

# Re: Space travel by humans is not possible now

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.space.policy/2008-01/msg00736.html>

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- *From:* Fred J. McCall <fmccall@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Fri, 25 Jan 2008 17:15:51 -0700
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"Jeff Findley" <jeff.findley@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

:  
:"Fred J. McCall" <fmccall@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
:[news:fljip39uj3nn4cmbkd4nf335tmlfp2ttre@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:fljip39uj3nn4cmbkd4nf335tmlfp2ttre@xxxxxxxxxx)  
:> OM <om@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:  
:> :  
:> :2) DO NOT QUOTE ENTIRE LONG POSTS! Trim them to conserve bandwidth.  
:> :  
:>  
:> The whole 'bandwidth' whine was a strawman argument even back in the  
:> day of slow links.  
:>  
:Way back it was an issue. When I was reading news across a 300, or even  
:1200, baud modem connection, bandwidth was an issue. It took time to  
:download a screen's worth of text.  
:  
:> All of Usenet is a vanishingly small part of what is typically  
:> consuming 'bandwidth' these days.  
:  
:Quoting an entire posting, when it's not necessary, still doesn't make much  
:sense. Today, that's because it's easy enough to go back to the original of  
:the quoted message if you want to read the entire original posting. Quoting  
:an entire posting forces readers to scroll down more than necessary, which  
:does waste a bit of time.  
:

All true (except the 'go back and read the original' is an annoying expectation – trimming is fine and appropriate, but over-trimming is worse than not doing it at all), but the 'bandwidth' whine was generally viewed as being a stupid strawman somewhat on the order of a grammar flame and it's been known to be a bogus reason for complaining about 'over quoting' for at least a couple of decades now.

I'll also note that a lot of the reasons you give above are the same reasons people give for top-posting, a practice which I consider about as mannerly as urinating in a punch bowl at a party.

The real reason is that it's generally just unmannerly to not bother

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to clean out the non-relevant parts of an article you're replying to.  
But OM is too stupid to recognize that as a 'valid' reason, so he uses  
the stupid cliché, instead.

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"Some people get lost in thought because it's such unfamiliar  
territory."

—G. Behn

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