

# Fantastic Trolls

and how to fight them

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# CONCERN TROLL

You can find them lurking in online "safe spaces" where members of minority groups meet to fight for their rights. A Concern Troll will pretend to be willing to agree with you, if you will simply address a few "concerns". However, their concerns are never ending and the troll will never be convinced. They will keep demanding your time and energy by repeating the same question again, and again and never be satisfied with your answer.

When your patience is worn out, they will call you a "hysterical extremist" and happily crawl back to their cave until they find a new victim.

How to fight this troll? At first it can be hard to distinguish between a concern troll and someone who is genuinely interested. Sometimes legitimate critics will have the same questions as a concern troll. For this reason, address the concerns, but if you notice the person is draining your energy or you are chasing your own tail, disengage immediately. You are under no obligation to give anyone a free education.

According to this troll, everything you do sucks. You suck, your memes suck, your house and dog and that essay you wrote in primary school also suck.



How to fight this troll? Don't engage! Remember you don't get any validation from making people feel bad and for that reason you have already won! Next, report the troll! Trolls that feed on the misery of others can wreak havoc on people's lives.



# TL;DR TROLL

TL;DR is an abbreviation for “too long, didn't read”. You don't need to search for this troll, this one will find you when you least expect it.

The TL;DR troll is the bane of every social media manager's existence. Even though they haven't read what you posted, they still have a Super Important and Nuanced Opinion.

In reality, this person just likes the sound of their own voice and there is not much meaningful interaction to be had.

How to fight it? Don't point out they're failing to read or understand what is actually being said and don't go summing up the information either. No matter what you say they will just attack every ambiguity and claim you make as if you are the one who 'doesn't get it'.

Baiter trolls consider themselves artists. They hide in the shadows, gathering information and waiting for their opportunity to strike. When they do strike, it will typically be a stealth attack on a conversation, derailing the entire thing with one inflammatory comment, before scurrying back to the shadows, to giddily watch the chaos unfold.



**BAITER  
TROLL**

How to fight this troll? Use their weapons of stealth and information gathering against them. People who are interested in a conversation will participate in it. A troll will repeatedly attack it only to leave it once it is left in ruins.

The fact that you've written a nuanced argument filled with verified scientific facts and loaded with evidence is irrelevant because you've written irrelevant instead of irrelevant. HAHA, clearly all of your content is wrong.



**SPELLCHECKER  
TROLL**

How to fight this troll? Ignore it. Or better still, go all Oscar Wilde in talks to his editors on them, "I'll leave you to tidy up the woulds and shoulds, wills and shalls, thats and whiches etc."



# HOLY CAUSE TROLL

The Holy Cause troll will sniff out any opportunity to derail a conversation onto its pet topic. This troll has decided its life's mission is to tell everyone that unicorns suck and my goodness they will take every opportunity to do so.

You've shared a picture of yourself with friends on an outing to the park. "Let's see how nice this park will be in 5 years when the Unicorns take over, hee hee". Perhaps you posted a link about bees dying out? There is a response for this too, "TOO BAD THE UNICORNS ARE TOO CONCERNED ABOUT THEMSELVES TO SAVE THE PLANET!"

How do you fight this troll? Block and Ignore. This person is not interested in you or your opinion. For them, you are a wall to write their own message on - you have no obligation to be anyone's sound board.

Vulgar troll has all the vocabulary of George Carlin but none of the humor. This trolls' contribution to the conversation is one or more swear words that have no purpose other than spreading profanities as widely as possible.

How to fight this troll? Block and report. Or don't, I guess, if you don't mind a potty-mouth.



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This guide was developed and adapted for the Get The Trolls Out! Project

