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INTERNET HUB OFFERS BOTH SIDES OF GAME VIOLENCE DEBATE

Internet Hub Offers Both Sides of Game Violence Debate

February 8, 2010



ProCon.org, a California-based nonprofit charity that specializes in promoting "critical thinking" by presenting both sides of compelling issues has launched a new site dedicated to the topic of video games and violence.

The hub offers an introduction to the topic, noting that "The effect of violent video games on children and teens has been debated by researchers and the media since the release of the video game Death Race in 1976."

It then lists a variety of research and opinions on the subject, from both sides of the fence, and offers gathered images and videos on the subject. Visitors to the site can take a survey on the subject and add their own voice to the debate. A separate debate section highlights pros and cons offered by politicians, scholars or public figures.

A 1999 quote from Bill Clinton is used on the pro (or, yes, violent games contribute to youth violence) side:

... video games like 'Mortal Kombat,' 'Killer Instinct,' and 'Doom,' the very game played obsessively by the two young men who ended so many lives in Littleton, make our children more active participants in simulated violence.

A Henry Jenkins quote is utilized to illustrate the con side of the argument:

According to a 2001 U.S. Surgeon General's report, the strongest risk factors for school shootings centered on mental stability and the quality of home life, not media exposure. The moral panic over violent video games is doubly harmful.

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Re: Internet Hub Offers Both Sides of Game Violence Debate

Submitted by gellymatos - February 8, 2010 at 2:26 pm -0500

This is actually a good idea, assuming enough of both sides join in on the debate. The gamers will for sure. The problems are two things: 1. Those against violent videogames not showing up. 2. Rude gamers making the decent ones look bad.

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Re: Internet Hub Offers Both Sides of Game Violence Debate

Submitted by Dejiko - February 8, 2010 at 4:13 pm -0500

I've posted my views on the site. I think other people here really should take a few minutes to do the same, and do so politely. The survey is VERY short. It asks if you are pro or con and about the importance of the issue, and has a space to write your views in more detail.

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GamePolitics ShoutBox

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:51pm

DarkSaber: I think he just goes round the internet copy+pasting the same bollocks to get attention.

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:41pm

Valdearg: @DS: I have to admit, I chuckled when I saw the 4 Feb 2010 on that post.. >.<

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:31pm

DarkSaber: Hm, Bioshock. Not that Zippy likes to beat the dead horse by ranting about it for TWO \$%£ING YEARS!

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:30pm

DarkSaber: <http://www.escapistmagazine.com/forum-Bioshock-yet-another-zippy-rant>

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:26pm

Valdearg: @DS: Link!! LINK!

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:20pm

DarkSaber: Although, unsurprisingly, he's just being called an idiot alot and criticised for being as illegible as always.

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:18pm

DarkSaber: Oh good lord, I just found Zippy on The Escapist.

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:14pm

Valdearg: IE: Male body/Female Mind or Female Body/Male Mind.

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:13pm

Valdearg: @Zip: TG == Transgendered/Transsexual.

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:09pm

DarkSaber: Forget it Zippy, it's an abbreviation of a big word and so would be wasted on you

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:07pm

ZippyDSMlee: Vlag:TG?

Posted 02/09/10 at 03:02pm

Valdearg: @DS: Im sure that's what

Re: Internet Hub Offers Both Sides of Game Violence Debate
Submitted by **mdo7** - February 8, 2010 at 4:36 pm -0500

I just went over there to take a survey. If anybody reading this article, go to that site and do the survey. If you join the debate bring every evidence to show them that video game does not cause violence. Use the FBI Statistic on crimes to prove your point. Also, to discredit the haters, show what happen to Jack Thompson, Rob Blagoevich, and the like of those politicians.



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they'd do if it wasn't legal to just tell Gays/TG's to "Screw off," just because they're who they are.

Posted 02/09/10 at 02:50pm

DarkSaber: Whoever told him/her/it that is dumb. They should have done like most companies and made-up some bullshit, yet legal, reason for it not getting the job.

Posted 02/09/10 at 01:18pm

Valdearg: I do agree that it shouldn't be legal. That's for sure.

Posted 02/09/10 at 01:16pm

Andrew Eisen: Shouldn't be. Spirit of anti-discrimination laws would seem to include sexual orientation (and eye color). Plus there's always equal protection and such. Never know until you try.

Posted 02/09/10 at 01:14pm

Valdearg: @AE: Doubtful. Again, it's perfectly legal.

Posted 02/09/10 at 01:10pm

Andrew Eisen: Should have sued (unless that wasn't an option given her financial situation or something). Might have won.

Posted 02/09/10 at 01:00pm

Valdearg: Story about a Male to Female TG who was expressly told she wouldn't be given a job because she was TG. Its not the main point of the story, but explicit, perfectly legal discrimination like this exists.

Posted 02/09/10 at 12:53pm

Valdearg: Lol, I don't know. It may very well be legal to do so. Though that might able to fall under the "race" restriction, depending on how that point is argued.

Posted 02/09/10 at 12:51pm

Valdearg: I don't think they do have any legal recourse. I'll have to dig around, but I seriously believe that if the law doesn't specifically mention Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity, they can still be discriminated against in those 29 states.

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Re: Internet Hub Offers Both Sides of Game Violence Debate
Submitted by **DarkSaber** - February 8, 2010 at 6:08 pm -0500

No.

I LIKE the fence. I get 2 groups to laugh at then.

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Re: Internet Hub Offers Both Sides of Game Violence Debate
Submitted by **hellfire7885** - February 8, 2010 at 6:37 pm -0500

we kinda don't need to drag those names out. Those people are done and over with. We should just present our case and hope for the best.

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Re: Internet Hub Offers Both Sides of Game Violence Debate
Submitted by **TBoneTony** - February 8, 2010 at 8:59 pm -0500

FBI crime graph is good enough to bring for evidence, as well as the long line of Scare Tactics and Moral Panics that happened with books, radio, comics, TV, movies, cartoons, videogames, dolls, computers and so many other things.

Plus look at wars that are happening in other countries and ask if those countries had videogames?

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Games-related Events

- ★ ComiCon International
- ★ Consumer Electronics Show (CES)
- ★ E3 Expo
- ★ Game Developers Conference (GDC)
- ★ GCDC (Leipzig)
- ★ GenCon
- ★ NY ComicCon
- ★ Penny Arcade Expo (PAX)
- ★ QuakeCon
- ★ Tokyo Game Show
- ★ Video Games Live
- ★ VGXPO

Free Speech Resources

- ★ Electronic Frontier Foundation
- ★ First Amendment Center
- ★ Game Censorship
- ★ Media Coalition
- ★ National Coalition Against Censorship
- ★ PA Center for the First Amendment
- ★ Save The Internet (Net Neutrality)
- ★ Technology Liberation Front

Parental Resources

- ★ AOL PlaySavvy
- ★ What They Play

Games About Politics

- ★ Darfur is Dying
- ★ Democracy
- ★ iBallOut!
- ★ President Forever + Primaries
- ★ The Political Machine 2008

Gamers Doing Good

- ★ Able Gamers Foundation
- ★ Blue Redefine
- ★ Child's Play Charity
- ★ Folding@Home Project
- ★ Fun For Our Troops
- ★ Gaming4others
- ★ Get Well Gamers Foundation
- ★ Gifts From Gamers
- ★ Gamers Outreach Foundation

Video Game Industry

- ★ ELSPA (U.K.)
- ★ Entertainment Merchants Association (EMA)
- ★ Entertainment Software Association (ESA)
- ★ Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB)
- ★ ESA Canada
- ★ International Game Developers Association (IGDA)
- ★ Pan-European Game Information (PEGI)

GP On Joystiq

- ★ Joystiq Columns

Watchdog Organizations

- ★ Campaign for a Commercial-free Childhood
- ★ Center for Successful Parenting
- ★ Center on Media & Child Health
- ★ Common Sense Media
- ★ Families de France
- ★ Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility
- ★ National Institute on Media & the Family
- ★ Parents Television Council
- ★ Pause Parent Play
- ★ The Lion & Lamb Project
- ★ World of Warcraft Widows

