

# Re: Abolish Fractions?

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2008-01/msg05173.html>

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- *From:* quasi <[quasi@xxxxxxxx](mailto:quasi@xxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 30 Jan 2008 22:49:46 -0500
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On Wed, 30 Jan 2008 16:38:02 -0800 (PST), amzoti <[amzoti@xxxxxxxx](mailto:amzoti@xxxxxxxx)> wrote:

Thoughts?

[http://www.usatoday.com/tech/science/mathscience/2008-01-23-fractions\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/tech/science/mathscience/2008-01-23-fractions_N.htm)

He's a kook.

Without a solid understanding of ordinary fractions, a student has little chance of understanding algebraic fractions.

Thus, "down with fractions" has, as a corollary, "down with algebra".

Of course, many students would cheer for that, as would many parents. Sadly, many elementary school teachers would also cheer. But that gets to the real problem -- the teachers can't teach it. Why not? Because they don't really understand it themselves.

quasi

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