NeoGAF
BELIEVE

Closed Thread

Levine: BioShock Infinite's religious themes led dev to consider quitting : Page 5 Subscribe

Dinzy
Member
(03-01-2013, 04:28 AM)

#401

I would have fired him. Nothing worse than having the easily offended religious guy that you have to look over your shoulder for just to make sure you don't make him cry. If you can't handle religious criticism then you fail at being religious.

Htown
STOP SHITTING ON MY MOTHER'S HEADSTONE
(03-01-2013, 04:29 AM)

#402

This thread is a perfect example of exactly what Levine was talking about.

thepotatoman
Member
(03-01-2013, 04:29 AM)

#403

"I actually don't have much experience with religion, but please buy my game about religion" seems like a pretty poor pr stunt to me.

But whatever, it's not like I'm getting this game for it's meaningful social commentary.

diamount
Banned
(03-01-2013, 04:30 AM)

#404

> Originally Posted by **Dinzy**
> I would have fired him. Nothing worse than having the easily offended religious guy that you have to look over your shoulder for just to make sure you don't make him cry. If you can't handle religious criticism then you fail at being religious.

Don't be fucking ridiculous.

CambriaRising
Member
(03-01-2013, 04:33 AM)

#405

> Originally Posted by **Dinzy**

> I would have fired him. Nothing worse than having the easily offended religious guy that you have to look over your shoulder for just to make sure you don't make him cry. If you can't handle religious criticism then you fail at being religious.

Wrongful termination suit incoming.

CornBurrito
Member
(03-01-2013, 04:33 AM)

#406

> Originally Posted by **HK-47**
> Law ending in DS was good? Could have fooled me.

Relative to the law endings in other SMT games? Yes. Yes yes yes.

---

thepotatoman
Member
(03-01-2013, 04:33 AM)

#407

> Originally Posted by **Dinzy**
> I would have fired him. Nothing worse than having the easily offended religious guy that you have to look over your shoulder for just to make sure you don't make him cry. If you can't handle religious criticism then you fail at being religious.

Good lord man calm down. You don't know anything about this guy.

---

rosaceadude2112
Member
(03-01-2013, 04:34 AM)

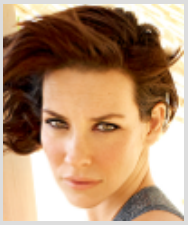
#408

Wow, you're saying Jesus Christ died for my sins? Then what?

---

neoism
Member
(03-01-2013, 06:18 PM)

#409



> Originally Posted by **CambriaRising**
> Wrongful termination suit incoming.

> Originally Posted by **diamount**
> Don't be fucking ridiculous.

meh same I would have just let him quit....religion has no place what so ever in the work place....or anywhere but that persons church.... no law suit needed...

---

diamount
Banned
(03-01-2013, 06:21 PM)

#410

> Originally Posted by **neoism**
> meh same I would have just let him quit....religion has no place what so ever in the work place....or anywhere but that persons church.... no law suit needed...

Nothing stopped him from quitting. Firing him because of religious reasons is a lawyers wet dream.

SummitAve
Member
(03-01-2013, 06:23 PM)

#411

The level of acceptance in this thread has a reddit vibe...

fvng
Member
(03-01-2013, 11:27 PM)

#412

> Originally Posted by **Draft**
> Wow, just wow. It was bad enough when Levine was ripping off System Shock 2 plot points for Bioshock. Now he's ripping off Modern Warfare 2? What a hack.

So true, these themes should never be revisited in video games.

/sarcasm

Jason's Ultimatum
Americans out of Mexico!
The Border Tax Equity Act
(03-01-2013, 11:35 PM)

#413

Maybe I'm reading it wrong, but if this developer is extremely religious, then why is he developing Bioshock?

Htown
STOP SHITTING ON MY MOTHER'S HEADSTONE
(03-01-2013, 11:44 PM)

#414

> Originally Posted by **Jason's Ultimatum**
> Maybe I'm reading it wrong, but if this developer is extremely religious, then why is he developing Bioshock?

. . .

what?

Crom
Member
(03-01-2013, 11:44 PM)

#415

> Originally Posted by **DocSeuss**
> This certainly increases my respect for the man. Too many people just seem to run ahead with absurd, offensive caricatures of religious characters (hi Infamous 2 and Resistance 3!), where they're portrayed as bizarrely superstitious (and not in a positive way, like, say, Native Americans) and incapable of any critical thought.
>
> This kind of caricature tends to come from people who aren't religious themselves. It's a rookie writing mistake. The train of thought is something like "oh, well, religion's obviously fake, so these people can't be logical at all." Problem is, humans are... significantly more complex than that. I live in a very science-driven community, but we also have a high degree of religious individuals here--and yes, there's a significant overlap. Lots of people here who are both religious and scientists. They're very logical, very rational, completely normal humans, not weirdos who think Satan's hiding behind every corner trying to get at them by way of black gay muslim atheists or something, but that's precisely the kind of caricature I see all too often.
>
> As a writer/writer wannabe, I've spent a lot of time studying people, just watching them, how they react to things, why they do what they do, and so on and so forth... and the way religious characters are portrayed is almost *exclusively* the sort of non-existent (unless, maybe, you count Fred Phelps' church or some of the more cult-like Christian offshoots) evangelical types.
>
> I don't think I've ever seen a well-written religious character in games.
>
> Still, even if Levine revised his script, I find myself worrying. Comstock, after all, is a religious bad guy. If he's anything like the characters seen in Bioshock, he'll be, effectively, a hyperbolic literary device. Will he be balanced out with more reasonable characters? If you're

> having a hard time understanding the concerns I've got here, think of it like this: a writer establishes a 'ghetto' character who exists as an antagnost in the game. His portrayal is hyperbolic, but exists to point out the flaws in ghetto culture (and there are many). At worst, the writer runs the risk of coming across as saying "lol, black people suck," which, of course, isn't true.

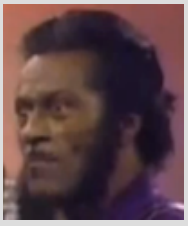
Good post.

Duxxy3
Member
(03-01-2013, 11:48 PM)

#416

Lunatics crack me up too.

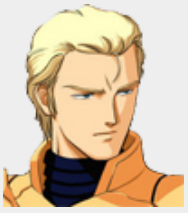
Andrew.
Banned
(03-01-2013, 11:49 PM)



#417

This is exactly what Ken wanted to happen.

Tookay
Member
(03-01-2013, 11:51 PM)



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I like this post. A lot.

> Originally Posted by **pot**
> I'm sick of things being changed because of some religious nutjob.

> Originally Posted by **Dinzy**
> I would have fired him. Nothing worse than having the easily offended religious guy that you have to look over your shoulder for just to make sure you don't make him cry. If you can't handle religious criticism then you fail at being religious.

This... wasn't what the piece was about. At all. It's more telling of what you believe and tolerate, than of the developer or Levine.

Last edited by Tookay; 03-02-2013 at 12:03 AM.

Robert at Zeboyd Games
Zeboyd Games
(03-02-2013, 01:08 AM)

#419

The general depiction of religion in Japanese games like SMT doesn't bother me because they're just grabbing names & imagery to create fictional worlds. However, it does annoy me when Western developers try to use video games as a critique against religion without doing their research first.

Or to put it in another way, the ridiculous presentation of religion in many Japanese games feels innocent and ignorant whereas the portrayal of religion in some Western games feels intentionally malicious.

DSN2K
Member
(03-03-2013, 04:19 PM)

#420

Religion played a vocal point in games from nearly the get go...Final Fantasy for one particularly has looked at the impact of faith on a reguler basis

MDSVeritas
Member
(03-03-2013, 06:35 PM)

#421

> Originally Posted by **DSN2K**
> Religion played a vocal point in games from nearly the get go...Final Fantasy for one particularly has looked at the impact of faith on a reguler basis

To this day I still think Final Fantasy X did a great job with it's look at what religion may be or become, with overtly political tones, and then have Wakka stuck in the middle of it still trying to have faith.

With Bioshock I'm excited to see how they handle Comstock, and I don't think it will be in an offensive way. I think there's a way to explain that something can be taken too far without suggesting that that something is necessarily bad in the first place. They seem to be taking the same approach to American nationalism in the game.

Corky
Nine out of ten orphans can't tell the difference.
(04-08-2013, 01:07 PM)

#422

"There was a scene in the game at the end where there's a gentleman here--one of our artists--who got to a point in the game, played it, turned off BioShock, opened up his computer, opened Microsoft Word, and wrote a resignation letter"

So, now that all is said and done does anyone here know which scene he could be referring to?

dark_inferno
Member
(04-08-2013, 01:11 PM)

#423

> Originally Posted by **Corky**
> **"There was a scene in the game at the end where there's a gentleman here--one of our artists--who got to a point in the game, played it, turned off BioShock, opened up his**

computer, opened Microsoft Word, and wrote a resignation letter"

So, now that all is said and done does anyone here know which scene he could be referring to?

Maybe [redacted]

Anyway i found it really pathetic how they dealt with religious theme. It was only a small point at the beginning. Bioshock 1 did a pretty good job dealing with Egoism and Altruism while Bioshock Infinite fails with Nationalism,Religion and Racism.

Last edited by dark_inferno; 04-08-2013 at 01:13 PM.

spekkeh
Member
(04-08-2013, 01:14 PM)

#424

> Originally Posted by **Corky**
>
> **"There was a scene in the game at the end where there's a gentleman here--one of our artists--who got to a point in the game, played it, turned off BioShock, opened up his computer, opened Microsoft Word, and wrote a resignation letter"**
>
> So, now that all is said and done does anyone here know which scene he could be referring to?

Probably the part [redacted]

Gentleman in question:

No seriously, either you take offence to the mindless killing, which happens ten minutes in, or you're simply part of a pr stunt.

Mechazawa
Member
(04-08-2013, 01:16 PM)

#425

> Originally Posted by **Corky**
>
> **"There was a scene in the game at the end where there's a gentleman here--one of our artists--who got to a point in the game, played it, turned off BioShock, opened up his computer, opened Microsoft Word, and wrote a resignation letter"**
>
> So, now that all is said and done does anyone here know which scene he could be referring to?

Levine mentioned that he, and I'm paraphrasing here, had a discussion with the guy and the result was ultimately a better story, or something along those lines.

So it might've been long enough ago that it was changed.

(I can't really remember anything towards the end that was any harsher on religion than towards the beginning or middle.)

McHuj
Member
(04-08-2013, 01:18 PM)

#426

I'll guess [redacted]The game's portrayal of religion is equivalent to the racist cartoons of the 19th century.

Corky
Nine out of ten orphans can't tell the difference.
(04-08-2013, 01:19 PM)

#427

> Originally Posted by **Mechazawa**
> Levine mentioned that he, and I'm paraphrasing here, had a discussion with the guy and the result was ultimately a better story, or something along those lines.
>
> So it might've been long enough ago that it was changed.
>
> (I can't really remember anything towards the end that was any harsher on religion than towards the beginning or middle.)

I guess this has to be the case, because one thing I realized was that they more or less [redacted] like halfway through the game.

Bomber Bob
Banned
(04-08-2013, 01:22 PM)

#428

Extremely religious programmer? does not compute

Alienous
Member
(04-08-2013, 01:24 PM)

#429

It would appear to be the fact that [redacted]. It doesn't have to be 'Blap-Blap-Your God is false' to be offensive.

In addition, [redacted]

Last edited by Alienous; 04-08-2013 at 01:36 PM.

Wickerbasket
Member
(04-08-2013, 01:37 PM)

#430

> Originally Posted by **McHuj**
> I'll guess [redacted] The game's portrayal of religion is equivalent to the racist cartoons of the 19th century.

I don't agree. (not game spoilers but I talk about the theme)[redacted]

[redacted]

Htown
STOP SHITTING ON MY MOTHER'S HEADSTONE
(04-08-2013, 03:05 PM)

#431

> Originally Posted by **Bomber Bob**
> Extremely religious programmer? does not compute

why not?

are you under the impression that all religious people are drooling morons?

spandexmonkey
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:16 PM)

#432

> Originally Posted by **Bomber Bob**
> Extremely religious programmer? does not compute

Most IT staff I've worked around from help desk, developers, engineers and above have been very religious and/or conservative.

KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 03:19 PM)

#433

People that believe a human being is god must have low IQs.

KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 03:20 PM)

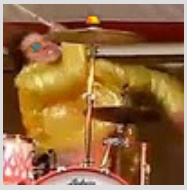
#434

> Originally Posted by **Htown**
> why not?
>
> are you under the impression that all religious people are drooling morons?

Anyone who worships fairy tales may as well be. Christianity is mass retardation.

Demon Ice
Banned
(04-08-2013, 03:24 PM)

#435



Well as far as PR stunts go, this one has me intrigued.

FaustsBoon
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:26 PM)

#436

I think the perceived commentary, if the story about the employee is true at all, might have been in thinking Levine was lampooning the idea of absolution.

Edited for Spoilers

I don't know if Levine was doing this intentionally, but I think it might have been the case.

That said, i'm just as inclined to say this is PR spin on the level of Elizabeth's "Revolutionary AI" promo tour. :p

Edit... SOOOOOOOO sorry about that. My deepest apologies if anyone read that. I have to BS:I threads open and confused the two.

Last edited by FaustsBoon; 04-08-2013 at 03:30 PM.

daxgame
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:27 PM)

#437

> Originally Posted by **ilnadmy**
> I hope this game really does deal with all these issues in a meaningful way. We need more games that aren't afraid to tackle important, sensitive issues.

bu-bu-but games are supposed to be FUN, and FUN and posing questions at the player don't go hand in hand!!!

[redacted]

Last edited by daxgame; 04-08-2013 at 03:30 PM.

TheBaronOfNA
Banned
(04-08-2013, 03:27 PM)

#438

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> Anyone who worships fairy tales may as well be. Christianity is mass retardation.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Aquinas

Demon Ice
Banned
(04-08-2013, 03:28 PM)

#439

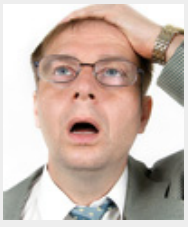
> Originally Posted by **FaustsBoon**
> Edited

Hey now, let's use those nifty spoiler tag things.

Edit: Thanks!

Last edited by Demon Ice; 04-08-2013 at 03:35 PM.

WorriedCitizen
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:28 PM)



#440

A religious person got offended. In other news a bag of rice fell over in somewhere in Asia.

Seriously what a stupid story. A person who's so super religious shouldn't work in the games industry in the first place. Ther's evil, "satanic",sexual or otherwise offensive stuff in pretty much every game.

pj
NeoGAF Über Alles
(04-08-2013, 03:28 PM)

#441

I forgot about this.

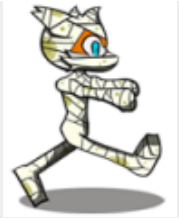
I WISH Bioshock Infinite had strong enough themes to get upset about. I wonder if this same guy previously left Epic because he thought the bromance in Gears of War was an endorsement of gay marriage

Dark Octave
Banned
(04-08-2013, 03:30 PM)

#442

> Originally Posted by **Htown**
> why not?
>
> are you under the impression that all religious people are drooling morons?

For someone to turn a game off and attempt to quit on the spot, that sounds like someone who is



blindly unreasonable.

But of course I don't know the guy, so...

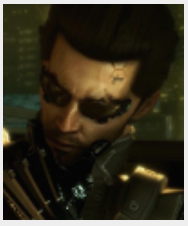
Messypandas
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:31 PM)

#443

Probably fighting [redacted]

Fuck that noise

Derrick01
Banned
(04-08-2013, 03:34 PM)



#444

I'm siding with the people who thought this was a made up PR story to hype the game up. Granted I'm not religious nor am I as touchy as a lot of religious people, but I didn't see anything in the game that could have qualified as extremely outrageous or insulting to religion.

Demon Ice
Banned
(04-08-2013, 03:37 PM)

#445

> Originally Posted by **Derrick01**
> I'm siding with the people who thought this was a made up PR story to hype the game up. Granted I'm not religious nor am I as touchy as a lot of religious people, but I didn't see anything in the game that could have qualified as extremely outrageous or insulting to religion.

Depends what the religious person's threshold for being offended is. I've seen them get offended over the tiniest things.

I'm still leaning towards PR stunt though.

JackI
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:39 PM)

#446

> Originally Posted by **dark_inferno**
> Maybe [redacted]
>
> Anyway i found it really pathetic how they dealt with religious theme. It was only a small point at the beginning. Bioshock 1 did a pretty good job dealing with Egoism and Altruism while Bioshock Infinite fails with Nationalism,Religion and Racism.

I get the feeling they toned it down alot as development went on. The beginning was particularly striking with the [redacted] They never really hit that hard later in the game, even with ample opportunity.

> Probably fighting [redacted]
>
> Fuck that noise

Well played.

KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 03:39 PM)

#447

http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nietzsche

http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anton_Szandor_LaVey

---

frequency
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:41 PM)

#448

Assuming it's not a PR stunt (I'm not convinced that it's not), I would guess it was toned down a bit but had to do with the game saying [redacted].

TucoBenedictoPacifico
Banned
(04-08-2013, 03:43 PM)

#449

> Originally Posted by **TheBaronOfNA**
> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Aquinas

I'm Italian, I know him very well and I will never stress enough how insanely overrated this guy is as an intellectual and a philosopher.

I mean, Jesus Christ [...], even his main contribution to theology and philosophy is entirely built on logical fallacies and circular reasoning.

TheExorzist
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:45 PM)

#450

> Originally Posted by **dark_inferno**
> Maybe [redacted]
>
> Anyway i found it really pathetic how they dealt with religious theme. It was only a small point at the beginning. Bioshock 1 did a pretty good job dealing with Egoism and Altruism while Bioshock Infinite fails with Nationalism,Religion and Racism.

This. I didn't really know what to expect when I started the game and got really excited when it seemed to be about religion at first. I'm not a religious person at all but I like the thematic. Was very dispointed when they basically dropped it after the first few hours.

Cyrano
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:47 PM)

#451

"[Comstock] was one of the toughest characters for me to write because I don't have a religious background, let alone the darker side of his beliefs; the racist side of his beliefs. So I really had a lot of trouble writing him for a long time"

You know, Levine, you could have talked to this guy and many others who hold these beliefs *before you wrote him*, rather than after. It is not like there is any shortage of these people in our modern world. I am not saying that a writer wouldn't struggle with such problems, but I am saying that a little research, like most writers do for books and movies when they don't know something about a group of people, is generally a good idea. From this interview, it almost sounds as if Levine did *none of this*.

I also have trouble understanding how he couldn't understand why people would follow a religious figure. I can guarantee you there are *plenty* of people who have an opinion about that. I am not saying that he should take them at their word, he should ask many people who state that they know why and attempt to form his own conclusion from that. But again, it doesn't seem like he did that. He seems utterly bewildered by this notion.

Last edited by Cyrano; 04-08-2013 at 03:50 PM.

spekkeh
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:50 PM)

#452

> Originally Posted by **Bomber Bob**
> Extremely religious programmer? does not compute

The computer science faculty I worked at at my previous university was probably the most religious of all the faculties (theology notwithstanding). It's a safe environment that's very strict in following rules and has no basis in reality.

(just like..)

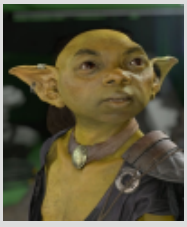
Still only 20 percent of course.

> Originally Posted by **pj**
> I forgot about this.
>
> I WISH Bioshock Infinite had strong enough themes to get upset about. I wonder if this same guy previously left Epic because he thought the bromance in Gears of War was an endorsement of gay marriage

I'm pretty sure the people complaining about the depiction of Fitzroy are upset pinkos.

There's definitely stuff to be upset about if you're religious, just not near the ending.

Bony Manifesto
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:50 PM)



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I don't know... If they had a scene similar to the one in the opening where you [redacted], I could see why someone religious might take offense. Infinite might have many virtues, but subtlety is definitely not one of them!

I think it was probably changed a very long time ago though, as the detail Levine refers to ("He was an extremely religious guy and when we started talking, I realized that something I could connect to was a notion of forgiveness and what an important part that is of the New Testament and why Christ was such a revolutionary figure.") is very much the crux of the story in the final version of Infinite, though [redacted].

TheBaronOfNA
Banned
(04-08-2013, 03:56 PM)

#454

> Originally Posted by **TucoBenedictoPacifico**
> I'm Italian, I know him very well and I will never stress enough how insanely overrated this guy is as an intellectual and a philosopher.
>
> I mean, Jesus Christ [...], even his main contribution to theology and philosophy is entirely built on logical fallacies and circular reasoning.

I'm not studying philosophy so dunno If is overrated. But I think you are using some anachronistic criteria to make you criticism.

Maybe I also should ask some of the Italian teachers in the faculty....

spekkeh
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:58 PM)

#455

I always thought Thomas Aquinas was French, guess he only moved there.

Infinite
Member
(04-08-2013, 03:59 PM)

#456

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> Anyone who worships fairy tales may as well be. Christianity is mass retardation.

I'm muslim and I program for a living.

Divvy
Canadians burned my passport
(04-08-2013, 04:05 PM)

#457

> Originally Posted by **frequency**
> Assuming it's not a PR stunt (I'm not convinced that it's not), I would guess it was toned down a bit but had to do with the game saying [redacted].

It had nothing to do with rejecting religion. One of the fundamental morals of infinite is that you can't just wipe away your history and all the terrible things you've done by doing one meaningless act which in this case, is baptism. Religion was just the vehicle used to deliver this message. If anything, it was an indictment of conservatism and how dumb it is to only look to the past through rose tinted glasses and ignore all the negatives that got you (or humanity or whatever) to the present.

exmachina64
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:06 PM)

#458

> Originally Posted by **TucoBenedictoPacifico**
> I'm Italian, I know him very well and I will never stress enough how insanely overrated this guy is as an intellectual and a philosopher.
>
> I mean, Jesus Christ [...], even his main contribution to theology and philosophy is entirely built on logical fallacies and circular reasoning.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scholasticism

Zuhzuhzombie!!
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:06 PM)

#459

> Originally Posted by **Htown**
> This thread is a perfect example of exactly what Levine was talking about.

Why should anyone sympathize with a "very religious" person getting upset that the game correctly depicts the racial and religious bigotry from the 1910s?

> Originally Posted by **dark_inferno**
> Maybe [redacted]
>
> Anyway i found it really pathetic how they dealt with religious theme. It was only a small point at the beginning. Bioshock 1 did a pretty good job dealing with Egoism and Altruism while Bioshock Infinite fails with Nationalism,Religion and Racism.

Could you elaborate a bit please?

I've only made it through so far.

Last edited by Zuhzuhzombie!!; 04-08-2013 at 04:08 PM.

Zuhzuhzombie!!
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:08 PM)

#460

ed double post

GuitarAtomik
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:10 PM)

#461

> Originally Posted by **Derrick01**
> I'm siding with the people who thought this was a made up PR story to hype the game up. Granted I'm not religious nor am I as touchy as a lot of religious people, but I didn't see anything in the game that could have qualified as extremely outrageous or insulting to religion.

Well wasn't the point of the anecdote that he altered (supposedly for the better) what was originally offensive after talking with the guy?

---

akidnamededdy
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:14 PM)

#462

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> Anyone who worships fairy tales may as well be. Christianity is mass retardation.

Oh my, how edgy.

> Originally Posted by **GuitarAtomik**
> Well wasn't the point of the anecdote that he altered (supposedly for the better) what was originally offensive after talking with the guy?

That's what I took from it too. Nothing in the game as it is really stood out to me as particularly offensive. Then again I'm not particularly religious.

Demon Ice
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:14 PM)

#463

> Originally Posted by **TucoBenedictoPacifico**
> I'm Italian, I know him very well and I will never stress enough how insanely overrated this guy is as an intellectual and a philosopher.
>
> I mean, Jesus Christ [...], even his main contribution to theology and philosophy is entirely built on **logical fallacies and circular reasoning**.

Well...obviously.

It's theology. When in Rome...

TucoBenedictoPacifico
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:14 PM)

#464

> Originally Posted by **TheBaronOfNA**
> I'm not studying philosophy so dunno If is overrated. But I think you are using some anachronistic criteria to make you criticism.

Don't mind the "overrated" term, it's just a buzzword to express disagreement with a popular opinion, in the end.
What I meant is that I have no idea why both this guy and Sant'Agostino are constantly brought into discussion by religious people (or religion apologists) as some way to prove that incredibly smart and clever people can be all for religion, or that "there are theological doctrines that are very clever and hard to retort", and yet virtually nothing of what they wrote can stand any logical examination, especially by today's standards, with much of what they assumed about the natural world proved as wrong today.

I mean, here we are talking about a guy that started premising that "There's no need to prove that God exists because that's self evident" (???) "...but if we really would like to try here's a list of five extremely bad arguments built on logical fallacies that will totally convince you that God is real!".

Demon Ice
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:17 PM)

#465

> Originally Posted by **Infinite**
> I'm muslim and I program for a living.

Well...this is awkward.

KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:18 PM)

#466

> Originally Posted by **Infinite**
> I'm muslim and I program for a living.

At least Islam appreciates science & isn't loaded with inconsistencies. Islam worships one god. Not a man god that is 3 beings at once. Still all religions block progress. I used to be muslim myself. Religions are all about control & herd mentality.

KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:19 PM)

#467

> Originally Posted by **akidnamededdy**
> Oh my, how edgy.
>
> That's what I took from it too. Nothing in the game as it is really stood out to me as particularly offensive. Then again I'm not particularly religious.

If you say so. Its just fact.

Xater
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:20 PM)

#468

> Originally Posted by **Derrick01**
> I'm siding with the people who thought this was a made up PR story to hype the game up. Granted I'm not religious nor am I as touchy as a lot of religious people, but I didn't see anything in the game that could have qualified as extremely outrageous or insulting to religion.

I thought that when I read this story and I still feel the same way after finishing Infinite. I didn't want to spoil anything for anyone because I fiinished the game before the official release, so I wrote something like I wish the themes would have been more thought provoking. I still think this way.

Demon Ice
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:22 PM)

#469

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> At least Islam **appreciates science & isn't loaded with inconsistencies**. Islam worships one god. Not a man god that is 3 beings at once. Still all religions block progress. I used to be muslim myself. Religions are all about control & herd mentality.

Haha what

McHuj
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:24 PM)

#470

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> If you say so. Its just fact.

Thanks for trying to derail the thread.

KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:25 PM)

#471

Research for yourself nothing is more anti science then a bible thumping christian cultist, besides an equally blind muslim extremist.

Esiquio
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:26 PM)

#472

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> At least Islam appreciates science & isn't loaded with inconsistencies. Islam worships one god. Not a man god that is 3 beings at once. Still all religions block progress. I used to be muslim myself. Religions are all about control & herd mentality.

I cringe reading these posts, as it reminds me of how I used to talk on the subject. Painting religion with such broad strokes and dismissing everything with a wave, repeating the self-assured, oft-repeated "herd mentality", "everyone religious is retarded" phrases just brings me so much cringe.

Neuromancer
The Mayuh of f'n Bawston
(04-08-2013, 04:26 PM)

#473

> Originally Posted by **ilnadmy**
> I hope this game really does deal with all these issues in a meaningful way. We need more games that aren't afraid to tackle important, sensitive issues.

Well, it was a nice thought.

KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:28 PM)

#474

> Originally Posted by **McHuj**
> Thanks for trying to derail the thread.

Thanks for your contribution to this discussion.

Truth is Bioshock Infinite has a great story if a team member wanted to block its story then cut him loose.

TheBaronOfNA
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:29 PM)

#475

> Originally Posted by **TucoBenedictoPacifico**
> Don't mind the "overrated" term, it's just a buzzword to express disagreement with a popular opinion, in the end.
> What I meant is that I have no idea why both this guy and Sant'Agostino are constantly brought into discussion by religious people (or religion apologists) as some way to prove that incredibly smart and clever people can be all for religion, or that "there are theological doctrines that are very clever and hard to retort", and yet virtually nothing of what they wrote can stand any logical examination, especially by today's standards, with much of what they assumed about the natural world proved as wrong today.
>
> I mean, here we are talking about a guy that started premising that "There's no need to prove that God exists because that's self evident" (???) "...but if we really would like to try here's a

> list of five extremely bad arguments built on logical fallacies that will totally convince you that God is real!".

Again with the anachronistic criteria...

TucoBenedictoPacifico
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:32 PM)

#476

> Originally Posted by **TheBaronOfNA**
> Again with the anachronistic criteria...

So? What's your point?
Look, it's not happening by chances or for lack of attention; that's specifically because I'm not trying to make a commentary "contextual to their times", but arguing about the validity of their doctrine in general. Which is next to none.
Beside, circular reasoning was circular reasoning even centuries ago, even if (maybe) it was socially accepted then.
Which, on a side note, I tend to doubt, judging what other cultures produced.

Last edited by TucoBenedictoPacifico; 04-08-2013 at 04:35 PM.

CouldBeWorse
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:34 PM)

#477

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> Anyone who worships fairy tales may as well be. Christianity is mass retardation.

That's just as offensive as blasting anyone for their race, sex, sexual orientation, etc. And you did it while using another offensive term that has not been acceptable for years.

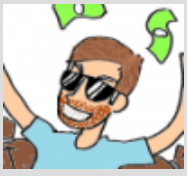
There should be no place for that here.

KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:36 PM)

#478

Whatever gets people through life. It just seems religious people try to force thier agendas upon others. It was also the root cause of most wars. It is called faith because of the complete lack of logic. As a philosophy you may find some good. As a rigid way of life you will only find impeded progress.

ThoseDeafMutes
Very good! Keep thrusting!
(04-08-2013, 04:37 PM)



#479

> Originally Posted by **spekkeh**
> The computer science faculty I worked at at my previous university was probably the most religious of all the faculties (theology notwithstanding). It's a safe environment that's very strict in following rules and has no basis in reality.

Absolute polar opposite for our faculty, which is irreligious in a way that seems impossible given Australian census data.

CouldBeWorse
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:38 PM)

#480

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> Thanks for your contribution to this discussion.
>
> Truth is Bioshock Infinite has a great story if a team member wanted to block its story then cut him loose.

Where did you read that the team member wanted to block its story? I just read that he wanted to quit because he didn't want to be a part of putting out a product that conflicted with his personal beliefs.

He has every right to make that decision and a good leader (like Ken appeared to be in this case) will

try to understand and incorporate those understandings to improve on the fiction. A good leader will not dismiss someone or let them walk away for challenging the norm / hive mind / groupthink.

partyphone
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:39 PM)

#481

> Originally Posted by **CouldBeWorse**
> That's just as offensive as blasting anyone for their race, sex, sexual orientation, etc. And you did it while using another offensive term that has not been acceptable for years.
>
> There should be no place for that here.

I wouldn't say just as offensive but it's pretty high up there.

There are some very smart people who happen to be religious. It often requires a high level of cognitive dissonance or compartmentalization so that you don't scrutinize your religious beliefs with the same amount of rigor and skepticism as your other beliefs.

CouldBeWorse
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:40 PM)

#482

> Originally Posted by **ThoseDeafMutes**
> Absolute polar opposite for our faculty, which is irreligious in a way that seems impossible given Australian census data.

You might want to through a SPOILER warning into the thread title. It should be apparent to anyone clicking on the link, but I'd hate for someone to have the ending spoiled because they were curious as to what became of this artist or this story.

AkuMifune
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:42 PM)

#483

> Originally Posted by **Neuromancer**
> Well, it was a nice thought.

Yeah, I noticed the irony there too. There were some issues that got touched on, but only in passing and not very effectively.

KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:43 PM)

#484

I care not about your values & what you deem as politically correct. If simple words harm your fragile mind then you lack the shell for the pressures of this cold world.

I challenge a hardcore christian that takes the bibles fables literally to show me where the logic is.

If you believe the bible, we must all be inbreds & all the species on Noah's shitty wooden boat got along perfectly. Why is the world today not flooded, show me the proof.

CouldBeWorse
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:43 PM)

#485

> Originally Posted by **partyphone**
> I wouldn't say just as offensive but it's pretty high up there.
>
> There are some very smart people who happen to be religious. It often requires a high level of cognitive dissonance or compartmentalization so that you don't scrutinize your religious beliefs with the same amount of rigor and skepticism as your other beliefs.

I'm not a Christian and I COMPLETELY agree with you. It's surprising to me how so many highly intelligent people I know can completely change their mindset when it comes to religion.

I'm just not cool at all with broadly painting people with that kind of brush, especially knowing that the diversity of thought/people within Christianity (or all religions) is the same as the diversity that just plain

exists on this planet.

ultron87
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:45 PM)

#486

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> Whatever gets people through life. **It just seems religious people try to force thier agendas upon others.** It was also the root cause of most wars. It is called faith because of the complete lack of logic. As a philosophy you may find some good. As a rigid way of life you will only find impeded progress.

You're the one trying to force your militant atheism into this thread.

GhaleonQ
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:51 PM)

#487

> Originally Posted by **Alienous**
> It would appear to be the fact that [redacted] It doesn't have to be 'Blap-Blap-Your God is false' to be offensive.
>
> In addition, [redacted]

did stuff in the same room as a person playing *has no interest in playing it*

Yeah, assuming that the thing in question arrived more or less as it was at the time, that would be it.

On the 1 hand, baptism has become such shorthand for "liminal ritual" in the West that it's been debased in reality and in art a boring amount of times by now.

On the other hand, debasing baptism is still theologically a horrible thing no matter which denomination you pick (1 of many sacraments, "the old Adam dying," being "born again," whatever).

I would find it weird for a religious person to be something other than jaded about it, especially in the entertainment industry, but I suppose there are exceptions. Edit: I think it was removed, though, for that reason.

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> I care not about your values & what you deem as politically correct. If simple words harm your fragile mind then you lack the shell for the pressures of this cold world.
>
> I challenge a hardcore christian that takes the bibles fables literally to show me where the logic is.
>
> If you believe the bible, we must all be inbreds & all the species on Noah's shitty wooden boat got along perfectly. Why is the world today not flooded, show me the proof.

I'll try to make you on-topic for the 1st time. You should read Kierkegaard's Fear And Trembling. Objectively, it's gorgeous prose, wonderful thinking, and an oft-mentioned classic. If you come to like its message, welcome to the club! If you dislike its message, it gives you a lot of ammunition.

Either way, the Lutheran/Calvinist view on free will (referenced, among other places, in Fear And Trembling) directly affected American civil religion and policymaking, so it's weird that Levine's religious references were so inconsistent throughout the game and that he used ritual as cheap shorthand. The ideas BEHIND the ritual tie in with his pet themes, and he left that all on the table. Levine needs more humanities majors at Irrational (said someone trying to bankrupt Irrational)!

Last edited by GhaleonQ; 04-08-2013 at 04:56 PM.

Guevara
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:54 PM)

#488

So this turned out to be nothing.

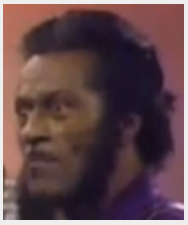
KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:54 PM)

#489

If we took the bible literally black folks were changed to thier pigment due to Kain killing Abel. Science has proven all humanity is traced back to Africa. In other words black people were here 1st. It is a book of bigotry & supports hate. The guy crying about political correctness ironically believes in the bible. Hateful republicans use it as a shield to deny people their rights. This murderous book advocates hurling boulders at homosexuals & many still take it seriously & overlook those sections picking and choosing the parts they like. I say live & let live who cares how others live, mind your business. Its just a book fit for lower level primates, A truly advanced society must move past religion.

Last edited by KiNeSiS; 04-08-2013 at 04:57 PM.

Andrew.
Banned
(04-08-2013, 04:56 PM)



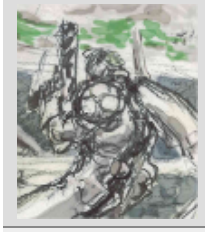
#490

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> I care not about your values & what you deem as politically correct. If simple words harm your fragile mind then you lack the shell for the pressures of this cold world.
>
> I challenge a hardcore christian that takes the bibles fables literally to show me where the logic is.
>
> If you believe the bible, we must all be inbreds & all the species on Noah's shitty wooden boat got along perfectly. Why is the world today not flooded, show me the proof.

Is that you Bill Maher?

Maher needs to play some Infinite.

Mechazawa
Member
(04-08-2013, 04:57 PM)



#491

Boosh.

He infers that as a result of his discussion with the team member(s?), Comstock and Lady Comstock were expanded on.

KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 05:00 PM)

#492

Ken Levine is a god damned genius I tip my hat to him as well as any developer/artist that pushes the boundries of expression in our beloved medium.

I love you guys despite our differences of opinion I am done for now, thanks for the healthy debate.

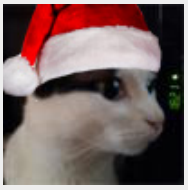
Alienous
Member
(04-08-2013, 05:03 PM)

#493

> Originally Posted by **Mechazawa**
> Boosh.
>
> He infers that as a result of his discussion with the team member(s?), Comstock and Lady Comstock were expanded on.

Yeah. There's a particular [redacted]

p3tran
Banned
(04-08-2013, 05:18 PM)



#494

> Originally Posted by **Bomber Bob**
> Extremely religious programmer? does not compute

I know one, VERY religious, VERY talented in database systems
it computes

Village
Member
(04-08-2013, 05:21 PM)

#495

> Originally Posted by **CornBurrito**
> What actually makes a well written religious character? If they don't throw their religion in your face then you wouldn't even have a clue as to whether or not they were religious.
>
> edit: what I mean is: I'm saying that a character could be religious, but done subtly enough that you do not know they are religious unless you pay very close attention. And that'd be an example of a well written religious character.

A person put in a context where their faith is relevant.
You seem very bitter about religion, just saying.

> Originally Posted by **neoism**
> meh same I would have just let him quit....religion has no place what so ever in the work place....or anywhere but that persons church.... no law suit needed...

But the thing they working on, involved religion.
That's like saying someone cant talk about racism in the work place, when racism is involved in the thing you are working on

> Originally Posted by **KiNeSiS**
> At least Islam appreciates science & isn't loaded with inconsistencies. Islam worships one god. Not a man god that is 3 beings at once. Still all religions block progress. I used to be muslim myself. Religions are all about control & herd mentality.

Oh great, you are here

You know you are the stereotype that pushes people away from atheism boards right. The snarky know it all militant atheist that things everyone who believes in religion is some sub-human. Rather than having a difference of opinion.

Last edited by Village; 04-08-2013 at 05:38 PM.

Eight Diagram Bat Fighter
Banned
(04-08-2013, 05:25 PM)

#496

> Originally Posted by **Dark Octave**
> For someone to turn a game off and attempt to quit on the spot, that sounds like someone who

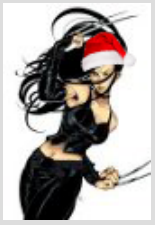
is blindly unreasonable.

But of course I don't know the guy, so...

I don't see what the difference is between this and tons of people who have left jobs over political reasons, bias, gender, race, sex or anything else they feel is being abused for monetary gain.

Your job is essentially to attack or shed in a negative light something you believe strongly in. I can understand why people would want to quit immediately over that.

AgentP
Member
(04-08-2013, 05:27 PM)



#497

> Originally Posted by **CouldBeWorse**
> That's just as offensive as blasting anyone for their race, sex, sexual orientation, etc. And you did it while using another offensive term that has not been acceptable for years.
>
> There should be no place for that here.

You don't choose your sex, race, etc. Religion is just a set of beliefs. If I believed Harry Potter was real and went around saying it, people would call me out and not respect my beliefs. Why should I respect someone else's crazy talk? Does the number of believers make a belief more or less crazy or respectable?

Vigilant Walrus
Junior Member
(04-08-2013, 05:33 PM)

#498

> Originally Posted by **Dinzy**
> I would have fired him. Nothing worse than having the easily offended religious guy that you have to look over your shoulder for just to make sure you don't make him cry. If you can't handle religious criticism then you fail at being religious.

What a strange thought. " If you can't handle religious criticism then you fail at being religious."

Doesn't it just mean that he is a religious fanboy? But anyways, what if it's not about him not being able to handle religious criticism. What if it was something really specific?

I'm not religious, but I think being offended over religious stuff is like being offended over anything else. Like race, sexual preferences, gender. On the internet, the group that calls themselves the atheists and proudly announce their own lack of believing, almost comes off as (to me, at least) someone who is also stuck in some hive mind loop.

What was that scene that offended him? Why did he think like that?

Eight Diagram Bat Fighter
Banned
(04-08-2013, 05:38 PM)

#499

> Originally Posted by **AgentP**
> You don't choose your sex, race, etc. Religion is just a set of beliefs. If I believed Harry Potter was real and went around saying it, people would call me out and not respect my beliefs. Why should I respect someone else's crazy talk? Does the number of believers make a belief more or less crazy or respectable?

It's called taking the higher ground. Be the better person by not acting or talking like others do. The eye for an eye thing never looks good.

KiNeSiS
Banned
(04-08-2013, 05:40 PM)

#500

> Originally Posted by **ultron87**

> You're the one trying to force your militant atheism into this thread.

Who said I was atheist I just said the bible is a work of fiction & that Jesus isn't god no human is or was. God is a force not a physical being. Something got this ball rolling & each of us are a piece of God. Traditional religion is extorting people for hope. No one wants to face death. They do not want to believe that we fade back into nothingness. Preachers are equivalent to vultures & other scavengers. They work a couple of times a week & get fat off of their flock. They are false prophets out for profit ,in the business of selling false promises. #TAXTHECHURCHES

GAMING Community OFF-TOPIC Community TOP

Closed Thread

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