Wikipedia: Past present and future

Sue Gardner, Executive Director, Wikimedia Foundation
The ideal encyclopedia should be radical. It should stop being safe.

I suppose the most revolutionary act one can engage in is to tell the truth.

Wikimedia Audience Compared With Other Information Sites

Measured using global unique visitors, in millions. Data from comScore.
287

WIKIPEDIA LANGUAGE VERSIONS
30 million ARTICLES
RANK OF WIKIPEDIA IN TOP SITES, GLOBALLY (comScore Mediametrix)
505 million

PEOPLE READ WIKIPEDIA EVERY MONTH  (comScore, September 2013)
COST TO USE WIKIPEDIA
YES, IT’S FREE
180

PAID EMPLOYEES
80,000

WIKIPEDIA ACTIVE EDITORS (5+ edits per month)
Wikipedia flourished because it was a shrine to **altruism** - a place for shy, learned people to deposit their trawls.

Wikipedia represents a belief in the supremacy of reason and goodness of others.

Daniel Pink, “The Book Stops Here,” Wired magazine, March 2005
Wikipedia works because those who know the truth are usually more numerous & committed than those who believe in a falsehood.

Thank you.