dev Brianna Wu on what it's like to be forced from yo… Oct 16, '14

A perportedly neutral stance is just happy to see the status quo continue. That's a dog in the fight. ...which is either a distraction strategy or a sad paranoia... Am I allowed to carry those onto a college campus in Utah?

Game dev Brianna Wu on what it's like to be forced from yo… Oct 16, '14

The delusion is what makes it so sad. It's sad when people are too frightened of being taken hypothetical advantage of to actually be compassionate to actual people who are actually suffering. It's sad for that person (because they are isolating themselves out of fear), it's sad for the suffering …

Game dev Brianna Wu on what it's like to be forced from yo… Oct 16, '14

The word you're looking for is compassion. They are being shown compassion. Because shitty people did a shitty thing to them. It really isn't, and you either know this and are trying in bad faith to topic-shift, or you don't know this, are a sad, suspicious, delusional little person who can't…

Game dev Brianna Wu on what it's like to be forced from yo… Oct 16, '14

Purely hypothetically, if you were not casting baseless, indiscriminate aspersions like so much distraction confetti, I would take your hypothetical point more seriously. But not hypothetically at all, I'm asking if you would like to reexamine things and not change the subject and press on and …

Democratic schools: trusting kids to direct their own learning Oct 16, '14

I hope so! We could spend less on military-industrial complex employees and more on education employees!

In life, pick two Oct 16, '14

If I could have one of those things, I'd be a little better.

Anita Sarkeesian cancels Utah campus appearance after thr… Oct 15, '14

Kind of the other way around. It was BEGUN by an angry ex-boyfriend who wanted to humiliate his lover. Some tangent of that humiliation was baseless accusation of selling sex for good reviews. That metastasized into "concerns about the integrity of games journalism" which is really just a smokescr…

Anita Sarkeesian cancels Utah campus appearance after thr… Oct 15, '14

HURHUR GAMERS ARE NERDS. Oh wait, someone actually felt so fucking afraid for her life due to gun rights assholes and gamergate assholes that she refused to speak on a topic close to her heart. FUCK GAMERS ARE VIOLENT UNCONTROLLABLE SOCIOPATHS They do not get a write-off as some harmless bas…

Ally Bingo Oct 14, '14

Pipeline's a problem, but a lot of times it is only used as an excuse. There are tools for getting around the pipeline. There are things you can do to pro-actively create a smoother pipeline. Pipeline isn't the core of the issue, though, and easing the flow isn't going to make the nasty stuff go awa…

Apple's Jony Ive: copycat designs are theft Oct 10, '14

It's a little sad that the article basically serves as a platform for parroting Ive's ignorance rather than perhaps calling into question the idea that a rounded rectangle of a particular size is in any way a unique design that required weekends away from your family.

New York Comic-Con's anti-harassment policy Oct 9, '14

"She was dressed like that and that means she was asking for it!" is not a good defense of harassment. Costumes are designed to get attention, of course. But this isn't Thought Policing. This is a policy against harassment. Harassment is a behavior. And while we cannot control our thoughts and …

Star Wars: The Clone Wars Oct 9, '14

Good to hear that this is good, it's always a bit iffy when you're going into a Cartoon

Network series. Like, 75% of them are really excellent, and then 25% of them are really just packaged Kidz Krap, and you don't always know what you're going to get if you don't know the names involved.

Man-packed "Sexism in tech" panel flops Oct 9, '14

Ally Bingo. Hilarious! I dunno what gave the GHC the genius idea to basically have a Mansplaining Panel, but clearly, we have all heard quite enough from rich middle-aged white dudes on this topic (and I'd hope, as a society, in general). Time to stop humblebraging and nopologizing, time to start …

On Trolls Oct 9, '14

"Just ignore it" for trolls is like "just don't have it" for sex. I mean, sure, it can work, in some pure hypothetical way, but it ignores reality to such a gobsmacking degree that it is functionally useless advice. Worse than useless, because it stops us from addressing the reality of the situation…

News is bad for you Oct 8, '14

I'm getting caught in a meta-cognitive loop here. News is bad for me, including the news that news is bad for me, so I should not consume this news as it is bad for me, leading me to consume other news that is bad for me, because I cannot consume this news as news is bad for me and.... It's all a …

On Trolls Oct 8, '14

These stories are important, but they make me want to DO something with my impotent rage, and there's just nothing I can really do aside from the ephemeral "support."

Man exercising right to open carry robbed at gun point Oct 8, '14

A lot of fundie gun advocates imagine themselves as vigilante cowboys with a swinging dick that can murder all those who oppose them. The mere presence of their thick black murderpenis should be enough to cow all the lesser males into submission! Of COURSE when someone points that out to be an absur…

CNN wonders if Ebola is "The Isis of Biological Agents" Oct 7, '14

Pedantry is the Ebola of this thread! ISIS is the CNN of Islamic fundamentalists! CNN is the Hilary Clinton's Possible Presidential Bid of news networks! HIDE YOUR CHILDREN FROM ISISCNNEBOLA WITH THESE FIVE COOL iPHONE APPS THE MEDICAL INDUSTRY DOESN'T WANT YOU TO KNOW ABOUT! Love, Bes, Egy…

CNN wonders if Ebola is "The Isis of Biological Agents" Oct 7, '14

Would this make Jon Stewart the cool uncle who shares his weed with you while the rest of the family is fighting over which minority to blame their small social security checks on? ...and John Oliver like his son, your smart cousin that you never see anymore now that he's moved to the Big City?

Umbrella Revolution's projector guerrillas splash huge mess… Oct 7, '14

I like that this is also what you should do to a fire you want to spread.

WATCH: Crazy sheep that runs and attacks many people Oct 3, '14

GOAT SIMULATOR: THE MOVIE (Focus groups determined changing the goat to a sheep would sell more tickets)

Daughter of Hong Kong leader thanks "taxpayers" for diamo… Oct 2, '14

True, Mephisto, but would it be perhaps a little gauche for Barack Obama to buy himself a faberge egg and then say "Thanks for my bitchin' egg, taxpayers!!!!" Methinks it might be.

Daughter of Hong Kong leader thanks "taxpayers" for diamo… Oct 2, '14

You stay classy, 1%. When we hang you up by your necklaces, they will make for lovely tinsel on the leafless tree. Okay, that's a bit harsh. I don't know how the London School of Economics is doing these days, but it should probably consider adding a course on the causes of poverty and then making…

Nobody wants to host to 2022 Olympics Oct 2, '14

It's always been a "You scratch my back, I'll scratch yours" kind of scenario, with the

host country getting some prestige and screen time and tourism dollars and whatnot.The host country mostly benefited from being associated with the "brand." But then financial crisis. And tourism dries up. An…

Fed whistleblower secretly recorded 46h of regulatory capt… Sep 27, '14

As a dude whose day job is appeasing actual corporate-world finance regulators, this whole thing just made me facepalm over and over again while moaning "holy fuck, these guys get paid to do jack shit."

Why #gamergate is bullshit Sep 26, '14

Strike 1: Equating criticism of mysogynist bullies who run people out of their homes in fear with threats of rape and death on a website maintained by others with "censorship." Strike 2: The idea that anyone being run out of their home in fear with threats of rape and death against their friends a…

Eric Holder: creator of the "Too Big to Jail" bankster Sep 26, '14

Stand up for people who aren't caucasian, and you're a Liberal. Stand up for people who are poor, and you're Un-American.

Why #gamergate is bullshit Sep 26, '14

I'd really disagree with that. One scenario I imagine I'd be fine with cheating is if your SO is the kind of asshole who would try and rile up the Internet to come get you if you left him. 100% with you here. ...but this seems to ignore reality, and somehow puts being cheated on as a wors…

Why #gamergate is bullshit Sep 26, '14

They probably should, but it's not your job to make them feel bad. That's on them. Either they do or do not. You are not other peoples' morality police. Plus, for all we know, you, me, this Eron Gjoni asshole -- we all deserved to be cheated on.

Why #gamergate is bullshit Sep 26, '14

I always try to blame those who are trying to excuse their behavior by playing at being a martyr. Call it a bias. Victims have had something done TO THEM. When that victim

then turns around and does something to someone else, they're a victimizer, and deserve to be called on that. It's a cycle,…

Why #gamergate is bullshit Sep 26, '14

Someone gets cheated on and they encourage their friends to harass, hunt down, and threaten the person that cheated on them by ranting about it online in multiple forums desperate for attention? Yes. What a colossal, unmitigated douchebag. What a fucking asshole. What a sad little child. Look,…

Why #gamergate is bullshit Sep 26, '14

...because it should have been a private matter? Making this public makes him a douchebag. We've all been there. We don't all get the people who wronged us run out of their homes. You tried to socially isolate her? Sounds like you were a dbag, too. Most people have been cheated on. I'v…

Why #gamergate is bullshit Sep 26, '14

http://kotaku.com/in-recent-days-ive-been-asked-several-times-about-a-pos-1624707346 Of course, even having to post that indicates that Captain Douchebag Eron Gjoni is being given the benefit of the doubt, which is totally something we should not be giving ranting ex-lovers in general.

Why #gamergate is bullshit Sep 26, '14

What the hell kind of internet have you been on where that needs to be "proven"? It also proves that Cracked.com is a voice of reason on this issue, and that is...sad. I don't even think Cracked.com would want that to be true.

Class war meets the War on General Purpose Computers Sep 25, '14

A fascinating little discovery I had heard about: because being poor saps your decision-making capacity, being poor means you're less able to focus on educational goals. So this tends to be another self-fulfilling prophecy: you are uneducated because you are poor, and you remain poor because by be…

Class war meets the War on General Purpose Computers Sep 25, '14

So, I reacted pretty viciously to your first post, which had more nuance that I gave it credit for. But the kernel of the idea that inspired the reaction is that the poor are somehow poor because they are different. That if only they could change, they wouldn't be poor. That's inaccurate and in…

Class war meets the War on General Purpose Computers Sep 25, '14

This is class warfare rhetoric. No one has control for delayed gratification. The poor just suffer more because of it. The idea that the antitode to poverty is self-control is unrealistic and morally vile.

Urban living and carbon footprints Sep 23, '14

It is probably less carbon for you to eat a nice vegan meal, bike on down to your local Place To Buy Things, and purchase some, I dunno, furniture made by the local Shakers than it is for you to eat a Vegan meal, get on your machine made out of intensively-mined minerals and hydrocarbons, and have…

Urban living and carbon footprints Sep 23, '14

Not that agriculture is tiny, but transportation is a bigger chunk of carbon emissions in the USA than agriculture. Those aren't all commuter driving, of course -- a lot of shipping, trucking, and air travel get into that. But ultimately, going Local is more important than going Vegetarian (not …

Woman has third breast implanted Sep 22, '14

No, I'm not defining rape, I'm defining part of rape culture, which is a different thing. It is the thing that makes people feel like rape might actually be OK in their minds and the minds of their peers, part of what allows rape to happen and be the thing it is, it is not the actual act. Thinking…

Woman has third breast implanted Sep 22, '14

Truth, you can legally tell all you want. And those that choose to tell other people what they're allowed to do with their bodies are actually, not even exaggerating a little, supporting rape culture, making it easier and more likely that someone gets raped, because the first step on the path of t…

Sep 22, '14

Woman has third breast implanted

Okay, but when you are the audience for someone's actual human body, you still don't get to tell them what they're allowed to/"sane" to do with it.

Arrests and outrage at Flood Wall Street Sep 22, '14

I am always struck in these events how Wall Street literally has a golden calf on its doorstep. I mean, if some satirist were to write that, it would be dismissed as too on-the-nose to be believable. But nope, there's a golden idol to money just sitting there being protected from those who would w…

Woman has third breast implanted Sep 22, '14

GATORADE: LIKE MILK FROM THE THIRD TIT. [image] (it is the most Xtreme Tit)

Woman has third breast implanted Sep 22, '14

That's not evidence of a mental disorder. I mean, unless you're a legit Internet Mind Reader, all that is is evidence that she probably hasn't thought through what certain subcultures are going to think of this (it ain't gonna make her ugly to everyone, that's for dang sure). I mean, maybe she …

Woman has third breast implanted Sep 22, '14

Pfft. Right, body modification is a mental disorder. Like, all those people with plastic surgery to make their noses smaller...or all those people with tattoos...or all those people with elaborate piercings... Let's not medicalize her. That removes her agency, and we have no basis to believe tha…

Woman has third breast implanted Sep 22, '14

Heh, this lady is a kick. A video of her on twitter with I'm A Freak playing on it? She knows in what she traffics. More power to her. The world is a more amazing place with folks like this in it. I mean, a little sad she's doing it for Attention, but whatever, folks do weirder shit for attention…

New York Times feature about butts Sep 18, '14

The NYT is always like 5 years behind the curve (so to speak). Butts are nice n' all, but the cool thing now is sexy necks.

Florida schools open their doors to Satan Sep 18, '14

Ah, but they do so IN THE NAME OF SATAN! ...which exactly what Satan WOULD want, if the fever-dreams of the religious nutbags are anything to go by. Satan WANTS a secular world. Satan LOVES atheism. Satan would very much like it if you were to abandon your nutbag congregation.

Bill to ban terms of service that say you're not allowed to c… Sep 18, '14

Isn't it against the Terms of Service to introduce legislation to put limitations on Terms of Service? That's how this works, right?

A man named Bunny Boots Ink makes "First Amendment T… Sep 17, '14

There's a lot of misplaced sympathy for the MP's here. Look, the ulimate fact is that they have no automatic right to answers from someone who was doing nothing illegal. Sure, they were polite, but the boot that is stomping on your face forever doesn't stomp any lighter just because they call yo…

Ebola in Newsweek: comparing American and European co… Sep 16, '14

Yeah, I'm not sure I see what's going on here (maybe my privilege is blinding me). The US cover is all "THERE ARE PEOPLE EATING CHIMPS, EBOLA YOU GUYS!", the International cover is all "IF YOU TOUCH BLACK PEOPLE YOU WILL BE INFECTED WITH EBOLA, DON'T TOUCH PEOPLE!" In fact, the most facepalming th…

Burger King's gothburger Sep 12, '14

I bet Dethklok would be INTO This.

The Nicest Place on the Internet Sep 10, '14

Deligthful. As. Fuck.

Mayday anti-super-PAC backs anti-corruption senate candid… Sep 9, '14

A vote against Scott Brown is almost never a vote misplaced, and now NHers will have the added delight of supporting campaign finance reform! DO IT, GUYS! Call your friends!

Koch-affiliated astroturfers call Net Neutrality "Marxist" Aug 26, '14

...and then.... I mean, cool story bro, but this isn't about your fossil fuel preferences, it's about the dicks trying to strangle Net Neutrality, and your constant harping on fossil fuels is really tremendously irrelevant except for where it dovetails with what these dicks are doing to the i…

Koch-affiliated astroturfers call Net Neutrality "Marxist" Aug 26, '14

So, part of what astroturfers do is distract the argument. Clever ones will even concede a point or two so that they are "in" with the locals and don't just get banned. Lets instead concentrate on the fact that in this instance, these douchebags are shilling against net neutrality, and let it si…

School superintendent asked girls to bend over during dre… Aug 26, '14

If you feel the need to police what teenage girls are wearing this closely, it is not the teenage girls who have the problem.

School superintendent asked girls to bend over during dre… Aug 26, '14

That pintrest is an interesting insight into the lady…useful for anyone who hopes to understand these people and why they do the damage they do. It is because they are damaged.

The worst sofa in the history of humankind Aug 19, '14

From their website: "Crafted entirely of gargantuan vaginas and leather, the ComfortSoft Relaxmax will welcome your body with a warm, soft, moist acceptance that will be just like returning to the womb."

Video of Ferguson police gassing newscrew and dismantli… Aug 14, '14

Aaaah, so that's where the dingus parade is coming from.

Princeton economists: democratic presidents are just "lucky" Aug 13, '14

Looking at the actual paper makes every reaction out there seem a bit naffed, including Mark's

---

Princeton economists: democratic presidents are just "lucky" Aug 13, '14

Listen, real Christians know there's no such thing as "luck," so the only real explanation is GOD HATES REPUBLICANS.

Parody twitter account makes fool of public intellectual Aug 12, '14

Best as I can figure, it's below, but WARNING! Pedantry incoming! You will not get this time in your life back! 1) Parody account mocks some intellectuals, including Taleb, claiming they get paid on controversy and clicks. Taleb most famously wrote The Black Swan, a book "explaining" the unexpecte…

Satanists demand Hobby Lobby style religious exemption Jul 30, '14

'#notallsatanists?

Why do some women get pregnant even though they're on t… Jul 30, '14

Maggie, this article is just inaccurate. The reason is because Jesus makes miracles happen and this is a woman's punishment for having sex without procreation like God explicitly commanded. I confirmed this with a priest just to make sure, and no matter what the elites tell me about body chemistry a…

Man sentenced after filming self driving car from passenger … Jul 29, '14

Thirded.

Heartbreaking photos of uninsured Americans waiting for care Jul 28, '14

Of course, they're not, and the people keep lapping up the diarrheal bullshit sold to

them by Fox News as if it was the nectar of the gods. For these people to vote in their own best interests requires them to be better-educated than they are, ultimately. And at the moment, some of the most ent…

The new life of dead trees Jul 25, '14

I just want to point out that this has made me want to go on a flippin' adventure, which is flippin' fantastic.

YouTube makeup vlogger sued by record label for $150K pe… Jul 23, '14

I can get on board with that. The only problems with that are the problems of copyright and the intellectual property model itself, but that's certainly a broader context that wouldn't be in consideration here.

YouTube makeup vlogger sued by record label for $150K pe… Jul 23, '14

Still don't know why having a song on in the background of a video isn't fair use. It's not like people are going to be able to use a Phan video as a replacement for buying the thing on iTunes or anything.

Comcast says rep from hell was just doing “what we trained… Jul 22, '14

I wonder if it isn't a bit of whitewashing, but...positive, anyway. The fundamental misaligned incentive here is to have the employee being paid for "saving" a customer (by having them continue to sign up with Comcast). That's a bottom-line sales incentive, but it's inappropriate for retention, wh…

Infamous SF "eviction" lawfirm abuses DMCA to censor vid… Jul 22, '14

Well that's condescending douchenozzelry of the highest order. Hypothesis: No one has ever said the phrase "real job" without being a proud, ignorant hypocrite.

A Silicon Valley hackathon for North Korea Jul 21, '14

Hello? Yes, this is Dog.

An exclusive look at the new D&D Player’s Handbook—and … Jul 21, '14

The High Elf Wizard and the lady on the cover are begging to be Hawkeye'd. That's just...ow...

If the Doctors Who were American Jul 16, '14

The fact that Gene Wilder never played a Dr. Who is clearly a sign that we are not living in the best of all possible worlds. TAKE THAT, THEODICY.

Listen to Comcast torture Ryan Block and Veronica Belmont... Jul 15, '14

I feel for the phonedroid, I'm sure his paycheck depends on talking people out of it, and he's just trying to afford his life like the rest of us. Tryin' to do his shitty job in service of a shitty company's monopolistic bottom line a la most folks. But daaaaaaaaaaaaamn, son. If you're going to ge…

Unions considered helpful (economically) Jul 14, '14

Dick moves all around, and crimes to boot. Hope the cops did their jobs here. Understandable. Like how someone gets freaked out if a man in a turban boards a plane, or how a black kid in a hoodie is instantly suspicious. Hope you come to reject your biases as well as understand them someday! I…

TOM THE DANCING BUG: A Formula for Inequity, Told in Fou... Jul 9, '14

More than a lot of people have. Not to mention all the things they would also need to turn that into any sort of income (like, a centralized urban area where taxes on the wealthier folks pay for infrastructure like roads). It takes more than cooking skill and a food truck to make any sort of profi…

Very old erotic graffiti found in Greece Jul 9, '14

It fits in the great human tradition of drawing dicks on things. One of the things that separates us from the other animals, really. Now if we could get a rover to draw some boobs, the entire solar system will know the ambition and intelligence of the human spirit!

TOM THE DANCING BUG: A Formula for Inequity, Told in Fou... Jul 9, '14

1) Well, no, actually, not just anybody has the opportunity to get wealthy. r > g, man.
2) What is there that the people without much income can risk?

Very old erotic graffiti found in Greece Jul 9, '14

Wait, is that Mars? Have we drawn wangs on the Red Planet? Science is awesome.

Female sexuality, not pubes, is why prudes took down this p… Jul 9, '14

Interesting that it's a portrait, so there's an actual person whose sexuality they're saying is unfit for public consumption.

Very old erotic graffiti found in Greece Jul 9, '14

All of human history is boners. A large subset of that is gay boners. This is just the tip of the iceberg, I'm sure.

TOM THE DANCING BUG: A Formula for Inequity, Told in Fou… Jul 9, '14

Shoulda been working in a fast food restaurant for that last panel! At least us office grunts typically make a living wage.

Report: Julian Assange will model on catwalk during Lond… Jun 27, '14

I smell Zoolander sequel. [image]

Big Cable fronts fake anti-Net-Neutrality group whose "me… Jun 12, '14

Idea: make a pro-Net Neutrality "organization" (via a website) and list a bunch of cable company lobbying groups as members. Including Broadband for America. Toss on some business orgs for fun. Whatever. Make it up. No one cares.

Whistleblower org says it will go to jail rather than turning … Jun 11, '14

#stillbetterthanromney

Jun 6, '14

Verizon demands Netflix stop telling users its network is congested

While I think it's good to have a healthy skepticism of Netflix here, I feel like my desires as a consumer and their desires as a merchant are well aligned. They want to stream HD movies and TV shows right to my home at a fast speed (because this makes their product competitive with traditional cabl…

FCC's website crashes, John Oliver's army of Cable Compan… Jun 4, '14

Go here and you can ALSO comment on the Time Warner/Comcast merger and sling around death threats and dick jokes at those two fucknuckles: **http://www.fcc.gov/rulemaking/most-active-proceedings**

Sarkeesian on sexism in video games, and becoming a hat… May 30, '14

She's a heroic woman, enacting real positive change. She's making games a better place, and she is a model for coolness under hater-pressure. I hope she continues to rock the hell on.

Why men abuse women May 30, '14

Yeah there are totally probably some psychopaths in that course who have no problem admitting to trying to control their partners and don't see anything wrong with that because to them other human beings are objects to be manipulated, too. Those folks are hard to truly reform, because they'll pla…

Why men abuse women May 29, '14

Sounds like a healthy thing in a program designed to make it stop -- admitting that there's selfish reasons for it, that you benefit from it, that it's your responsibility, not theirs. Still pretty chilling, as any naked glimpse into human thoughts can be.

Yearbook photos selectively altered for modesty May 29, '14

They hate our freedoms and want our women to hide their beauty. They stand for everything that is un-American. They forbid alcohol and even coffee. They won't be happy until we are all under their religious laws. The believe in a different God, in a different holy book. They are: Mormons in Utah. …

Feminism and tech: an overdue and welcome manifesto May 29, '14

Yeah, I can't see that working very well, either. Masculinity is something that guys need to be constantly showing off in our society, so a feminist book club ain't gonna get a lot of folks on board. Sure, but the convo isn't about yesterday's temperature, it's about the broader phenomenon, a…

Feminism and tech: an overdue and welcome manifesto May 28, '14

It's not about right or wrong, it's about how a dude felt like he could tell a group of women that they were criticizing sexism in the wrong way. It doesn't matter if it was cold yesterday, knowledgeable people are telling you the climate is getting warmer. It doesn't matter if one is particularly…

Feminism and tech: an overdue and welcome manifesto May 27, '14

That's not what I'm saying. You don't have to be a woman working in tech to criticize bad examples of sexism. You just can't pretend that you know better than a woman working in tech what constitutes sexism in that industry. You are not there. You cannot know what that is like. You are not an expert…

Feminism and tech: an overdue and welcome manifesto May 27, '14

Who are you to tell women experiencing sexism that what they perceive as sexism is not sexism? What experience do you have of being a woman in tech? If you already know that rampant sexism is a problem, then there's no reason to quibble with the precise list of five examples. You can think of oth…

Feminism and tech: an overdue and welcome manifesto May 27, '14

Wow, that was fast. It took only one post for the apologists to come in and start de-legitimizing their gripes and twisting the narrative so that now we're talking about how badly they're presenting the issue rather than about the issue itself. Demonstrating ably, I think, one of the symptoms of …

The Pope says he'll baptize space aliens if they asked him to May 14, '14

Mythology and fantasy and culture and tribal dynamics of ingroup/outgroup division are pretty evolutionarily favored, though. If they have technology, and thus specialization,

then they probably have something comparable to religion used to compel individuals to work more harmoniously as a group. Th…

The Pope says he'll baptize space aliens if they asked him to May 13, '14

This pope is the "Who am I to judge homosexuals?" pope, though. He'd probably baptize them and marry them -- who is he to close doors? What kind of gets in the way is some of the bureaucrats that are invested in the hateful status quo, but the dude on top seems like he'd be down with it.

Carr: Suddenly, Net Neutrality matters to everyone May 13, '14

I hope he's right! I fear that the entrenched interests may not be able to see what's good for them in the long run here.

McDonald's Hot Coffee lawsuit: deliberate, corporatist urba… May 13, '14

"You're not big with the nuance and subtlety, are ya?" Hahaha, well, you DID say you couldn't see what change this was supposed to generate. Thought I'd put it in big letters so it's hard to miss! "A business that sells coffee has to put the mean temperature somewhere. If it's too cold, most cus…

McDonald's Hot Coffee lawsuit: deliberate, corporatist urba… May 12, '14

The change in this context should be baldly obvious: don't make your coffee so hot that it causes 3rd degree burns, guys, it's dangerous to give that to people, you need to tell them that they can't put it in their laps, this is not like your tepid brew at home, this is some LETHAL SHIT, and you can…

McDonald's Hot Coffee lawsuit: deliberate, corporatist urba… May 12, '14

What's the issue with punitive damages? Not like anyone's gonna put an exec in jail for making the policy or anything. Where's the incentive to change, if the court doesn't make a financial incentive?

How to stop a wedding May 8, '14

I think it's because that man's right leg is actually scaffolding, so they're all REALLY IMPRESSED at what's going on.

New poll on sex with robots May 7, '14

Yeah, this article is weirdly preachy and reactionary. Fleshlights. Vibrators. Hell, good ol' fashioned porn-n-tube socks. Of COURSE people will have sex with artificial beings. And it doesn't ruin our capacity for closeness or anything like that. The article's all newfangled gizmo hyperpanic, and s…

The Widening Gyre: Going Broke in LA May 7, '14

Sounds like victim-blaming to me. "It's not anyone else's fault that you are succumbing to forces beyond your control, it's YOURS! We're all fine here, nothing to see here, YOU are the problem!"

Edward Snowden: "Vladimir Putin must be called to accoun… Apr 18, '14

This makes Russia look like a place where speech and press are freer than in the US. This probably isn't ACTUALLY the case. So Putin probably benefits from this. And we've seen how these "conversations" go. If Snowden's revelations in the US only got a milquetoast response from the president and t…

SF housing crisis: it is not the techies Apr 15, '14

Can I get a TL;DR for those of us curious but not super duper invested enough to read that novel?

The most mindblowing photograph to emerge from the Nev… Apr 15, '14

A white guy in Nevada claiming Ancestral Rights....Native Americans might have something to say about this...

“I F*cking Hate @RuPaul” Apr 4, '14

Every subculture has its fundies, its tribal police all to eager to otherize those whose values may not be identical to theirs. I haven't found the trans community to be any exception, in my limited XP.

FDA rules make it nearly impossible for beer makers to give… Mar 28, '14

So the more accurate headline is "Proposed FDA rule would make it...(etc.)" My concern then becomes: how do I (and the brewers and farmers who don't want this rule) do something about it? Anger is a motivator, so give me somewhere to direct this energy, plz.

Rumsfeld compares president to a 'trained ape' Mar 25, '14

You're always walking a line when you try to blow the dog whistle. Obvious enough, but not too obvious...it's not a bad bet that he thought he could blow a little harder because Fox is a refuge for maniacs who blow much harder than that. I'm possibly just being uncharitable with ol' Rummy, but …

Rumsfeld compares president to a 'trained ape' Mar 25, '14

You think he's just ignorant. That may be charitable. Another possibility is while you see an ignorant white dude babbling about a war nobody wants anymore, actual ignorant white dudes **see a guy who doesn't trust black people**, and therefore know that the Republican party is on their side when it com…

Beautiful, illustrated vintage Wisconsin postcard Mar 19, '14

WI: We've got everything! Including Native Ameican Stereotype Village!

How Disney movies gave an autistic boy his voice Mar 11, '14

[image]

Fox News loses spelling bee Mar 11, '14

Spelling is witchcraft. It's right there in the name. Good Christians avoid it.

Lux, 22lb angry cat, traps family, including dog, in bedroom Mar 11, '14

You just know some bleeding-heart liberal animal lover is just going to try and get it off the hook by saying it's society's fault he's so violent. It's as if personal responsibility of pets is dead in this country! (note for the obtuse & butthurt: SARCASM!)

Livestream: Edward Snowden at SXSW Mar 10, '14

Mmmm, such delectable sock puppetry. Empty of meaning but unnecessarily provocative. Only a question of motivation, now: who is the string-puller, one must ask? Who indeed...

Humana screws Brandon Boyer for $100K worth of cancer bi… Mar 7, '14

Man, I don't disagree, I just feel like there are accurate criticisms, and inaccurate criticisms, and the latter doesn't do anyone any good.

Humana screws Brandon Boyer for $100K worth of cancer bi… Mar 7, '14

Reading is great for answering questions.

Humana screws Brandon Boyer for $100K worth of cancer bi… Mar 7, '14

That doesn't make sense? Brandon states that this kind of thing is one of the things that the ACA prevents now. To use this as a reason to not sign up is like using the Huns as a reason to not ride a horse. Aaaaanyhoo, it's pretty evident from this and other things that one of the limits of a f…

Comment-spammers threaten to sabotage their victims thro… Mar 5, '14

If I'm a sensitive woman who doesn't know how to run a business, and I go bankrupt from my failing business, will Gordon give me some bankruptcyaction.com?

New PlayStation outselling new Xbox "almost two-to-one" Feb 14, '14

I wonder if part of what's at work here isn't the audience speaking loudly and clearly "DO NOT WANT" to that entire line of reasoning. MS dropped it, but dropping it isn't going to undo the fact that you proposed it, and that enough people at your company thought it was a good idea in the first plac…

Just Ella: science fiction short from a world filled with raven… Feb 8, '14

Ow, my feels. In a good way.

Parents of Buddhist student sue "Bible Belt" Louisiana sch… Feb 7, '14

The broader political implications of this are nasty. The people who are doing the persecution have an outsized martyr complex, too, so we've created a scenario where if we stand up for the bullied kid and do the moral and right thing, it feeds into their view of themselves as persecuted, and the ba…

The Wire creator David Simon on "America as a Horror Show" Jan 31, '14

We've had this figured out for a while: "Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." Okay, only "easy" in the sense that it isn't technically hard to do. It is hard to CONVINCE yourself to do, I guess. It's wildly impractical, but i…

The Wire creator David Simon on "America as a Horror Show" Jan 31, '14

The moment someone with a net worth of > $100 million is actually murdered by a mentally stable person whose net worth is < $500 and who declares the reason for the murder to be class-based, I'll take this class warfare bullshit seriously. Until then, I'm pretty sure you and your watch and your big …

Pope Francis on the Internet and communication Jan 28, '14

That's the rub, though. If you're a theist, there IS getting away from that fact. There is an all-knowing, all loving, infinite cosmic mind who is with you in the most intimate and personal way from before you are conscious to after. The world Pope Francis has faith in is a world in which none o…

Who reads books in America, and how? Jan 24, '14

So by the stats, the typical book reader is a wealthy urban black woman. Yeah, I kind of buy that. As for all the shock (shock!) that the number is so high: my experience in a bookstore leads me to believe that there's a large number of people out there who read a lot of pretty goofy books. Ste…

MSNBC anchor shuts up congresswoman to cut to Bieber Jan 24, '14

I don't think MSNBC knows who would watch MSNBC, either.

MSNBC anchor shuts up congresswoman to cut to Bieber Jan 24, '14

We hate Congress, but they're probably more important than Justin Beiber. "Sorry, we can't talk about free speech and surveillance right now, SOMETHING CELEBRITY SOMETHING CRIME MAYBE IT IS SEXY OH WOW."

President Obama's remarks on the NSA and surveillance Jan 17, '14

Obama to America: [image] "Yeah, we can capture your data. And you'll just have to trust us."

The Hundred Acre Wood could use a therapist Jan 14, '14

It's an important distinction that smart professionals realize that the public often fails to: a lot of mental illness diagnoses only happen when it's causing you distress. Like, you might get a cold this winter. Maybe you get a runny nose and a sore throat. You deal with it. It doesn't ruin your …

Insane Clown Posse and ACLU sue FBI over calling juggalo… Jan 9, '14

I love it when law enforcemet has the capacity to simply declare something X and thus take away a whole host of rights and freedoms... I don't think the guys in makeup are the clowns, here.

Harvard psychiatrist on David Brooks' pot column: "His igno… Jan 9, '14

I dunno if you can call a paper that helped mislead the public into the invasion of Iraq by printing government lies at face value part of the "liberal media," so maybe it's a double-bluff! "See, we have an idiot conservative, we CAN'T be willing servants of conservative agenda items!"

NYT praises Edward Snowden, calls for clemency Jan 2, '14

It's a crack in the armor. The elite, moneyed interests who use fear and misinformation as a means to coerce complacency are no longer quite as united as they once were, it seems. To see the NYT standing up with integrity is appealing, and because they're kind-of-insiders, their voice is going to ca…

Pope says atheists are OK with Jesus, so long as they "do … Dec 23, '13

Yeah, Protestants and Catholics aren't supposed to get along, and typically didn't, historically. In America, they made a sort of temporary conservative alliance right around the Regan era, and it looks like that might start fracturing again if the good Catholics continue to follow the Pope (and/or …

Oakland PD's surveillance center's primary purpose is fight… Dec 21, '13

Humor me. How does the idea of giving someone money in the hopes that they'll give you more later mean that you are "harmed" when your bet doesn't pay off?

In final 2013 press conference, Obama promises NSA spyin… Dec 21, '13

My only explanation to myself is that, logically, he's going to err on the side of Orwellian surveilance, because the moment some Bad Thing happens to the US, the people are going to ask, why didn't HE do a better job protecting us? It leads to a mindset that values every possible avenue of protec…

Bigot Fired Dec 19, '13

'My opinion is that you are right, all my opinions are wrong.' /me sings the logical fallacy theme song

---

Oakland PD's surveillance center's primary purpose is fight… Dec 18, '13

If a modern-day Scandanavian is your idea of a socialist, I think we've where our disagreement on Occupy being "socialist" is! Since a denial of profit isn't really "harm," it's hard for any principals to side with the store owner. Making money isn't something anyone -- the government, the pro…

Oakland PD's surveillance center's primary purpose is fight… Dec 18, '13

Man, I wish Occupy was channeled toward socialism. But they all own iPhones and take out student loans and there's not one among them who would shut down a mall just for existing. And the "Get the government out of my medicare!" Tea Partiers don't seem too fascist to me... I think by a large m…

Oakland PD's surveillance center's primary purpose is fight… Dec 18, '13

It surprises me a little that we're not hearing more about how Occupy and the Tea Party (and the establishment Left and Right reactions to them) are actually based in economic concerns, not political concerns. Their complaints are similar. The problem is identified. The class struggle is on. But t…

Oakland PD's surveillance center's primary purpose is fight… Dec 18, '13

Ain't nothin' like the naked display of law enforcement working at the behest of capitalism at the expense of the Constitution. Ciminey. The Patriotic Libertarian strain in me says hell to the no. The risk you take opening your business in a nation that respects free speech is that sometimes, yo…

Shareholder sues IBM for spying on China, wiping $12.9B o… Dec 15, '13

I think the takeaway is more that they've discovered that whistleblowers affect share value. Don't expect them to not spy because of this. Expect them to make it harder for whistleblowers to do what they do.

Shareholder sues IBM for spying on China, wiping $12.9B o… Dec 15, '13

Yeah, this isn't the shareholders saying "Don't spy!", it's the shareholders saying "Be better at lying about spying!"

Welcome to Night Vale: an appreciation of the spookiest, f… Dec 12, '13

I've been listening in bulk since Idea Channel did an ep on it. Solid. Imperfect, but delightful. Peyote-influenced X-files worldbuilding fanfiction, sure, but sign me up for that!. Idea Channel Ep Here

---

Archie comics CEO being sued for calling employees "penis" Dec 12, '13

A) "American" isn't a race. B) "Racism" isn't the same thing as prejudice or bigotry. C) I don't think anyone's defending her, or her actions, they're merely suggesting that this is not the same thing as when it happens to women. Since it's not, that should be a controversial statement.

Archie comics CEO being sued for calling employees "penis" Dec 12, '13

Yeah, I wouldn't take the NY Daily News as any sort of authority on this. They're a

little like the US version of the Daily Mail, and the salacious insanity of the story gives me pause. It might be true, though. And if it is....oy. Lady sounds a few forks short of a dinner set. And the entitled f…

The Smarm Offensive Dec 5, '13

If this is parody, congrats, it's great. If this is not parody, the irony, it burns us.

HOWTO commit reverse racism Dec 4, '13

Can't really disagree with that! What I'm trying to emphasize by emphasizing that structures create thoughts is that it's impossible to see yourself without your cultural blinders on. This means Cleetus, forward-thinking iconoclast that he is, is going to have trouble finding out how to weed racis…

Martin Bashir resigns; MSNBC host suggested Sarah Palin's… Dec 4, '13

This is some weak, tame, milquetoast shit to get canned for. Sarah Palin deserves to be punished like the slaves she compared herself to? That's coherent and even logical. If it's worth going out for, it's worth going out in a BLAZE OF GLORY, Bashir. COME ON.

HOWTO commit reverse racism Dec 4, '13

Actually, that gets things a bit backwards. Structures create thoughts. The reason we have the thoughts and opinions we do is because of the environment in which we've grown up. Structural change is required for a change of beliefs (see: Gutenberg and the Enlightenment). The important thing is…

HOWTO commit reverse racism Dec 4, '13

I keep saying that it's more than just people's thoughts. It is ALSO people's thoughts. I'm not removing that from the equation. I'm pushing against the idea that you can say that racism is only about what people believe, limited to that, and thus not about economics or history or politics or, wel…

HOWTO commit reverse racism Dec 4, '13

Yes. That doesn't invalidate the fact that talking about racism means talking about

more than an individual's opinions. Just because architecture or economics or law is made up of individuals doesn't mean that we only talk about what individuals are thinking and feeling when we talk about those to…

HOWTO commit reverse racism Dec 4, '13

I'm not playing little semantic proof-text shenanigans, I'm describing a phenomenon. Think of it this way: the trans-atlantic slave trade was racist. But trade networks don't have feelings and emotions. Economics doesn't have a mind that it can make up. It is a system, a context, a non-person. S…

HOWTO commit reverse racism Dec 4, '13

Redefine nothing. That's what it is. If you want to stick your head in the sand and imagine that this is all about people's individual feelings and plug your ears against all the evidence of history that shows that it is bigger than that, that's part of the racism.

HOWTO commit reverse racism Dec 4, '13

What you're getting at is kind of the root of the bit, here. If you say that racism is only about a person's individual irrational prejudice, that ignores the context for that prejudice. Prejudice is a misanthropic trait, but racism goes beyond mere prejudice. It's not just that Ol' Cleetus Don't …

HOWTO commit reverse racism Dec 4, '13

Well, there's two things at work. One is the historical context of the moment, wherein non-caucasian people have been systematically otherized to the point of de-humanization on multiple fronts throughout the colonial period and beyond. The other is the basic animal fear of the unusual, in wh…

HOWTO commit reverse racism Dec 4, '13

What's the deal with White People? Why can't they take a joke? I mean, it's like, you question the idea that they're self-made individualists who exist in a pure meritocracy by pointing out the socio-economic and historical context in which they exist and benefit from, and they can't even see it. …

How the TPP will gut environmental protection Dec 3, '13

Man, the crazy astroturfers LOVE BB recently... On another note, TPP sucks. What can I do about it right now?

How big corporations and government spy agencies surveil … Dec 2, '13

So. What can I do today in less than half an hour to do something about this?

Pope blasts capitalism Nov 29, '13

I disagree with the Pope on many things. I think the institution he leads has pretty harmful views of sexuality and gender. But Poverty is at the root of so many of the harmful views in the world, that I can unite with him on this, and once people are starving less and less afraid to take a chance, …

Tropes vs Women in Video Games: Ms. Male Character Nov 19, '13

If she can talk, she's already absorbed the gender coding from the world around her. And that's not even a PROBLEM. It's just that your daughter isn't just your son, but in pink and with a tiara. They're different people. The "Ms. Male Character" is telling your daughter, every time she sees on…

LG TV phones home with your viewing habits, names of fil… Nov 19, '13

It's for your own good. How else is LG supposed to tell you about fabulous products you're sure to love and to let Comcast know that you're watching pirated episodes of Game of Thrones? Why would you steal the milk out of the mouths of the babies of all of those employees and shareholders? Are you s…

Mother fined $10 for not including Ritz crackers in kids' sc… Nov 18, '13

Wait, Logan? Poor Wolverine. He needs his grains or else his snickt is more of a sklorch.

Swedish cinemas rate films on their Bechdel Test score Nov 7, '13

Cegev "that's exactly what this story is about it being used for." It's not being used to rate the quality of these films, only if these films pass this one test. It's not about

quality, it's about representing gender perspectives. Just because Koyaanisqatsi fails the test doesn't mean it's a go…

Million Mask March: anons in the world's streets Nov 6, '13

Man, the sock puppets are thick on the ground in this comment thread. Even got a generic "liberal-as-an-insult" thrown in there. Wonder what they're so damn terrified of...

DSMV reviewed as a work of dystopian literature Oct 21, '13

Ladies and gentlemen: Psychiatry Denialism. "It's not REAL, it's just a conspiracy of scientists!"

Game of Thones recut as trailer for comedy about theme pa… Oct 16, '13

Y'know, I'd be sold on this elevator pitch.

Jellyfish-killing robots Oct 7, '13

I'd figure the usual ways to solve a problem with a species that is too numerous is to replenish the predators' population. All the money spent on developing the jelly-shredder could be better spent on things like securing sea turtle habitat, and it'd be a lot more constructive overall.

Authors Guild director diagnosed with ALS posts his medic… Sep 25, '13

...is this the same Author's Guild that had a suit against Google for their attempt to include orphan works on Google Books? I guess that's pretty irrelevant. At any rate, the disease sucks, and I wish him the best, given the prognosis.

Don't fly while brown during Ramadan, even if you're Hindu Aug 23, '13

Given the level of ignorance on display, I would not be in the least bit surprised that the reason for taking the picture is that someone thought this guy was some terrorist icon or saint, and so worth finding out more about.

Don't fly while brown during Ramadan, even if you're Hindu Aug 23, '13

The stinger at the end is what makes me all grumpy-cat face.

Snowden denies being source of new "NSA leak" exposing… Aug 23, '13

D.....did you read the TITLE? Also: LOL at the name of the newspaper that released government propaganda being "The Independent."

Pfc. Manning transitions gender: 'I am Chelsea." Aug 22, '13

There's some nuance that gets lost here. The diagnosis is for diagnosing a problem -- that is, you go in because something's bugging you, you've got some symptoms, and the cause might be GID. That doesn't mean the thing itself is necessarily a problem: if you think you're a different gender and th…

Pfc. Manning transitions gender: 'I am Chelsea." Aug 22, '13

Both are pretty exceptional examples of being honest with yourself and your own values.

Pfc. Manning transitions gender: 'I am Chelsea." Aug 22, '13

Man, who DOESN'T run from who they are when they're in a transition? She struggled. That's human and natural. And she not only found the strength to out herself, but the entire false edifice she was working under. She stopped hiding and decided to live a principled life. That's AMAZING. That woman's…

Pfc. Manning transitions gender: 'I am Chelsea." Aug 22, '13

Well, good on her, and I wish her the best of luck. I do think it's interesting to watch the sexual-politics of this all unfold in the public eye. From Assange's consent/assault to Snowden's stripper ex, and now Chelsea's complex gender identity, I get the impression that the effort to cast these …

"God gave you a penis for a reason" – publisher cancels g… Aug 21, '13

The idea is he said his son had juicy lips like Angelina Jolie, and hates gay people, all evidence pointing squarely at this guy being kind of fucked-up in the head, sexually speaking.

Groklaw shuts down over fears of email snooping Aug 21, '13

Sure, but it's indisputable that they're changing the conversation. That's my point here: the conversation can be changed. "I'm not a political person" sounds a lot like saying "I don't care enough about this issue to risk anything over it." Which is a shame.

"God gave you a penis for a reason" – publisher cancels g… Aug 21, '13

Streisand Effect, GO!

Groklaw shuts down over fears of email snooping Aug 20, '13

I wish she didn't surrender like this. "I'm not a political person," she says, but what we need are the people who "aren't political people" to GET political, to MAKE this an issue. The US is still a democracy, for the most part. It responds to enough people making a loud enough riot (the Tea Party …

When Poitras met Snowden Aug 14, '13

Nah, it's just scared. It takes courage to be able to surrender power and control, to speak up when the price might be high. But the shareholders of the NYT don't like risky moves because it might risk them money and the narcissists that seek public office and paramilitary membership don't countenan…

Standards bodies explain why they think the law should be … Aug 8, '13

It's a valid question for a lot of things, but not really for laws. They're laws, not benefits -- things you HAVE TO DO, not things you get. It's kind of what taxes are supposed to do: pay for the laws.

Standards bodies explain why they think the law should be … Aug 8, '13

If only there was some magical way that the public could pay for things...a way to, like, collectively pool our funds so that we could afford to pay professionals to support the public interest. Almost like one of those "taxes" that I've heard of... Nah, that'll never work. KICKSTARTER.

Elysium: everything that sucks about movies these days Aug 6, '13

Ciminey. Reading this is like reading a review of, I dunno, The Godfather, and complaining that it didn't deliver any fully belly laffs, or reading a review of a Pixar movie and hearing that it doesn't deliver really good scares. Or hearing about the guy in crutches who failed to win the footrace. …

Meet Glass, Lewis and Co., the company that got a food tru… Jul 30, '13

It'd take more than +20% to pay people a living wage. In NYC, for someone who makes, say, $13/hr, going from that to a living wage would be closer to a 100% increase (to ~$26/hr). That $10 for lunch just became $20. Since these suits had trouble parting with a measly 20% simply requested, I think th…

Meet Glass, Lewis and Co., the company that got a food tru… Jul 30, '13

$13 an hour? In NYC? Man, ouch.

Meet Glass, Lewis and Co., the company that got a food tru… Jul 30, '13

Generally, any position that is tipped is tipped because the employees don't make enough money WITHOUT the tips for it to be a viable job. At the grossest distortion, tipped positions can actually skirt around minimum wage laws because tips are considered an "expected" part of your income by the reg…

Meet Glass, Lewis and Co., the company that got a food tru… Jul 30, '13

I'd be basically pro making tipping illegal, but that would require employees to be paid a living wage ($13? In NYC? Hilarious), something that understandably, a lot of restaurant and food truck owners don't really want to do, because if they had to charge prices for their products that actually ref…

Meet Glass, Lewis and Co., the company that got a food tru… Jul 30, '13

If a place has a tip jar, tip. Because I promise you, the person that gets those tips is not being paid a living wage.

Bradley Manning NOT GUILTY of aiding enemy, but convict… Jul 30, '13

[citation needed]

🔒 **Evangelical Christian scientists in Oklahoma** Jul 24, '13

Sure, messages from the inside are more convincing. But the evangelical community has a robust immune system from that. See, if you are trying to convince them, then you're not actually on the inside, you're just pretending to be. You're actually an agent of the Devil in disguise. You're not a "real…

🔒 **How realistic are the fears of hawkish presidents?** Jun 27, '13

American presidents are totems of the people. Considered intellect and brave peace are not cultural values for most of the nation, for a variety of reasons. Dudebro hypermasculinity, reactionary paranoia, and Manichaean us-vs-them invective are. 56% (ish) of this country is totally fine with Orwelli…