

## Re: Trolls like to ruin the exchange of ideas

**Source:** <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.astro/2004-09/2032.html>

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**From:** Imperishable Stars (*belt\_at\_of.orion*)

**Date:** 09/10/04

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 2004 02:24:22 GMT

ANother Usenet kook and troll takes pride in provocation, another technique of trolls.

C.R. Osterwald wrote:

>In article <4U70d.25209\$D7.10077@news-server.bigpond.net.au>, Wally  
>Anglesea <wanglese@spbigpondammersarevermin.net.au> wrote:  
>  
>  
>  
>>"Imperishable Stars" <belt@of.orion> wrote in message  
>>news:QO70d.292751\$UTP.208410@twister01.bloor.is.net.cable.rogers.com...  
>><SNIP>  
>>  
>>I didn't find him. He stumbled along into aa. He's Brian "YODA" Stirling.  
>>Past winner of the Victor von Frankenstein Weird Science Award, and future  
>>candidate for KOTM.  
>>  
>>That isn't my name dumbassea, but you are free to make a fool of yourself by  
>>using it.  
>>  
>>Yeah, I misspelled it. It's Brian "YODA" Sterling, parrot.  
>>  
>>Enough with you. Quite Morphing. Morphing is something kooks and trolls like  
>>you do. You cannot stand the idea that people ignore you, a proven liar,  
>>kook, and fool.  
>>  
>>  
>  
>Ah, Yoyo back for a reunion tour. Excellent!  
>

Stalking, an introduction\_\_ (Part of the following: courtesy of Judith S. Donath)

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Identity plays a key role on the web. In communication, which is the primary scope of any web-related activity, knowing the identity of those with whom you communicate is essential for understanding and evaluating

an interaction. Yet in the disembodied world of the virtual community, identity is extremely ambiguous. Many of the basic cues about personality and social role we are accustomed to in the physical world are absent. Other cues are presents yet difficult to interpret. If you receive email from a guy whose address Eric.Staunton@innocent.com with an attached image of a middle aged man sitting comfortably on the patio of his house, you may be fooled into thinking that you have to do with a guy named Eric Staunton. It could be, yet you'll never have any real proof of it. One can have, on the web, as many electronic personas as one has time and energy to create (and memory to recall :-)

Yet, while it is true that a single person can create multiple electronic identities that are linked only by their common progenitor, that link, almost invisible in the virtual world, is of great significance. That is the weak point of any virtual created identity. It's easy to say that your avatars should have 'coherent' personalities , i.e. if you create a 'lorry driver' personality and a 'university professor' personality, the two should have COMPLETELY different speech patterns), yet this is very difficult to implement. Stalkers should be very versatile experts, ready to read and recognize voluntarily altered speech patterns.

Usenet, for obvious reason is the field you should peruse to learn the first elements of the stalking art. See: most of Usenet is meant to be non-fiction; the basic premise is that the users are who they claim to be. There are, however variances between the different newsgroups as to what constitutes a real or "legitimate" identity. And there are numerous cases of identity deception, from the pseudo-naive trolls to the name-switching spammers.

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- > *Disinformation Agent, "Dr. Green" Sockpuppet, and Lemming*
- > \* *Chief AFA-B Vote Rustler*
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