Trolls, Drama and Gossip

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What is trolling?

The art of deliberately, cleverly, and secretly pissing people off, usually via the internet, using dialogue.

Trying to get a rise out of someone. Forcing them to respond to you, either through wise-crackery, posting incorrect information, asking blatantly stupid questions, or other foolishness.

(urbandictionary.com)
What is drama?

A way of relating to the world in which a person **consistently overreacts to or greatly exaggerates the importance of benign events**.

Typically drama is used by people who are **chronically bored** or those who **seek attention**.

People who engage in "drama" will usually attempt to **drag other people into their dramatic state**, as a way of **gaining attention** or making their own lives more exciting.

(urban dictionary.com)
Exaggeration or fabrication of a story, regarding somebody other than the tale bearer, in the absence of this person who is being discussed - for the malicious purpose of demeaning, slandering or tarnishing this person's reputation.
Disclaimer

Sometimes there's a fine line between difference of opinion and trolling/drama/gossip!
- attention
- entertainment
- making a statement
- disruption
- bonding and exclusion
- personal gain

Goals of trolling, drama and gossip
- boredom
- inability to communicate a problem
- hurt feelings
- misunderstandings
Have you heard of emacs?

I think you should change a few defaults.

Yo, ur program really sucks, man!
• topics coming up again and again
• urge to reply "YOU ARE WRONG!"
• targeting your sore spots
• often vague or overly broad
• history
● a target (often a vulnerable community)
● a venue
● empathy
● something to troll about
● (a person to proxy-troll for them)
Weapons against trolls, drama and gossip
"You need exactly one jerk in your community so everyone else knows how not to behave."

Hmmmmmmmm... maybe!
Beware of the echo chamber
Trolling, drama and gossip?
Only if someone takes part!
Your best weapons: unity and ignoring
Your second-best weapon: knowledge
What are they on about?
Why is it actually important how we deal with this?
Make an action plan / have a shared understanding in your community!
Invest in FREEDOM
join as a supporting member

Open Advice

jointhegame.kde.org
open-advice.org