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Visualizing the Wikipedia Power Struggle

Posted by [CmdrTaco](#) on Mon May 21, 2007 09:26 AM
from the [ban-everything-and-let-wales-sort-em-out](#) dept.

[todd450](#) pointed us to a nifty [visualization of Wikipedia](#) and controversial articles in it. The image started with a network of 650,000 articles color coded to indicate activity. The original image is apparently 5' square, but the sample image they have is still pretty neat.



[+] [slashdotted](#), [internet](#), [steal](#), [still](#), [wikipedia](#) (*tagging beta*)

- "Steal"? ([Score:5](#), Informative)

by [Bigbutt \(65939\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:27AM ([#19207779](#)) [Homepage Journal](#)
This word is not the word you think it is.

[John]

- [Re:"Steal"?](#) by Kream (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @09:29AM
- [Re:"Steal"?](#) by Brummund (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @09:36AM
- [Re:"Steal"?](#) by HTH NE1 (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @09:38AM
- [Re:"Steal"?](#) by Kjella (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @09:43AM
- **1 reply beneath your current threshold.**

- **Nice editing (Score:4, Funny)**

by Anonymous Coward on Monday May 21 2007, @09:28AM ([#19207787](#))

The original image is apparently 5' square, but the sample image they have is steal pretty neat.

It's *still* pretty colorful.

- [Re:Nice editing](#) by aadvancedGIR (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @09:33AM

- **Yeeha! (Score:4, Funny)**

by [Rob T Firefly \(844560\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:31AM ([#19207817](#)) [Homepage Journal](#)

but the sample image they have is steal pretty neat. When did Speedy Gonzales get a job at OSTG?

- **Mirror of Sorts (Score:5, Informative)**

by [VE3OGG \(1034632\)](#) <[.VE3OGG .at .rac.ca.](#)> on Monday May 21 2007, @09:33AM ([#19207845](#))

I am not sure if this is where the article originates from (or vice versa), but here is another example of visualizing Wikipedia:

<http://researchweb.watson.ibm.com/visual/projects/ chromogram.html> [ibm.com]

- **Yet another example (Score:4, Informative)**

by [VE3OGG \(1034632\)](#) <[.VE3OGG .at .rac.ca.](#)> on Monday May 21 2007, @10:11AM ([#19208223](#))

http://www.firstmonday.org/issues/issue12_4/spoerr i/index.html [firstmonday.org]

This one is less pretty with colours, but way more informative...

Parent

- **1 reply beneath your current threshold.**

- [Re:Mirror of Sorts](#) by Jugalator (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @11:27AM
- [Re:Mirror of Sorts](#) by jollyreaper (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @11:57AM

- **LOL! (Score:3, Funny)**

by [Kream \(78601\)](#) <hoipolloi@nOsPam.gmail.com> on Monday May 21 2007, @09:33AM ([#19207849](#))

[/windowslivewritervisualizingthepowerstruggleinwikipedia-f7c7wikivisenlargesection44.jpg](#)

Service Temporarily Unavailable

The server is temporarily unable to service your request due to maintenance downtime or capacity problems. Please try again later.

Apache/1.3.33 Server at www.abeautifulwww.com Port 80

- o [Re:LOL!](#) by Thwomp (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @10:08AM

- **Today on /. (Score:4, Funny)**

by [faloi \(738831\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:36AM ([#19207871](#))

We axe y we dont juzt speel foneticly!

- o [Re:Today on /.](#) by UbuntuDupe (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @09:44AM
 - [Re:Today on /.](#) by jae471 (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @10:53AM
 - [Re:Today on /.](#) by reub2000 (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @11:55AM
- o **1 reply beneath your current threshold.**

- **A nice visualization of this article (Score:1, Redundant)**

by [theantipop \(803016\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:38AM ([#19207899](#))

Service Temporarily Unavailable

The server is temporarily unable to service your request due to maintenance downtime or capacity problems. Please try again later.

- **Wow... (Score:3, Insightful)**

by [Adam Zweimiller \(710977\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:38AM ([#19207901](#)) [Homepage](#)

So not only is the submitter shamelessly plugging his own site, but it:

A) Crashes before there are 9 comments and B) Doesn't know how to spell "still" Glad to see slashdot's standards are still so high, CmdrTaco. Thanks.

- **hmmmmm (Score:2, Interesting)**

by [jollyreaper \(513215\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:38AM ([#19207903](#))

So here's a site discussing the Wikipedia edit war. Slashdot has tried to remain a neutral power in the war. A link is posted to the slashdot front page and the server is destroyed. Slashdot has been drawn into the war! A sword-day, a red day, ere the Sun server reboots!

- o [Re:hmmmmm](#) by lilomar (Score:3) Monday May 21 2007, @10:18AM
 - [Re:hmmmmm](#) by jollyreaper (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @11:33AM
 - **1 reply beneath your current threshold.**

- **The Slashdotted Article (Score:3, Informative)**

by Anonymous Coward on Monday May 21 2007, @09:38AM ([#19207907](#))

[abeautifulwww.com]A new visualization Bruce Herr and I recently completed is being featured in this weeks New Scientist Magazine (the [article](#) [newscientist.com] is free online, minus the viz). They did a good job jazzing up the language used to describe the vizpower struggle, bubbling mass, blitzed articles but they also dumbed down the technical accomplishments. I guess not everyone gets as excited about algorithms as I do. Before I talk anymore about the viz, though, let me mention its appearing at the [NetSci 2007 Conference](#) [indiana.edu] this week, and hopefully a variant will appear at [Wikimania](#) [wikimedia.org] later this summer as well. The viz is a huge 5 feet by 5 feet when printed, and I only include a low res, smaller version here. At some point high quality art prints of it will appear at [SciMaps](#) [scimaps.org] for sale to fund further visualization research.

[abeautifulwww.com]Now for the good stuff. Much like my [visualization of the netflix prize competition data](#) [abeautifulwww.com], we began this piece by representing the data as a network.

In this case *the nodes in the network are wikipedia articles and the edges are the links between articles*. We then (with some help from our friends at Sandia) used an algorithm to lay out all 650,000 nodes (wikipedia articles) that had at least one link in such a way that similar articles are near one another. These are the yellow dots, which when viewed at low res give a yellow tint to the whole picture.

The sizes of the nodes (circles, dots, whatever you want to call them), are based on a model of revision activity. So **large circles indicate that an article might be controversial, or the subject of lots of vandalism, or just a topic whose content frequently changes**. We labeled only the largest nodes, to keep it readable. There is an interactive version of this in the works based on the google maps platform which will change the labels and pictures used as the user zooms in or out. Stay tuned for that.

The image used for each tile was selected automatically, simply by **using the first image in the most linked to article among all the articles in that tile**. We were pleasantly surprised by the quality of the images that appeared.

Our hope for this visualization approach, which we continue to improve on, is that it could be updated in real time to give a macro sense of what is happening in Wikipedia. I personally hope that some variation of it will end up in high schools as a teaching tool and for generating discussions.

- o [Re:The Slashdotted Article](#) by PurifyYourMind (Score:2) Tuesday May 22 2007, @05:15PM
- **Now all they need to visualize ([Score:3](#), Interesting)**

by [Moryath \(553296\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:39AM ([#19207909](#))
is how many false charges of "sockpuppet" or "troll" are put in by the abusive administrators that run the place.

Whoops. Did I say something less than complimentary about the [quantum fucking encyclopedia](#) [penny-arcade.com], where info may or may not be correct based on which second of the day it is, and where you can be assured that the moment someone tries to fix it, they'll be [beat down by an army of socially inept retards](#) [artsjournal.com] who have nothing better to do than accumulate hundreds/thousands of edits per day in hopes that they, too, can become administrators and ban anyone they disagree with?

- o **just like your link ([Score:5](#), Insightful)**

by [Shivetya \(243324\)](#) <shivetya@ajonon.com [[rch](#) in gap]> on Monday May 21 2007, @09:46AM ([#19207993](#)) [Homepage](#)

I too have given up in helping Wikipedia through creating new articles or editing obviously bad ones. It just doesn't matter. If not for the idiots in some areas it's the political slant in others that is just mind boggling. Wiki died the day that interest groups found it and realized they could sway public opinion by marginalizing a site which supposedly has accurate information.

[Parent](#)

- [Re:just like your link](#) by syrion (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @10:23AM
- [Re:just like your link](#) by kabocox (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @10:59AM

- **Re:just like your link** ([Score:4](#), **Interesting**)

by [mpe \(36238\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @11:45AM ([#19209315](#))

Wiki died the day that intrest groups found it and realized they could sway public opinion by marginalizing a site which supposedly has accurate information.

The problem with interest groups is not only do they typically have a lot of time and resources they also tend to have a strong tendency to monopolise the issue in question. Sometimes to the point where they appear incapable of actually rationally defending their position, whilst having almost stereotypical strawmen and ad hominum responses. (Zionists and Feminists must qualify as "textbook examples"...)

Parent

- [Re:just like your link](#) by Deliveranc3 (Score:2) Tuesday May 22 2007, @08:13AM
- [Re:just like your link](#) by AmiMoJo (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @01:22PM
- [Re:just like your link](#) by cbreeze34 (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @02:38PM
- [Re:Now all they need to visualize](#) by sjwest (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @10:14AM
- [70% "Flamebait"?They're deadly afraid of the truth!](#) by Moryath (Score:3) Monday May 21 2007, @10:47AM
 - [Lolz... "Troll" modded.](#) by Moryath (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @02:43PM
 - [Re:70% "Flamebait"?They're deadly afraid of the tru](#) by Jackmn (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @06:12PM
 - **1 reply beneath your current threshold.**
- [Re:Now all they need to visualize](#) by pretygrrl (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @11:02AM
 - [Re:Now all they need to visualize](#) by DragonWriter (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @12:45PM
 - [\(3\)See Also](#) by Moryath (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @12:55PM
 - [Re:\(3\)See Also](#) by DragonWriter (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @01:20PM
 - [Re:\(3\)See Also](#) by Moryath (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @01:26PM
 - [Re:\(3\)See Also](#) by DragonWriter (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @02:21PM
 - [Gee, modded "troll"? Wikicultists to the rescue!](#) by Moryath (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @02:39PM
 - [Wikicultists abusing power again!](#) by Moryath (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @04:43PM
 - [Re:\(3\)See Also](#) by Moryath (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @02:36PM
 - [Re:\(3\)See Also](#) by DragonWriter (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @05:24PM
 - [Re:\(3\)See Also](#) by hihihhi (Score:1) Tuesday May 22 2007, @01:00AM
 - [Re:Now all they need to visualize](#) by pretygrrl (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @01:48PM
 - [Re:Now all they need to visualize](#) by DragonWriter (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @02:43PM
 - **1 reply beneath your current threshold.**
 - [Re:Now all they need to visualize](#) by macraig (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @03:53PM

- [Re:MOD PARENT UP!!!](#) by Chuq (Score:2) Tuesday May 22 2007, @08:15PM
- **1 reply beneath your current threshold.**
- **Similar effort (Score:5, Funny)**

by [Chairboy \(88841\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:44AM ([#19207965](#)) [Homepage](#)
 Last year, I did a similar indepth analysis of Wikipedia, generating a map describing the major components of the project with their interlinks:

<http://www.hallert.net/images/mapofwikipedia.GIF> [hallert.net]

- [Re:Similar effort](#) by SlayerofGods (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @10:07AM
- [Re:Similar effort](#) by Kuvter (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @11:38AM
- [Re:Similar effort](#) by Frozen Void (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @12:04PM
- **Heh (Score:1)**

by [jfade \(1096961\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:45AM ([#19207985](#))
 In the style of Homestar Runner... 503'D!! I wonder how long it'll take for this to get tagged "slashdotted"

- **Interesting, but not too helpful (Score:2)**

by [Nymz \(905908\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:48AM ([#19208009](#)) [Journal](#)
 The visualization technique was intersting, but I found it easier to understand just by reading a simple list of the most vandalized topics. Jesus, Hitler, Britney Spears, Bush, Global Warming, etc... most anything to do with religion or politics.

- [Which category?](#) by DamonHD (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @10:54AM
 - **1 reply beneath your current threshold.**
- **Visualising the Wikipedia power struggles (Score:3, Insightful)**

by [suv4x4 \(956391\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:58AM ([#19208119](#))
 Topic: "Visualizing the Wikipedia power struggles"

Page, visualizing the power struggle: "Service Temporarily Unavailable
 The server is temporarily unable to service your request due to maintenance downtime or capacity problems. Please try again later."

R.I.P. Wikipedia lost the power struggle...

- **The two sides of Wikipedia (Score:4, Interesting)**

by [br00tus \(528477\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @10:07AM ([#19208181](#))
 I began editing on Wikipedia in 2003 and used it a lot for a while until over time I began realizing that the problems with it were not going to go away, but seemed to be getting worse, so now I do not edit it any more.

One thing I learned is there are two sides of Wikipedia. In the upper right hand corner of the main page you can see what are called the "master categories". The categories such as Mathematics and Science highlight what is best about Wikipedia. The categories such as History and Society highlight what is worst about Wikipedia. You do not really have big battles over articles like "Pythagorean theorem", and they usually do a good job of explaining what that is. On the other hand, if you look at the top of an article like "Palestine" you will see that it is semi-protected, meaning new users can not edit the article. You can also see eight pages of discussion which really doesn't get anywhere. The article is garbage. The Wikipedia cabal likes to say things like cooler heads eventually prevail on such articles, but that is just a lot of bullshit. The cabal itself

can often be the problem - if you look at the article's originator, it is Ed Poor, who has not only an admin but a bureaucrat at Wikipedia. He is also a Moonie, with some very strange beliefs, not only religious, which I could care less about, but politically. It's typical Wikipedia that he would create the article, and more so that he has held such high level positions.

Actually I antagonize in using the Wikipedia cabal phrase as these people are so paranoid they have replied to messages like this on Slashdot in the past with stuff like "AHA! YOU SAID CABAL! YOU ARE ONE OF 'THEM'! AN ENEMY! ONLY ENEMIES OF WIKIPEDIA USE THAT PHRASE". Or maybe I could say Wikipediareview.com has some good criticisms of Wikipedia, since they're fanatical about that site to where you are not allowed to mention it on the "Criticism of Wikipedia" article.

I spent a bit of time on Wikipedia and used to care more about this due to that time spent etc. Nowadays I just contribute to other wikis I like which I feel are more balanced. I should note that Jimbo Wales ran the Ayn Rand mailing list for years, has said "[F. A.] Hayek's work...is central to my own thinking about how to manage the Wikipedia project.", and I can give dozens of more examples of where Wales's somewhat far out political biases lay. This political bias starts at the top and works its way down, as one can see with his appointment of people who did not make the cut electorally such as JayJG to Arbcom.

My advice to people is to patronize other wikis - the concept of a wiki encyclopedia is a great idea, but their political views are so far out, that it fragmenting is a certainty.

- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by Anonymous Coward (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @10:30AM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by superpulsicle (Score:3) Monday May 21 2007, @12:43PM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by Tickletaint (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @12:44PM
 - [Cowardly Wikitroll Chairboy won't respond.](#) by Moryath (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @01:02PM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by DragonWriter (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @04:36PM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by Tickletaint (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @04:50PM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by DragonWriter (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @05:32PM
- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by darjen (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @10:48AM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by br00tus (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @01:27PM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by darjen (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @02:38PM
- **Re:The two sides of Wikipedia (Score:5, Interesting)**

by [Chairboy \(88841\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @10:54AM ([#19208701](#)) [Homepage](#)
Mentioning Wikipedia Review is not, on it's own, terribly crazy. It's just the context you choose.

For example, Wikipediareview has made a policy of harassing editors and admins, the users coordinated attacks where they call people at their houses late at night and call their employers to complain about them to get them fired. Do you support that? Since you're

probably not going to respond to this, it's probably fruitless to ask, but you opened the door with your line of comment. You REALLY want to use Wikipedia Review as a reference?

So mentioning that site to bolster your viewpoint (presumably, you're an editor who disagreed with a decision that applied to you, as in perhaps you tried to use Wikipedia as a MySpace site, or were pushing a point of view in contravention of the site policies, or were upset when the article you wrote about your math teacher was deleted as 'non-notable') is similar to starting a conversation with "Now, the Nazi medical experiments were terrible, but we did learn some useful things from them..." (howdy Godwinists!)

So, your credibility is basically shot. The cabal reference underscores it. I'm an admin there, and we can't even agree on what to order for our pizzas, much less plot to push some sort of wacky political agenda.

Your bozo bit has been set, good day.

Parent

- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by Anonymous Coward (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @11:15AM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by Chairboy (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @11:47AM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by Tickletaint (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @12:37PM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by General Wesc (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @01:00PM
 - [Wikicultists abusing power again!](#) by Moryath (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @04:40PM
 - [Re:Wikicultists abusing power again!](#) by DragonWriter (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @05:26PM
 - [Sounds like you're a wiki cultist.](#) by Moryath (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @05:35PM
 - [Oooh..."Wikicultist"](#) by DragonWriter (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @06:17PM
 - [Re:Remember the Wikipedia code](#) by Chuq (Score:2) Tuesday May 22 2007, @08:29PM
 - **1 reply beneath your current threshold.**
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by rozz (Score:1) Tuesday May 22 2007, @06:34AM
 - **1 reply beneath your current threshold.**
- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by br00tus (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @02:02PM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by Tickletaint (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @03:01PM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by DragonWriter (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @04:45PM
- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by StevenKe (Score:1) Tuesday May 22 2007, @03:04AM
- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by valonewolf (Score:1) Thursday May 24 2007, @09:56PM
- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by nathanrdocom (Score:1) Saturday May 26 2007,

- @12:24PM
 - [Re:Don't abuse your position](#) by ShinmaWa (Score:3) Monday May 21 2007, @01:19PM
 - **2 replies beneath your current threshold.**
 - [Re:Don't abuse your position](#) by jez9999 (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @03:36PM
 - **3 replies beneath your current threshold.**
- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by ghyd (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @10:54AM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by br00tus (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @02:36PM
- [Palestine](#) by Per Abrahamsen (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @11:01AM
- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by dotmaudot (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @11:04AM
- [Conservapedia- A trustworthy alternative](#) by Anonymous Coward (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @11:07AM
- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by ShakaUVM (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @11:20AM
- **Re:The two sides of Wikipedia (Score:5, Insightful)**

by [Kjella \(173770\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @11:32AM ([#19209165](#)) [Homepage](#)

Have you ever been to a soccer match? There's 11 guys on each team that desperately wants everything to be a call in their favor, and one referee that's supposed to be neutral. He gets hounded about 98% of the time. At times you'd think he was dumb, deaf, blind, bought and that his walking dog needs glasses from the sound of it.

Now imagine a match where the fans could overturn the referee's decision. Repeatedly, both sides. "Free kick for the red team" "No, free kick for the blue team" "No, free kick for the red team". Every so often a guy would run around and show all the players the red card, and you'd have to undo it.

You get the pleasure of being called partial by morons who are so far from being level it's a wonder they don't tip over. And you sure don't get paid for it, or have any league that'll slap the worst personal attacks. You've got zero authority except temporarily locking edits which is like getting between two NFL teams waiting for the play signal again.

That pretty much sums up the fun of trying to get a neutral and balanced article on a controversial topic in Wikipedia. I understand perfectly those who give up. I use Wikipedia for quick "what is that?" and simple facts. If I want to form an opinion on something, I'm not looking to wikipedia for a balanced view...

Parent

- [As Penn & Teller would say...](#) by Moryath (Score:3) Monday May 21 2007, @12:47PM
 - [Re:As Penn & Teller would say...](#) by gwern (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @08:26PM
 - [I trust him...](#) by Moryath (Score:1) Tuesday May 22 2007, @01:13AM
 - [Re:I trust him...](#) by gwern (Score:1) Tuesday May 22 2007, @01:24AM
 - [Yeah right, Gwernol.](#) by Moryath (Score:1) Tuesday May 22 2007, @12:36PM
 - [Re:Yeah right, Gwernol.](#) by gwern (Score:1) Tuesday May

- 22 2007, @12:54PM
 - [Suuuuure](#). by Moryath (Score:2) Tuesday May 22 2007, @02:37PM
 - [Re:Suuuuure](#). by gwern (Score:1) Tuesday May 22 2007, @04:53PM
 - **1 reply** beneath your current threshold.
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by timeOday (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @02:00PM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by Tomfrh (Score:1) Tuesday May 22 2007, @05:28AM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by MarkH (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @02:02PM
 - [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by Repton (Score:2) Tuesday May 22 2007, @01:00AM
- [Discourse and propaganda](#) by phunctor (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @11:59AM
- [What's worse?](#) by FridayBob (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @01:50PM
- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by gwern (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @02:58PM
- [Welcome to a microcosm of the real world](#) by lennier (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @06:08PM
- [Re:The two sides of Wikipedia](#) by nathanrdotcom (Score:1) Saturday May 26 2007, @12:38PM
 - **1 reply** beneath your current threshold.
- **4 replies** beneath your current threshold.
- **I got the page to load (Score:1)**

by [aussie_a \(778472\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @10:09AM ([#19208203](#)) [Journal](#)

I got the page to load and all I saw was a badly formatted page with ads before the actual content while content doesn't really seem worth anything. It had lots of dots on pictures representing articles. I couldn't really tell how much an editing war was happening, not anymore then simply seeing a list of recent edits for those pages. Were the pages selected on the fly (I'd take a closer look at the fucking article except its as slow as pushing out a large turd)? If not, how is it anymore "neat" or informative then simply looking at those pages?

- [Re:I got the page to load](#) by aussie_a (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @10:11AM
 - **Oblig xkcd reference: (Score:4, Funny)**
- by [VE3OGG \(1034632\)](#) <[.VE3OGG](#).[.at](#).[.rac.ca](#)> on Monday May 21 2007, @10:14AM ([#19208269](#))
- <http://xkcd.com/c195.html> [xkcd.com] -- Map of the Internets
- <http://www.xkcd.com/c256.html> [xkcd.com] -- Map of online communities
- [Re:Oblig xkcd reference:](#) by Refenestrator (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @09:55PM
- **Steal pretty neat (Score:2, Funny)**

by [CmdrPorno \(115048\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @10:18AM ([#19208305](#))

Despite the power struggles, Slashdot and Wikipedia are steal pretty cool websites. You can still content from them and put it up on your own blog.

- **Network Mirror of the site (Score:5, Informative)**

by [mpieters \(149981\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @10:34AM ([#19208479](#))

[Mirror including the famed image](#) [networkmirror.com]

- **"Citation Police" can be annoying (Score:1)**

by [Tablizer \(95088\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @11:06AM ([#19208835](#)) [Homepage Journal](#)
 Rather than outright deletion, Wikipedia should allow "unofficial" opinions to exist somewhere. The "citation police" sometimes get carried away.

- o [Re:"Citation Police" can be annoying](#) by [dubl-u](#) (Score:2) Tuesday May 22 2007, @07:54PM
 - [Re:"Citation Police" can be annoying](#) by [Tablizer](#) (Score:1) Tuesday May 22 2007, @08:06PM
 - [Re:"Citation Police" can be annoying](#) by [dubl-u](#) (Score:2) Wednesday May 23 2007, @12:48PM

- **It's Like Modern Art in a Way ([Score:2](#))**

by [Bellum Aeternus \(891584\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @11:07AM ([#19208851](#))
 Well, that does a pretty good job of describing power struggles at Wikipedia after all. It's kind of like modern art in a way...

Service Temporarily Unavailable

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Apache/1.3.33 Server at [www.abeautifulwww.com](#) Port 80

- **Very Leftist ([Score:4](#), [Interesting](#))**

by [Quila \(201335\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @12:25PM ([#19209757](#))
 Personally, I'm not really "right" or "left." I just want to live my life as free as possible from government control -- the control constantly sought by both the left and right. I get called a leftist by those on the right, and a rightist by those on the left, so I guess that puts me in the middle somewhere.

Given that, I do see a serious ideological left bent in Wikipedia. I've tried to put hard facts (well-cited, thank you) to give a counter to obviously left-biased articles (or articles where the viewpoint is used to justify government intrusion), only to have them removed or edited to oblivion. It's often a hard fight to keep such facts in Wikipedia. Anti-American sentiment is definitely there, with wild, unsubstantiated rumors that keep popping up again after they're killed, and the editors will not keep them out. In that case the only recourse is to post the facts in opposition to the rumors (and hope they survive), but such things should not have to be done.

Yes, I abhor the pathetic conservapedia even more. Wikipedia's slant is more of an accident, a result of the populace and to some extent those Wales put in charge. But conservapedia was conceived as biased.

- o [Re:Very Leftist](#) by [NevarMore](#) (Score:3) Monday May 21 2007, @12:34PM
 - **Re:Very Leftist ([Score:4](#), [Insightful](#))**

by [Quila \(201335\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @01:06PM ([#19210189](#))
 I considered it, but some things still rubbed me wrong. What I can't do is get into either of the main parties.

Democrat: Out of your bedroom and into your business.

Republican: Out of your business and into your bedroom.

But there's been some crossover, each inheriting the worst traits of the other.

[Parent](#)

- [Re:Very Leftist](#) by ultramk (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @01:40PM
 - [Re:Very Leftist](#) by Quila (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @02:43PM
 - [Re:Very Leftist](#) by DragonWriter (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @04:39PM
 - [Re:Very Leftist](#) by Anonymous Coward (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @03:37PM
 - [Re:Very Leftist](#) by Quila (Score:2) Monday May 21 2007, @05:14PM
 - [WP:RS](#) by I am Jack's username (Score:2) Tuesday May 22 2007, @07:17AM
- **They took the picture off (Score:2)**

by [treeves \(963993\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @02:28PM ([#19211331](#)) [Homepage](#) [Journal](#)
Not Found

The requested URL /wp-content/uploads/2007/05/windowsliewritervisualizingthepowerstruggleinwikipedia-f7c7wikivislowres74.jpg was not found on this server.
Apache/2.0.52 (CentOS) Server at www.abeautifulwww.com Port 80

- **That top 20 and evangelism (Score:2, Interesting)**

by [macraig \(621737\)](#) <mark.a.craig@NOspam.gmail.com> on Monday May 21 2007, @02:37PM ([#19211459](#)) [Homepage](#)

From the Top 20 Most Hotly Revised Articles (in the article):

1. Jesus
4. Nintendo revolution
10. Playstation 3

So Sony Playstations and Nintendo systems inspire almost as much evangelism as Jesus? Seems to me that both atheists and Christians ought to have a problem with that false idol worshipping.

- [Re:That top 20 and evangelism](#) by Elentari (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @02:50PM
 - [Re:That top 20 and evangelism](#) by macraig (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @03:07PM
- **wikipedia is a useful dynamic (Score:3, Insightful)**

by [2TecTom \(311314\)](#) <[@moc.liamg\(ta\)\(cet2mot\)](mailto:moc.liamg(ta)(cet2mot))> on Monday May 21 2007, @03:49PM ([#19212331](#)) [Homepage](#) [Journal](#)

and therefore, one distinct advantage it has over traditional encyclopedias is in its ability to reflect changing beliefs and controversies

personally i'm tired of "either or" type thinking, in fact, I use each and every resource

- **So what are the - (Score:2)**

by [billsoxs \(637329\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @05:27PM ([#19213599](#)) [Journal](#)

RED dots? I understand the yellow ones - they are explained in the article - as are the pictures behind the yellow dots. The RED dot have no explanation. Anyone?

- [Re:So what are the -](#) by justo (Score:1) Tuesday May 22 2007, @04:22PM
- **Re:Another one bites the dust... (Score:2, Funny)**

by Anonymous Coward on Monday May 21 2007, @09:34AM ([#19207859](#))

Have you been *stealing* their bandwidth?

[Parent](#)

- **Re:Another one bites the dust... (Score:2)**

by [Pryorra \(1040518\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:38AM (#19207895)

Perhaps we can visualize the power struggle between Wikipedia and the Slashdot stampede?

Parent

- [Re:Another one bites the dust...](#) by Lockejaw (Score:3) Monday May 21 2007, @09:45AM
 - [Re:Another one bites the dust...](#) by Eagleartoo (Score:1) Monday May 21 2007, @10:18AM

- **Re:Another one bites the dust... (Score:2)**

by [SNR monkey \(1021747\)](#) on Monday May 21 2007, @09:39AM (#19207913)

Yet another site goes down within minutes of being mentioned on /. -- gotta love it!

Well, I RTFA before the server crumbled (yes I'm new here), and I have to laugh that their server couldn't handle it, because at the bottom of the article are links to submit the story to Digg, Del.icio.us, Simpy, /., Technorati, and Reddit. They HAD to know this was coming.

Parent

- **[7 replies](#) beneath your current threshold.**

-

Conversation, n.: A vocal competition in which the one who is catching his breath is called the listener.

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