

Comment Moderation Policy

Readers who submit comments accept that they are subject to the following constraints:

1. All comments are moderated, and subject to editing or to deletion.
2. When you submit a comment, my decision to publish will be based on whether your comment conforms with a set of guidelines, which are:
 - Park your flame-thrower at the door. Misunderstandings are possible when we use electronic communication. If you see something that you don't understand please ask questions, rather than to accuse or condemn. I reserve the right to edit or delete comments that are likely to inflame passions.
 - Refrain from personal attacks, hate speech, racism, bigotry, or profanity, or comments that may expose me (and yourself) to defamation lawsuits. Failing to do so will result in the comment being deleted.
 - Your comment should be relevant to the original post and subsequent discussion.
3. No discussion will be entered into on my moderation decisions.
4. I reserve the right to close discussion on a particular issue, and to close the entire comments service if necessary.
5. I've asked for your email address in case I need to contact you, but it will not be published with your comment, nor will it be published anywhere else.

TROLLS

When you suspect that somebody is a troll (someone who comes online to cause trouble), you might try responding with a polite, mild message, or ignore the comment. However, if the person persists and seems to enjoy being unpleasant, the only effective position is summed up as follows: The only way to deal with trolls is to limit your reaction to reminding others not to respond to trolls.