



Who's Behind Wikipedia?

navigation

- What is Wikipedia?
- Wikimedia Foundation
- "Foundation issues"
- Policies and guidelines
- Case 1: AfD
- Case 2: Dispute resolution
- How to get involved
- Wikipedia & the future

From linux.conf.au, the free (software) conference

“The problem with Wikipedia is that it only works in practice. In theory, it can never work.”
 —Unknown

“**Who's Behind Wikipedia?**” is a presentation at the LinuxChix miniconference of the 2008 Linux.conf.au conference.

LinuxChix miniconf

[v](#) · [d](#) · [e](#)

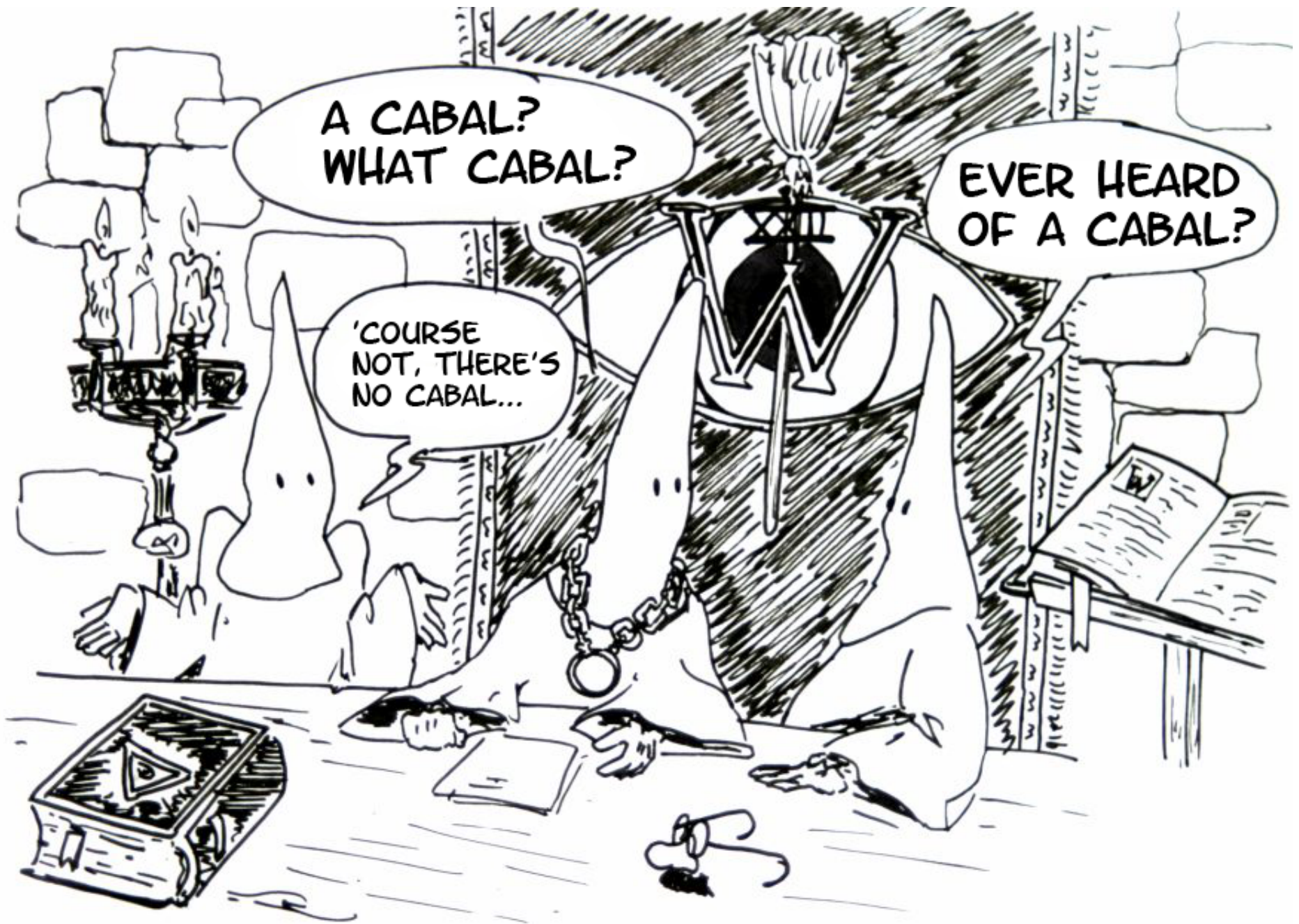


linux.conf.au

Talk details

Title	Who's Behind Wikipedia?
Speaker	Brianna Laughler
Time	13:30–14:20
Date	Tuesday 29th January 2008
Location	Theatre C, Old Arts Building, University of Melbourne

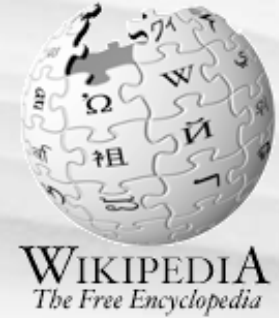
This [speech](#) and [debate](#)-related article is a [stub](#). You can [help](#) Wikipedia by [expanding it](#).



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Image:There's_no_cabal.png

Original in French by Rama, translated by Sandstein

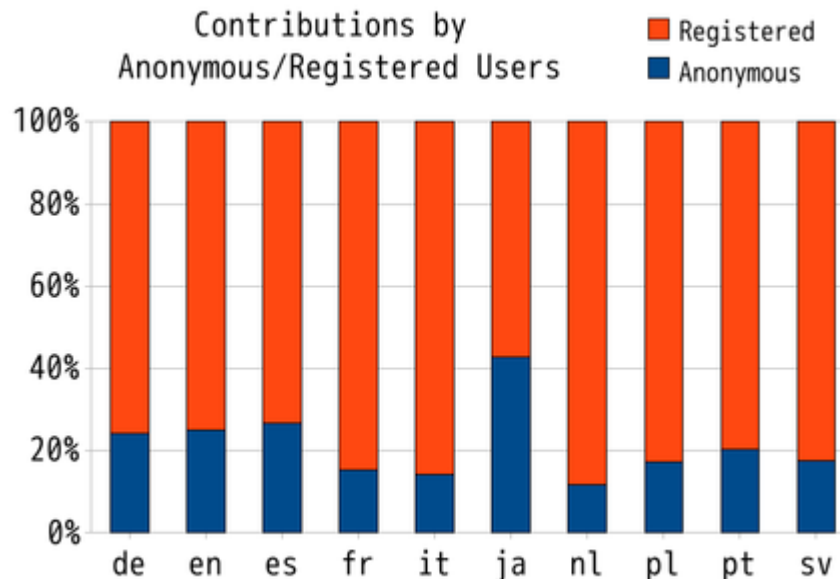
Licensed CC-BY-SA-2.0-France: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/fr/deed.en_GB



What is Wikipedia?

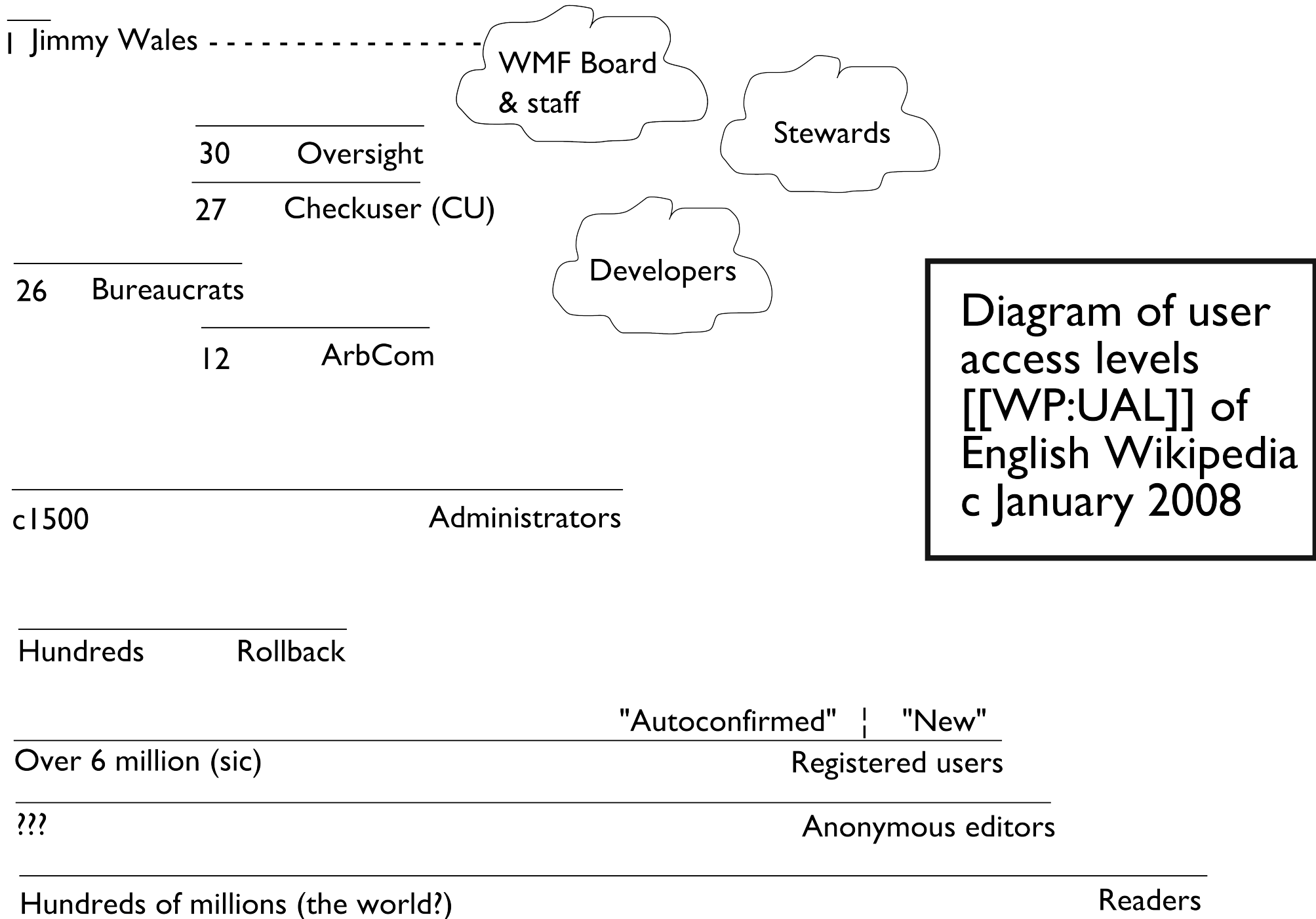
253 language editions (145 have > 1000 articles), > 8 million articles total. English is less than 1/4 of total.

Project cultural differences:



Source: <http://download.wikimedia.org/>

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 - Wikipedia & the future search



Wikimedia Foundation



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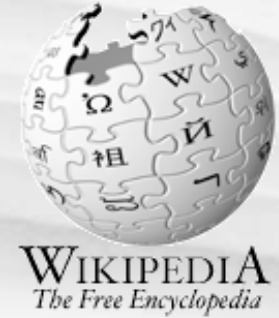
search

Go

Search

Mission statement: The mission of the Wikimedia Foundation is to empower and engage people around the world to collect and develop educational content under a free license or in the public domain, and to disseminate it effectively and globally...[T]he Foundation provides the essential infrastructure and an organizational framework for the support and development of multi-lingual wiki projects and other endeavors which serve this mission. The Foundation will make and keep useful information from its projects available on the Internet free of charge, in perpetuity.





Wikimedia Foundation

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- Meta wiki
- Foundation wiki
- Incubator
- Chapters: AR, FR, DE, IL, IT, NL, PL, RS, SV, CH, TW, UK (AU?)



WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

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“Foundation issues”

- Anyone can edit (Assume Good Faith)
- Free content: copyleft
- Consensus decisions
- NPOV
- No ownership
- Incremental progress



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The Free Encyclopedia

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Policies...

- Ignore all rules
- Bots
- Civility
- Edit warring
- No personal attacks
- Sock puppetry
- 3RR
- Username
- Vandalism
- Wheel war
- BLP
- Naming conventions
- NPOV
- No original research
- Verifiability'
- WP:NOT
- Deletion
- Speedy deletion
- Office actions
- Oversight
- Proposed deletion
- Blocks
- Arbitration
- Bans
- Consensus
- Protection
- Resolving disputes
- Fair use
- Reuse

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Go Search

... and guidelines

- Article size
- Be bold
- Linking
- Edit summary
- Autobiography
- Notability
- Disambiguation
- Cite sources
- Spoilers
- Talk pages
- Subpages
- WP:POINT
- WP:BITE
- User page

Manual of Style (over 100!)

- Lists
- Categories
- Series boxes (navboxes, infoboxes)
- Titles
- Sections
- Names
- Acronyms
- Punctuation
- Numbers
- Currency
- Spelling
-



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My First Article :(

This page may meet Wikipedia's [criteria for speedy deletion](#). The reason given is: *(Reason for deletion)*

If this page does not meet the criteria for speedy deletion, or you intend to fix it, please remove this notice, but **do not remove this notice from pages that you have created yourself**. If you created this page and you disagree with its proposed speedy deletion, please add:

```
{{hangon}}
```

directly below this tag, and then explain why you believe this article should not be deleted on [its talk page](#). This will alert administrators to permit you the time to write your explanation. See [help writing your first article](#).

Administrators: check [links](#), [history \(fast\)](#), and [logs before deletion](#).

Please consider placing `{{subst:nn-warn-reason|Robert Bernardis|\(Reason for deletion\)}}` ~~~~~ on the User Talk page of the author.

It is proposed that this article be **[deleted](#)**.

If you can address this concern by [improving](#), [copyediting](#), [sourcing](#), [renaming](#) or [merging](#) the page, **please [edit this page](#)** and do so. You may remove this message if you improve the article or otherwise object to its deletion for any reason. To avoid confusion, it helps to explain why you object to the deletion, either in the [edit summary](#) or on the [talk page](#). If this template is removed, it should not be replaced.

The article may be deleted if this message remains in place for five days. This template was added **2008-01-28 03:16**; five days from then is **2008-02-02 03:16**.

If you created the article, please don't take offense. Instead, consider improving the article so that it is acceptable according to the [deletion policy](#).

[Author\(s\)](#) notification template: `{{subst:prodwarning|Robert Bernardis}}` ~~~~~

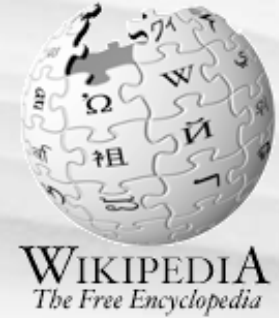
This article is being considered for deletion in accordance with Wikipedia's [deletion policy](#).

Please share your thoughts on the matter at [this article's entry](#) on the [Articles for deletion](#) page.

Feel free to edit the article, but the article must not be blanked, and this notice must not be removed, until the discussion is closed. For more information, particularly on merging or moving the article during the discussion, read the [guide to deletion](#).

*[Steps to list an article for deletion](#): 1. `{{subst:afd}}` 2. [Preloaded debate](#)^{vote} OR `{{subst:afd 2|pg=Robert Bernardis|cat=|text=}}` ~~~~~ [\(categories\)](#) 3. `{{subst:afd 3|pg=Robert Bernardis}}` *(add to top of list)* 4. Please consider notifying the [author\(s\)](#) by placing `{{subst:adw|Robert Bernardis}}` ~~~~~ on their talk page(s).*

Unregistered users placing this tag on an article cannot complete the deletion nomination and should leave detailed reasons for deletion on [Talk:Robert Bernardis](#). If the nomination is not completed and no message is left on the talkpage, this tag may be removed.



Deletion process

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Speedy: Admin deletes on sight, or another user tags for an admin to delete

Proposed: Anyone can add the tag. If anyone disagrees, they can remove the tag. If no one removes the tag in 5 days, it gets deleted.

Normal:

- [[Wikipedia:Articles for deletion/Article name]]
- 5 days discussion
- Admin closes according to consensus

Defend your article by improving it!

search

Go Search



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Deletion review (undeletion)

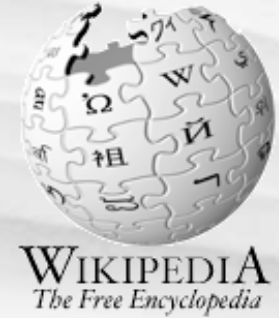
- First, try resolving with deleting administrator

Use when:

- Inappropriate speedy
- Inappropriate close (against consensus)
- New information has come to light
- You just really want it back :)

Useful reading:

- [[User:GRBerry/DRVGuide]]
- [[WP:ATA]] Wikipedia:Arguments to avoid in deletion discussions



Dispute resolution

navigation

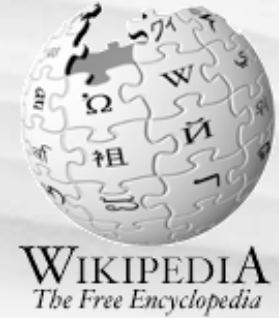
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- **Bold, revert, discuss**
- **Talk pages**
- **[[WP:RFC]] Requests for comment**
- **[[WP:RFM]] Requests for mediation**
- **[[WP:RFAR]] Requests for arbitration**

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How to get involved

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- `[[WP:AWNBNB]]`
- WikiProjects
- Don't leap into controversy
- Start with what you know or like

search



The future

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- WYSIWYG editing? Templates, tables
- Stable versions
- Trust highlighting
- Splintered community
- Knol, Citizendium
- Probably more bureaucracy

search



Thankyou! Questions?

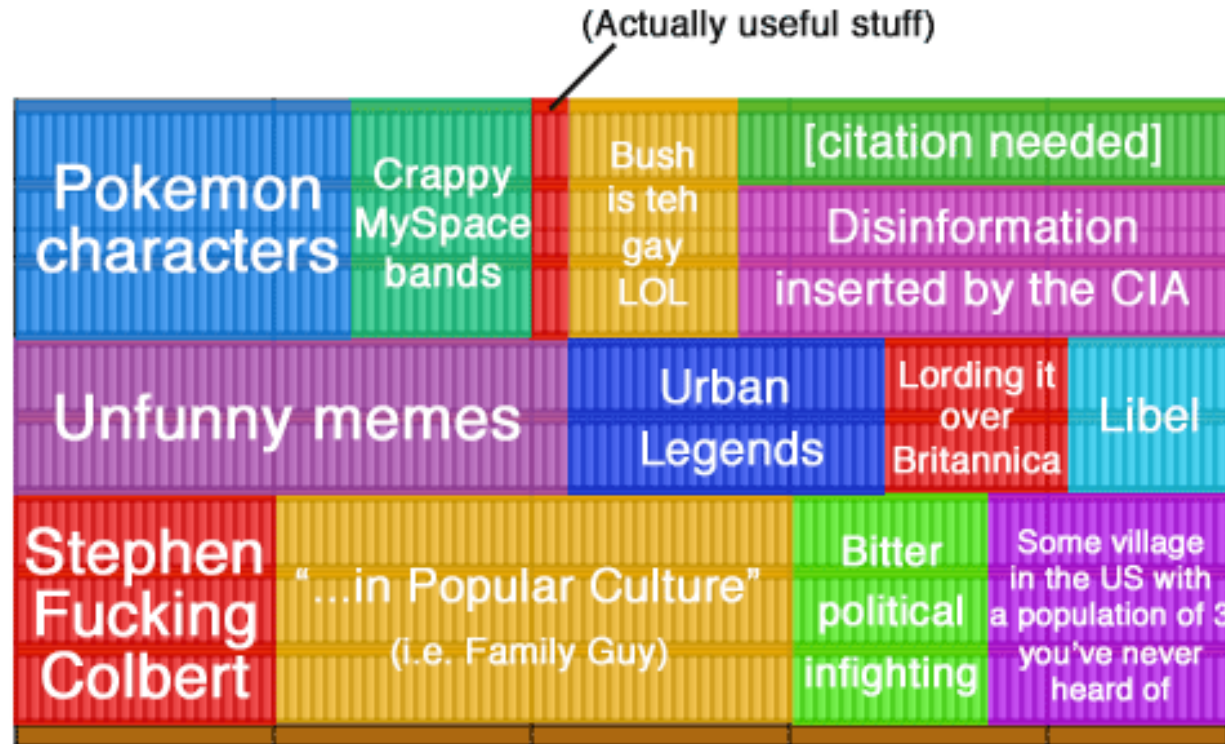
Brianna Laughler

[[user:pfctdayelise]] (“perfect day elise”)

brianna.laughler@gmail.com

<http://brianna.moderntthings.org/>

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<http://www.flickr.com/photos/qwghlm/1264953905/>

“What Wikipedia would look like if on paper, broken down”

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