

# Facebook Rules



*...America watch out...*

*by Kat Rowoldt*

Oh, the addictive, evil, vitally important form of communication that we return to throughout our day. We griped and complained as we learned how to navigate our way around. When they upgraded the format over the years, time and time again, we would gripe and complain some more, all the while not realizing how dependent we were becoming on it.

Over the last week, more and more reports have been coming out about the true addictive nature of this phenomenal platform. They are medically stating that this is truly an addictive product that is effecting our society. We knew it was making a negative impact. Bullying went to a new level when peers could bully over Facebook and kids were killing themselves over it.

I found this an interesting photo grab when I googled Facebook for logos and photos. Interesting wording, wouldn't you say? But isn't this exactly what they are trying to do? [See photo insert above.] Social fixer. Enhance Facebook and Remove Annoyances!

A few days ago, I received notice that two of my posts had been removed because they did not meet Facebook's standards. It went on to state that it fell under the nudity clause. "This post has been removed because it goes against our Community Standards on nudity." This was an article on Shaquille O'Neal

talking about his support of Trump as President. I don't believe there was any nudity in the article, unless one of gross ads they insert into articles was guilty. But there is no recourse for you to dispute their claim. Both removals were the same article, interestingly. I only posted it once, but maybe someone shared it and that counted against me too.

I believe it really fell under the "annoyances" clause as they stated in the banner I used in the lead in. They were annoyed someone was talking supportive of Trump. They are liberal and do not like Trump. So, freedom of speech, censorship, are at war with one another on this site.

One of the other things that I have noticed happening a lot now, is the appearance of fun little "remember" challenges that are really security questions that hacker initially planted to gain and capture your information to steal your identity. Here's a perfect example:



Think about the questions that you are asked when setting up an account. They are questions that typically only you would know. Safe questions - to protect your account, your information, your security. See example to your left.

Yet, in a flash, without a thought, we will see something cute like the picture to the left and immediately pop the answer to the question asked below the photo. The hacker then simply clicks on your name and pulls up your profile and begins to build your data needed to open some credit card accounts, pull equity out on your home mortgage, etc. They've got a great answer to a security question. Many of the credit cards even allow you to write your own security questions. Isn't that convenient for the hacker.

Hackers planting these "cuties" have been widely reported recently on the news. Sadly, now we even have our friends copying this same format and adding to the problem.



I did a little cropping to protect the poster of this “cutie,” but you can see how this post that innocently was enjoying remembering the “good ole days,” is facilitating hackers with information they need to hack accounts, steal identities, and open accounts without our knowledge.

When I posted a warning in the comments, I was attacked and told to get a life! Well, hopefully a few took my advice and kept their posting to themselves and not out there for the hackers.

One other popular thing that is shared over and over are the well-liked list of things which tell what your favorites are: movies, color, cars, vacation locations, etc. I hope this helps you begin to look at these “fun” shared posts with an updated set of eyes. Your friends aren’t the only ones who see your correct answers.

This isn’t the safe world that we once grew up in. Many of us grew up in a day when fences did not divide up the play areas in our backyards. Kids and pets were returned to their proper parent/owner by the neighbors. Kids could walk to stores and get what they needed and simply sign the tab that the store kept for the family. Now those were the good ole days. How I miss that world.

While legitimate concerns for safety exist on Facebook usage, it is also the place for countless blessings. How we love the grandkids’ pictures, news from friends and family near and far, a place to ask for referrals, a quick news update on weather, warnings, and power outages, plus those awesome cat photos and so much more.

Let’s enjoy Facebook for all the good things it does offer us, but remember that there are things we need to guard and protect for our own safety. Look at Facebook with eyes for safety first. If you see me, or one of your family or friends post something that could be harmful, private message them and warn them of the danger. Let’s have one another’s back on Facebook.

*Until next time...*

*Kat Rowoldt*

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