

Free Speech Vs. Hate Speech

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Agenda

- **What's Free Speech ?**
- **What's Hate Speech ?**
- **What's the difference between them ?**
- **How can be the size of Hate Speech inside the Wikimedia movement ?**
- **What are the tips and solutions to prevent Hate Speech ?**

**“ I disapprove of
what you
say, but I will
defend to the death
your right to say it. ”**

Voltaire - Evelyn Beatrice Hall



Portrait of Voltaire , After Maurice Quentin de La Tour
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Freedom of speech

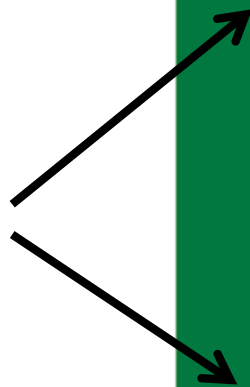
- Principle that supports the freedom of an individual or a community to articulate their opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship, or legal sanction.
- Human right under article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and recognized in international human rights law in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).



Article 19 of *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Free Speech



Wikimedia movement

Wikimedia projects

Wikimedia Foundation Guiding Principles

- Information can't be removed from the Wikimedia projects to satisfy private or government interests. WMF will never facilitate, enable or condone censorship of the Wikimedia projects.
- In making decisions, WMF will not allow censorship of the projects as a means to facilitate other strategic goals.

Wikipedia

- **Neutral point of view**
- **Representing fairly, proportionately, and, as far as possible, without editorial bias, all of the significant views that have been published by reliable sources on a topic.**
- **This policy is non-negotiable**

Hate Speech

- **Statement to demean and brutalize another.**
- **The use of cruel and derogatory language on the basis of real or alleged membership in a social group.**
- **Speech that attacks a person or a group on the basis of protected attributes such as race, religion, ethnic origin, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity.**
- **Victim of hate speech may seek redress under civil law, criminal law, or both. !!!!!**

What's the difference between free speech and hate speech ?

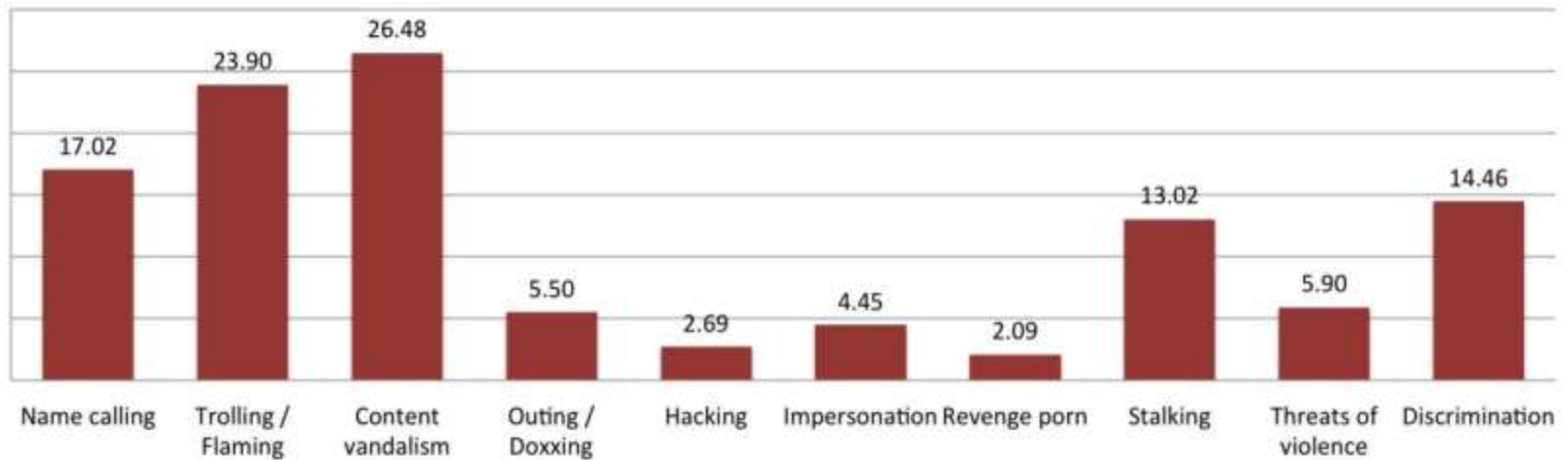


Fibonacci Blue from Minnesota, USA [CC BY 2.0
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The size and consequences of hate speech in Wikipedia

73% (2014 Pew Report)

Types of harassment experienced by occurrence average



Study conducted by the trust and safety team of the Wikimedia Foundation (from "Ex Machina: Personal Attacks Seen at Scale", by Ellery Wulczyn, Nithum Thain and Lucas Dixon)

The size and consequences of hate speech in Wikipedia

The Wikimedia Foundation found that 54% of those who had experienced online harassment expressed decreased participation in the project where they experienced the harassment.

Tips and solutions to fight against Hate speech

- **Report it !!!**
- **Growing awareness inside communities**
- **Trust and safety team**

Thank you !!!



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