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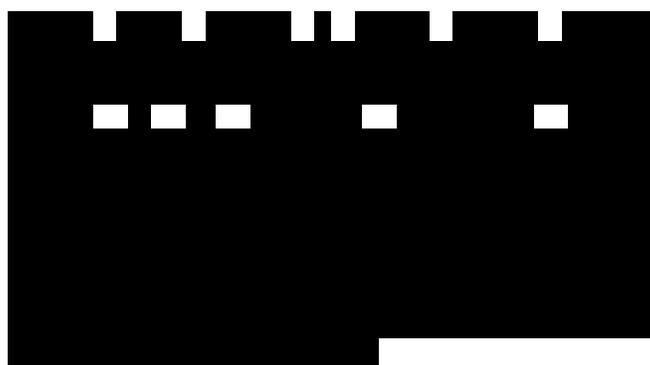


Wuh.

January 16th, 2002 (04:32 pm)

current mood: quixotic

current song: None.



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Posted by: ▼▼▼ Xydexx ▼▼▼

(xydexx) [redacted]

Posted at: January 16th, 2002
04:02 pm (local)



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Damned if you do, damned if you don't.

Let me preface this by saying I know what a soul-sucking waste of time furry politics are, or at least I *should* know better. I can't seem to wrap my head around this one though, and hope someone will be able to explain this to me:

Why is it that whenever stuff like the MTV schlockumentary comes out, I'm pretty much unaffected by it. I can go on with my daily life and not worry that "everyone thinks furry=pervert", because my own personal experience confirms that they don't.

On the other side of the coin, we have folks on AFF who go totally ballistic, about how stuff like this. How it's going to give them (us) a bad name. How hotels are going to turn us away, and the media has supposedly run away with the

term furry, and so on.

So even though this stuff hasn't effected me, I'm still compelled to be helpful and offer suggestions of what to do about it. I draw on personal experience to come up with solutions that have a realistic basis. One would think, if the negative media attention was as world-shatteringly bad as folks say it is, that they'd be willing to at least give these things a try.

Yet time and again, it becomes apparent that if something can be done to combat the negative media attention, it's the last thing these folks want. They won't even try to change it. Furry fandom is doomed! Dooooooooooooomed! It's like they enjoy complaining about it. And inevitably, I'll realize how much time I'm wasting, and remember that when it all comes down to it, this stuff *still* doesn't effect me, and just go back to enjoying the things I like and not worrying about it.

Not to say that everyone out who expresses concern about the fandom's image is like this. There are a lot of level-headed, rational, good people in this fandom who are concerned about the fandom's image, but as I've mentioned elsewhere, aren't really organized. They're not the ones I'm talking about. The ones I'm talking about seem to fall into three categories. And as much as I dislike making generalizations, I'm gonna do it anyway:

- **Burned Furs** - Usually disenfranchised "old guard" furry fandom like ██████████ preaching the familiar "Take Back The Fandom" rhetoric. They're mainly using "cleaning up the fandom" not out of want for discretion at cons or concern for furry fandom's image, but because they simply "don't like the perverts".
- **Trolls/Flamers** - Conflict-obsessed sociopaths like Stukafox who get off on stirring up trouble. The "it's great to hate" crowd. Angry, angsty folks who go around saying how much they hate the fandom because they think it makes them look cool. (Hint: If the fandom was as bad as they said it was, *why don't they leave?*)
- **Ruiners** -These are the ones I know the least about, because they seem to keep a low profile. Folks like Betty Roget or Sonny Windstrup, who, for whatever reason, hate the fandom and will stop at nothing to monkeywrench and sabotoge and drive it into the ground.

Any thoughts?

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