

Trouble **NATION**  **301**



*BECAUSE PROTECTING DEMOCRACY
IS MORE FUN WITH FRIENDS!*

**Harassment Training: Dealing with Trolls Online
and IRL**

AGENDA

01 Ground Yourself

02 Anatomy Of a Disinfo Campaign

03 Self and Community Care

04 “Change My Mind”

05 Fighting in Front of the Kids

06 Protect Yourself

Ground Yourself

Who's on my side?

- Facts/Truth/Science
- The vast majority of my community
- The Angels (Helping kids is just the right thing to do)



Ground Yourself

Who's on my side?

- Teachers/Librarians/Educators
- Pediatricians and Medical Professionals
- Mental Health Experts
- Former students
- LGBTQ Advocacy Organizations
- Co-workers and extended partner network (look around)
- My support circle (friends, family)



Ground Yourself

Who's on my side?

- More than 60% of Americans oppose banning LGBTQ+ lessons in school.
- 83% do not support banning books critical of U.S. History
- 87% do not support banning books that discuss race.
- 64% believe transgender people should be protected from discrimination (willing to bet if you change people to kids and discrimination to bullying, that number is even higher)
- 80-90% support sexual health education in schools.



Anatomy of A Disinfo Campaign

Goal: Political power

Strategy: Undermine public education

Tactics: Demoralize the good guys,
Create chaos to obscure the strategy,
Flood the zone so the truth doesn't stand out



Anatomy of A Disinfo Campaign

Why demoralize us?

- Because you are effective
- Can't win with good-faith argument
- Can't support with facts
- If the truth is heard, it is believed
- Public Education is extremely popular.

Bottom line: You are powerful. The only way they win is if they make you give up.



Self & Community Care

- Self care: Actions you take to meet your needs
- Community Care: Actions your group takes to take care of each other



Self & Community Care

Use your support system.

- When do you need community care?
- What kinds of actions do you want taken?
- Who can you call on to care for you in these ways?



Self & Community Care

What is restorative to you?

- A ritual to get past a tough day.
- Reconnecting with your purpose.
- Screaming it out with a friend.
- A hot bath and a large wine...



The “Change My Mind” Guy



The “Change My Mind” Guy

It's ok to ignore the opposition — in fact it's important to.



Remember their goal isn't to change your mind, it's to waste your time.

Facebook & Fighting in Front of the Kids

Know yourself. (And forgive yourself if this isn't for you!)

Know your *real* audience.

Model calm and common sense.

Disengage when your point is made.

Don't take the fight into the street.



Protect Yourself

Have a friend read your mentions.

Block, report, delete, and move on.

Buddy system when you know you'll encounter harassment.

Remember the goal is to get you to engage.

Escalate when there's a threat.



Protect Yourself

Public Spaces

- Have a buddy
- Hit record
- Know your exits

Private Property

- Have the owner/manager run interference
- Stay calm
- Turn up the music



Protect Yourself

Remember: Joy is Resistance

(Don't let the b@t@r!s get you down)



Questions?

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