

[meta]: definition: co-moron

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Acme Diagnostics wrote:

> *"willisA40" wrote:*

>> *Agree with excellent definition of co-moron.*
>> *However morons responding to trolls are already*
>> *morons, so the troll becomes the co-moron.*

> *In context. If you are not responding in context,*
> *but only to identify the moron, then that's*
> *housekeeping.*

I don't think so. *_Any_* feedback, however negative, feeds the ego of the troll, thus

: (1) any feedback at all is bad tactics, and

: (2) each group participant is *_separately_*
: responsible for recognizing when a posting is a
: moron's attempt to troll a newsgroup, and then
: for refusing to acknowledge it with a response.

The problem is endemic to Usenet. Richard Bos recently gave this excellent advice in rec.games.roguelike.nethack:

:: *_No_.* These creatures thrive on attention, and
:: nothing else. As, in fact, you can observe
:: dwnthread. The only solution is to simply let
:: them simmer in their own milksop – eventually,
:: their poor adolescent minds will tire of their
:: game, with no feedback (and remember, to this
:: species of loser, any feedback is positive), and
:: then they will slouch off in search of new prey
:: to slobber over, in some other newsgroup.

FYI

xanthian.

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[I apologize for the strange line leaders on the indented paragraphs; Google Groups Beta has a bug, of which they are well aware, that deletes leading whitespace from lines of postings. I'm using them here despite that problem because they allow one extra newsgroup over MailGate in crossposts.]