



Ret  
TopMudSites.

FAQ [Mud Database \(Beta\)](#) ▾ [Members List](#) [Calendar](#) [Today's Posts](#) [Search](#) [Re](#)

[Top Mud Sites Forum](#)

> [MUD Players and  
General Discussion](#) >

[Tavern of the Blue](#)



[Hand](#)

[Tavern of the  
Blue Hand ::  
Moderation](#)

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This is a discussion on "**Moderation**" in the Top Mud Sites  
**Tavern of the Blue Hand** forum :

Continuing to rail against it when the mods are patiently trying to give you the hint isn't going to serve any other purpose but to prove beyond a shadow of doubt that you're being a jerk. Are you trying to get your post deleted so you can then say you support the deletion? -Crat [http://lpmuds.net/banned\\_cratt.jpg](http://lpmuds.net/banned_cratt.jpg)...

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Page 4 of 4 < 1 2 3 4 ▾

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08-31-2007, 11:43 AM

#91

**cratylus**

Banned

Join Date: Feb 2006

Posts: 153



Re: Moderation

Quote:

Continuing to rail against it when the mods are patiently trying to give you the hint isn't going to serve any other purpose but to prove beyond a shadow of doubt that you're being a jerk.

Are you trying to get your post deleted so you can then say you support the deletion?

-Crat

[http://lpmuds.net/banned\\_cratt.jpg](http://lpmuds.net/banned_cratt.jpg)



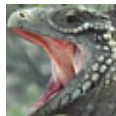
**Quote**

08-31-2007, 11:46 AM

#92

**Samson**

Member



Join Date: Apr 2002

Location: California, USA

Home MUD: Alsherok

Posts: 166



Re: Moderation

No, but if my post gets deleted you won't see me railing on about it for 4 pages either. I'll accept the decision and move on. Which is basically what the mods have been trying to tell you all along.



**Quote**

08-31-2007, 12:37 PM

#93

**cratylus**

Banned

Join Date: Feb 2006

Posts: 153



Re: Moderation

Quote:

No, but if my post gets deleted you won't see me railing on about it for 4 pages either. I'll accept the decision and move on. Which is basically what the mods have been trying to tell you all along.

It's unfortunate that so much of this thread seems to be about how objectionable I personally am, because that's not the point. And yet this seems to be the thing that is most interesting to folks apparently opposed to my position.

Let me try to clarify a couple of things.

- 1 I think moderation is a necessary part of forums.
- 2 I think rules are good.
- 3 I think discussion of rules is good.
- 4 I think that discussion of the application of rules is good.

Now, if you don't think there is benefit to be gained from discussing the rules or their application, then perhaps you could, you know, not discuss them with me, rather than tell me to shut up.

On the other hand, I think there is value in such discussions, and that is what I

am attempting to do here.

In particular, I think that while the rules that govern moderation are not themselves objectionable, the application of moderation has been immoderate.

While making this point, I keep getting my on-point, non-flamatory, rules-compliant posts deleted or edited, which provides me further evidence that my opinion is correct.

In the meantime, since the posts are gone, I am unable to provide others the evidence that my posts are righteous.

Which provides me with further motivation to point out the excess with which the post deletions are happening.

Perhaps someone else would meekly bow their head when confronted with misapplication of authority. I don't see what there is to gain by this here.

As long as authority continues to be misapplied against my reasonable statements of opinion, I will object to that misapplication. I enjoy participating on this site, I don't think it's headed in the right direction with this trigger-happy deletion, and I'm going to try to help by protesting it.

If you don't like it, then for heaven's sake, just don't read it. But calling me a

jerk that should shut up before security tosses him out is just not that useful.

By the way, in case you're tempted to repeat it, let me head you off: the mods are in charge, they do what they want.

-Crat

**LPMuds.net - Index**



08-31-2007, 12:50 PM

#94

## Samson

Member



Join Date: Apr 2002  
Location: California, USA  
Home MUD: AlsheroK  
Posts: 166



Re: Moderation






Quote:

As long as authority continues to be misapplied against my reasonable statements of opinion, I will object to that misapplication. I enjoy participating on this site, I don't think it's headed in the right direction with this trigger-happy deletion, and I'm going to try to help by protesting it.

You're making this as a statement of fact, when it's merely your opinion that their authority is being misapplied. That's the entire core of the argument. It's why I've tried to explain it in as many creative ways as I can, and have even been blunt about doing so at times. Calling the moderation activity "trigger happy deletion" is only furthering your problems

because it continues to present the attitude of open defiance and a desire for anarchy, despite you're previous statements in the very same post claiming to support moderation as a necessary activity.

I'm not sure how else to explain this to you without getting a post deleted in the process, but surely you can see how there's confusion when trying to understand what your real position on the issue is?








Quote

📅 08-31-2007, 12:56 PM
#95

**cratylus**  
Banned

Join Date: Feb 2006  
Posts: 153



Re: Moderation

---

Quote:

You're making this as a statement of fact, when it's merely your opinion that their authority is being misapplied.

I form my statements to indicate how I see things, and that is how I see them. Someone opposed can then examine them for validity and attempt to refute them.

That's debate.

Quote:

I'm not sure how else to explain this to you without getting a post deleted in the process, but surely you can see how there's confusion when trying to

understand what your real position on the issue is?

Heh, no, actually, I don't see that, so maybe this is where we can just agree that we disagree.

I don't see how much clearer I could make it.

What I said, I meant.

-Crat  
**LPMuds.net - Index**



📅 08-31-2007, 01:00 PM

#96

## Samson

Member



Join Date: Apr 2002  
Location: California, USA  
Home MUD: Alsherok  
Posts: 166



Re: Moderation

Ok, then if you'll indulge me in one last (futile?) attempt to make the point clear, here's how I'm interpreting your position:

Moderation is a necessary activity. Rules are a necessary thing. Application of the rules is a necessary thing. Until they're applied to me, and then I'm going to yell, scream, cry, complain, stomp my feet, make an ass of myself, and be a general annoyance - to the point where I'm threatened with banishment, and call it discussion of the application of the rules.

I can't make it any clearer than this without then violating the rules myself.



08-31-2007, 01:02 PM

#97

**the\_logos**

Moderator




Join Date: Sep 2002  
Location: Mill Valley, California  
Posts: 2,066



Re: Moderation

Quote:

Originally Posted by **scandum**   
*Nope, I'm simply voicing my opinion. Now what you are doing is much more offensive and intruding. What you do is speak in the name of Lasher, telling me how Lasher feels about things, and how I should act because you have a psychic hotlink to Lasher and know exactly how he wants everyone to behave.*

No, I'm explaining that freedom means that it's Lasher's party. What he thinks is up to him, but it's his forum.

Quote:

Would you appreciate it if I come to a party you threw and tell people that they cannot complain, and speak softly because they're on Logos' property and should keep their traps shut if anything obnoxious comes to mind because they're in Logos' house, and that Logos' can do with his property whatever the hell he wants. And that if they don't like that they should throw their own party?

That'd be absolutely fine if I had appointed you to do that job. Just like the moderators have been appointed to do our jobs. Here is a Wikipedia link to help explain it: **Delegation - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia**

Quote:

Last time I checked you only own TIC and while I guess it's okay if you speak in the name of Andrew I'm not sure if Lasher appreciates your delusions of grandeur.

I have no idea what TIC is.

--matt



08-31-2007, 01:13 PM

#98

## cratylus

Banned

Join Date: Feb 2006

Posts: 153



Re: Moderation




Quote:






Moderation is a necessary activity. Rules are a necessary thing. Application of the rules is a necessary thing. Until they're applied to me, and then I'm going to yell,


Then let me try one more time too.

It is not about the rules being applied **at all**.

It is about me disagreeing with the **way** they are applied.

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <p>I understand that to you it looks like I'm being a big baby just because the bad thing is happening to <b>me</b>.</p> <p>I'm sorry you think so poorly of me.</p> <p>But this is not what I'm doing here.</p> <p>-Crat<br/><b>LPMuds.net - Index</b></p> <p>  </p> |
|--|--|


|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p> 08-31-2007, 01:15 PM <span style="float: right;">#99</span></p>   |   |
| <p><b>cratylus</b><br/>Banned</p> <p>Join Date: Feb 2006<br/>Posts: 153<br/></p> <p></p> | <p>Re: Moderation</p> <hr/> <p>Quote:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>I have no idea what TIC is.</p> </div> <p>It's a joke. He's referring to The Mud Connector as The IRE Connector.</p> <p>You might have missed it, but there was some controversy there a while back because IRE muds always show up at the top of any search.</p> <p>-Crat<br/><b>LPMuds.net - Index</b></p> <p> </p> |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p> 08-31-2007, 01:49 PM <span style="float: right;">#100</span></p> |   |
| <p><b>Lasher</b><br/>Administrator</p>  | <p>Re: Moderation</p> <hr/> <p>Quote:</p> |



Join Date: May  
2005  
Name: Derek  
Location: Orlando  
Posts: 219



Originally Posted by **cratylus**   
*As I've said before, I'm not trying to  
get banned. I'm saying  
the things I say because I think they  
are true. Perhaps I  
will get banned (note the picture I  
created for the occasion).  
But there's no shame in losing a  
fight if the fight was right.*

-Crat  
[http://lpmuds.net/banned\\_cratt.jpg](http://lpmuds.net/banned_cratt.jpg)

Therein lies the problem. You see it as a fight. You had a post deleted in a thread where you stated the thread had moved onto a tangent. The thread was split off into that tangent. The post was out of place in the old thread and out of place in the new thread, it no longer 'fit' anywhere. You are arguing for arguings sake.

Whenever I encounter someone who is just outright determined to be a victim I tend to oblige them early on and the group/game/team goes back to their daily business. Good faith makes all the difference. Someone who needs (and will respond to) some guidance but means well, or someone who doesn't know any better, is an entirely different situation. Putting the phrase 'good faith' in every other post doesn't make it true.

I do not believe you are here to help promote and discuss MUDs which is the goal of this forum. Obviously this is a subjective judgement and I may be wrong, but it is made. Thankfully, I know you understand as this is a rule from your own forum:

Quote:

3) Behavior I judge to be in conflict with the stated objectives of this site won't be tolerated.

It's also reassuring to see that underneath it all you do understand the dilemma we're in when someone is sucking up your time on their own agenda. Another quote from your own rules:

Quote:

I don't really have the spare time to be always fair, I'm afraid, so I hope you'll forgive me if I censor material unjustly. Just send me a PM explaining why I was unfair, and the chances are I'll take the time to go over it with you. If not, too bad.

Having read this reinforces my belief that you know exactly what you're doing here, although I can only make wild guesses as to why.

Is this a flame? It could be. Should this be in a PM? Absolutely. It is addressed to someone who has asked that they be dealt with in public rather than privately. Instead of having a public interpretation of what was said make it back to some post or other, you can see the exact words here. Maybe I should have posted nothing more than "Cratylus is no longer a member" but this is a new situation with a new team and requires elaboration.

If nothing else, in a thread about moderation it is a glimpse into the thoughts of the administrator so that others can make a better informed decision on whether or not they want to take part in these forums.

If others have concerns about what this means for your own status on TMS feel **free** to post them or PM me, but please refrain from piling on with boos and cheers unless they add something to the discussion.



**chaosprime**


Member



Join Date: Jul 2007  
Home MUD: Lost Souls  
Posts: 106


 Re: Moderation

That's sad. The situation as I thought it existed was 1) that Crat, while being difficult, was also being rational and communicative, 2) that he had a point about overapplication of moderation, which is a non-deadly, expectable, and correctible sin in a new and newly tasked moderation team, and 3) that, despite the "difficulty", the team was hearing Crat's message and trying to work out where exactly it needs to stand.

So it was kinda looking to me like it might work out okay.   
Oh, well. So it goes.



08-31-2007, 02:13 PM

#102

**Detah**

New Member



Join Date: Aug 2007  
Posts: 14



Re: Moderation

Why was he banned?  
I did not see him break the rules.  
And I'm not seeing the explanation in the previous post.  
Are we allowed to know?

Detah@Arcania



08-31-2007, 02:29 PM

#103

**Molly**

Senior Member



Join Date: Apr 2002  
Location: Sweden  
Home MUD: 4 Dimensions  
Posts: 470










Re: Moderation

Was he really banned?

For discussing moderation applications in a thread about

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <p>moderation?</p> <p>If so - sorry, but I regard that as overkill.</p> <p>   </p> |
|--|--|

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | #104   |
| 08-31-2007, 04:13 PM   |  |
| <p><b>Newworlds</b><br/>Senior Member</p> <p>Join Date: Aug 2007<br/>Name: NewWorlds<br/>Home MUD: New Worlds<br/>Posts: 309</p> <p></p> <p></p> | <p>Re: Moderation</p> <hr/> <p>I will only say that the thing that really bugged me most about Crat was his proclivity to use hard returns in his posts, making them look strange. As for moderating, I think it would be good to ban him perhaps for a week in you really wanted to ban him and then longer if necessary. I think banning forever on what someone does if it is not flagrant, is detrimental and leaves everyone feeling like they need to walk on egg shells.</p> <p>   </p> |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | #105  |
| 08-31-2007, 04:33 PM  |   |
| <p><b>the_logos</b><br/>Moderator</p> <p></p> <p>Join Date: Sep 2002<br/>Location: Mill Valley, California<br/>Posts: 2,066</p> <p></p> | <p>Re: Moderation</p> <hr/> <p>Quote:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Originally Posted by <b>Molly</b> </p> <p><i>Was he really banned?</i></p> <p><i>For discussing moderation applications in a thread about moderation?</i></p> <p><i>If so - sorry, but I regard that as overkill.</i></p> </div> <p>Consider this: In the short time</p> |



since the moderation team has been freshly at work, he's received more warnings, I believe, than every other user of TMS put together. Between his personal attacks on people and his "I'm a victim" attention-seeking it's hard to blame Lasher for deciding that his time and the time of the rest of the moderators was being wasted.

--matt

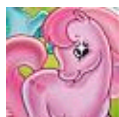


08-31-2007, 04:36 PM

#106

## scandum

Member



Join Date: Jun 2004  
Posts: 107



Re: Moderation

Quote:

Originally Posted by  
**the\_logos**   
*No, I'm explaining that freedom means that it's Lasher's party.*

I hope I'm not the only one who's confused what freedom has to do with throwing a party, aside from the freedom to throw a party.

Quote:

Originally Posted by  
**the\_logos**   
*What he thinks is up to him, but it's his forum.*

Well, if I interpret this correctly you're stating the obvious now, which is quite convenient given you didn't make much sense to me earlier on. So am I correct to assume you state something

awkward first, next summarize it as something obvious, then assume me to believe your previous argument was obvious because you summarized it as such?

If that's the case I find it very clever move, but not overly productive for a discussion, unless you wish to derail it.

Quote:

Originally Posted by

**Lasher** 

*If others have concerns about what this means for your own status on TMS feel **free** to post them or PM me, but please refrain from piling on with boos and cheers unless they add something to the discussion.*

Banning people for what Crat did is actually quite common.

Punishing someone for bad behavior is generally not a big deal, not to mention that some people get a nice kick out of punishing others. The problem is with people disagreeing that the punishment was just which will give the punisher a sour aftertaste upon delivering the sweet punishing, hence you might as well add to the rules that openly disagreeing with the people in charge can get you banned. This way people will be aware that thought crimes are not allowed and hence will not share their thoughts in a forbidden fashion, subsequently avoiding uncomfortable

situations like these where people wonder who will be next because they're not quite certain which of the lemmings is closest to the edge now.

I'm however willing to volunteer for the task of "the lemming that is closest to the edge" since it will give people piece of mind, until I am banned of course, upon which the uncertainty will return until a new uber lemming has courageously stepped forward from the dull masses to bear the burden of the ever impending threat of the forum ban.



08-31-2007, 04:38 PM

#107

## Jazuela

Senior Member

Join Date: Apr 2002  
Location: New England  
Posts: 575



Re: Moderation

Speak for yourself. I don't feel I need to walk on eggshells at all here. I'm sure there are plenty of people who have absolutely nothing to fear from the perceived over-moderation. Personally, I'm surprised it went on as long as it did. He was practically begging for a ban, just to "prove his point" that he was being singled out. Instigating arguements, provoking emotional responses from others, quoting things that were intentionally deleted by moderators, are against the rules in most forums I visit, from mud-related to gardening enthusiasts and everything in between. He was warned via PM, according to both himself and the mods. He was warned many times, according to his own admission and the MODs

who have posted here about this. He was warned that he was going too far, that he was being a pest, that he was being intentionally obtuse, and yet he continued. So - he got banned.

Oh well. At least now, even if he didn't learn his lesson, we won't have to spend the next 5 pages and 3 new topics listening to him gripe about it.



08-31-2007, 04:52 PM

#108

## Lasher

Administrator



Join Date: May 2005

Name: Derek


Location: Orlando

Posts: 219



Re: Moderation

Quote:

Originally Posted by  
**scandum**   
*Punishing someone for bad behavior is generally not a big deal, not to mention that some people get a nice kick out of punishing others. The problem is with people disagreeing that the punishment was just which will give the punisher a sour aftertaste upon delivering the sweet punishing*

There was no "sweetness" or joy in banning Cratylus, he manages an LPMud codebase (driver?), runs a MUD forum of his own (ironically with posted rules very similar to ours) and could add a lot of value here if he chose to.

Most people posting here run some kind of community or another and put significant time

and energy into getting people to try their community. Removing someone goes against everything you try to do, but you reach a point where you make a judgment call that someone's presence is harming or derailing the service overall. We reached that point.



08-31-2007, 05:16 PM

#109

## Detah

New Member




Join Date: Aug 2007

Posts: 14



Re: Moderation

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Jazuela**   
*Instigating arguments, provoking emotional responses from others, quoting things that were intentionally deleted by moderators, are against the rules in most forums I visit, from mud-related to gardening enthusiasts and everything in between. He was warned via PM, according to both himself and the mods.*

It is irrelevant what is against the rules on other forums. That argument has no merit. The rules are posted here now; that is the appropriate yardstick.

There are two threads to your point however which do warrant discussion. First, there is the question of whether he broke the rules as written. I do not think he did. Unless there are more rules that are not in the FAQ Rules section. There are four rules

there. Paraphrasing: 1) no foul lang. 2) no personal flames. 3) stay on-topic. 4) dont reply to off-topic posts. I just do not see where he violated those rules.

Second, is whether the moderators have interpreted their own rules correctly and therefore the banning was justifiable. It does not appear to be so. It looks like Cratylus was banned because he was argumentative. Agreed, he was very argumentative. The important point here is that there is no rule against being argumentative listed in the Rules. If argumentative is the new standard, then certainly several other people need to be banned too. [I am against that, in case it is not clear.] I am really shocked that he got banned for discussing Post Deletions by Moderators in a Moderation thread. That is how it appears to me. The moderators may have some other yardstick here, but the impression I have is quite clear .... he was banned for being argumentative, not because he broke a listed rule.

Also, we have no way to know (and I dont want to know) what the subject matter of the mod's PMS were to Crat. I dont know. I dont think you know either. So speculating that they were justified, is not fair to either side of the debate. Its certainly not evidence for anything, since it is unknown.

What I think needs to be said here is that, it looks like there are 'more' rules on this site that are not explicitly written. If argumentative is a rule, then it

should be stated. It is my honest impression that he was banned and did not break a rule. That is troubling on many levels. And that impression should trouble the moderators.

Detah@Arcania

PS. Just as an aside, I think the rules here are fair.



08-31-2007, 05:36 PM

#110

## Jazuela

Senior Member

Join Date: Apr 2002  
Location: New England  
Posts: 575



Re: Moderation

Give me a break, Detah. Get something straight:

1) Why this one specific poster was banned, was no one's business but his and Lasher's. It isn't our business to know what went on in PMs. The P in PM stands for Private, and it's private for a reason. Often, to save the member from public embarrassment, which is a good thing. For all we know, Craywhatever threatened to find out where Lasher lived and kill him. We don't know, and we won't know, and I'm glad of it. There's such a thing as confidentiality, and Lasher seems to have enough integrity to feel uncomfortable telling us anything, and he only told us what he told us because Craywhatever insisted that all this crap be aired in public.

2) People don't need to disobey a rule in order to get banned. People could be banned for any reason at all, and in fact, there's no rule in that list of rules saying

"spam-bots are against the rules" but I'm very very thankful Lasher bans spam-bots. If you really feel people need -that- much hand-holding, and need to be instructed on every detail of what -might- get them banned, I recommend you work for the Microsoft legal team. They'll love you.

2a) It's common sense. If you troll, you'll annoy enough people enough of the time that the boss's mailbox will be filled with complaints. Enough complaints, and rules or no rules, you're outta there. And good riddance until you learn to play nicely with others. Craywhatever was being a troll, by instigating arguement for the sake of arguement, then claiming he was a victim, making accusations, implying facts that didn't exist, etc. etc. etc. All of that combined - is called trolling/jackassery, and whether it's listed specifically, with links to the dictionary definition for the reader's convenience, in duplicate and notarized - trolling/jackassery is a bannable offense on just about every single forum on the internet - and obviously here too, because - you guessed it - Craywhatever was banned for it.

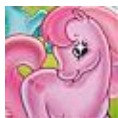


08-31-2007, 06:18 PM

#111

**scandum**

Member



Re: Moderation

Quote:

Originally Posted by  
**Jazuela** ➡  
*Give me a break,*

Join Date: Jun 2004

Posts: 107




*Detah. Get something straight:*

You could give us a break as well, since you're not getting it straight yourself.

Detah made a clear argument and making unjustifiable claims isn't going to help the matter much.

Quote:

Originally Posted by

**Jazuela** 

*1) Why this one specific poster was banned, was no one's business but his and Lasher's.*

This and the rest I snipped for brevity is pure nonsense, using your own reasoning it's up to Lasher who's business it is. Not to mention it's pretty clear why Crat was banned, Lasher even explained it himself.

Quote:

Originally Posted by

**Jazuela** 

*2) People don't need to disobey a rule in order to get banned. People could be banned for any reason at all*

And I guess you don't need to break any laws for a cop to shoot you in the head. You seem to desire some kind of Stalinistic rule by Lasher over this forum. I'm sure you can find some forums out there that can fulfill your fantasy to the fullest, but

personally I don't find the thought very attractive.

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Jazuela**   
2a) *It's common sense.*

Common sense is obviously not that common, it takes two to tango/argue.

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Jazuela**   
*trolling/jackassery is a bannable offense on just about every single forum on the internet*

There's gravity just about everywhere on earth, I demand gravity on TMS!



📅 08-31-2007, 09:43 PM

#112

**Valg**

Moderator




Join Date: Apr 2002  
Home MUD: Carrion Fields  
Posts: 613



Re: Moderation

Quote:

Originally Posted by **scandum**   
*And I guess you don't need to break any laws for a cop to shoot you in the head. You seem to desire some kind of Stalinistic rule by Lasher over this forum. I'm sure you can find some forums out there that can fulfill your fantasy to the fullest,*

*but personally I don't find the thought very attractive.*

The block party analogy given by the \_logos above is something we've used on our game for a long time. Lasher puts in the legwork and foots the bills. He's the host. Everyone else is welcome to come in and have fun. They're the guests. The people Lasher's known for a while are the moderators. They're the people he's asked to help him keep an eye on things. In general, the host wants lots of guests to come by. The more the merrier.

To steal from a co-owner of CF: In that analogy, Cratylus is the guy who drank too much and took a dump on the couch. The host is going to ask him to leave, even if he stands on the lawn afterwards and curses about how the 'Stalinist' violated his 247th Amendment rights to attend any party he pleases.

That doesn't make the host a mass murderer. It makes him a regular guy that wants to go about his business without a pile of unneeded aggravation. TMS has been seeing a lot of long-needed upgrades recently, and I'd rather see him continuing to get that done instead of re-re-re-re-clarifying his every decision.

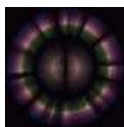


09-01-2007,  
09:16 AM

#1

**Xerihae**

Moderator



Join Date: Oct 2002

Name: Chris

Location:  
Wolverhampton,  
UK

Posts: 305



Re: Moderation

Just so no rumours start flying around, I'd just like to make a few things clear as it's obvious that most of the antagonism between Cratylus and the mod team was vi me.

First off, if you want to "blame" someone for banning Cr; then you can blame the entire moderating team. Whilst the final decision was Lashers, it was discussed between the moderators first and we're all 100% behind him. I will mention the fact that when the discussion came up I abstained from giving an opinion because at the time I was feeling rather annoyed by Crat and I didn't want my emotions clouding my decision. Looking back now after day or so away from the forum I fully agree with the action taken, and I shall explain why.

Crat was/is a competent debater. I'm sure he could (and with certain of his posts did) bring useful information and an opposing viewpoint to a discussion. However, all the skill and flowery language in the world can't hide that a number of his posts were basically trolling. They were posted to get a reaction from someone because he disagreed (justifiably or not depending on your own viewpoint) with someone he was debating with. You can argue he's not the only poster on TMS who utilises such tactics, but to my mind he was the most obvious in doing it.

I think anyone who read his posts knows he disagrees with the way moderating is done on here, but where Crat fell down was in not realising that just because he disagreed does not mean he was automatically right. I recall a post where he hoped I didn't think my own judgement was without flaw, and I couldn't help but remember the old saying "People in glass houses...". Cr thinks we should do things one way. We disagree. It should, and in a perfect world would, have ended there. Crat would have accepted that this was the way the site admin wanted things done and that was that.

Instead, Crat decided to challenge pretty much every moderation decision. There's little doubt in my mind that he realised we weren't going to change everything to suit what he views as the way to moderate, but he continued to argue anyway despite it being made clear that we disagreed with him. My only major gripe with Crat is that he thought he was right, and was determined to prove to us he was when the entire issue of what is acceptable moderation is up to the site admins to decide and not a

clear-cut,  
this-way-is-the-way-to-do-it-and-if-you-don't-you're-wron  
issue.

As for his opinions on post deletions and whether they were warranted or not, that's exactly what they were: His opinions. When it comes to moderation you will never get 100% of people to support every decision. Some will be happy with it, some won't, and this can and will change from decision to decision. As moderators all we can do is use our own judgement and opinion as to what action is warranted and go with it. We do discuss things between us when we can, but sometimes quick action is needed head off people responding to flame bait. No-one is infallible, and we're certainly not above making mistakes but that sort of thing you just have to accept. To err is human, etc.

The one thing I really would like to say is that despite some reservations some of you may have, I fully support the moderating team we now have in place on TMS. I know some of you disagree with some of the moderator positions when it comes to normal, MUD-related topics and that's fine. There's disagreement between us moderators too. Just don't let their opinions on other topics influence your opinion of them as a moderator, because I can honestly say that if I thought there was a hint of a conflict of interest going on I wouldn't be here. We're working to make TMS a relevant place for discussion again, something I haven't really seen happen here for years. Yes we'll make mistakes, but in the long term I think what we're doing will speak for itself. I've already seen some names browsing here that I haven't seen for a good few years, and to me that's a positive sign.



09-01-2007, 04:17 PM

#114

## Threshold

Senior Member



Join Date: Apr 2002

Re: Moderation

For what it is worth, I think the moderating team is doing a better job now than they have ever done on TMS.

Personal attacks are an endangered species for the first

Home MUD: Threshold RPG  
Posts: 621



time ever.

It is so nice to participate in threads and actually read content. It is nice to feel like I can post an opinion without the Usual Suspects chiming in with their same, tired personal attacks over and over.

Crat was trolling, plain and simple. You don't need an express rule to forbid that.

One thing I have learned in 11+ years of running muds is that you can never write a rule for everything, and trying to do so just gives the jerks out there a means to try and rules lawyer you.



09-01-2007, 10:00 PM

#115

## Newworlds

Senior Member

Join Date: Aug 2007  
Name: NewWorlds  
Home MUD: New Worlds  
Posts: 309



Re: Moderation

Quote:

Originally Posted by

**Threshold**

*For what it is worth, I think the moderating team is doing a better job now than they have ever done on TMS.*

*Personal attacks are an endangered species for the first time ever.*

*It is so nice to participate in threads and actually read content. It is nice to feel like I can post an opinion without the Usual Suspects chiming*

*in with their same, tired personal attacks over and over.*

*Crat was trolling, plain and simple. You don't need an express rule to forbid that.*

*One thing I have learned in 11+ years of running muds is that you can never write a rule for everything, and trying to do so just gives the jerks out there a means to try and rules lawyer you.*

Perhaps because I'm relatively new to these Forums, I found it tough to deal with a person being banned without a temporary ban first. Regardless I have to agree with the above.



Page 4 of 4 < 1 2 3 4 ▾

« Professional vs Hobbyist | PK restricted or unrestricted? »

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-- TMS - Dark

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