

The Reports Of Our Fascism Have Been Greatly Exaggerated:

A Data Driven Analysis of 174 days of /r/WetShaving Moderator Logs

by /u/AManForAllSaisons

Notes on the Dataset:

Due to limitations regarding how far back in history one can access it without resorting to the API, we have the data for the following periods:

July 9th, 2016 – October 1st, 2016

October 26th – January 24th

See specific exceptions noted in the section regarding Bans.

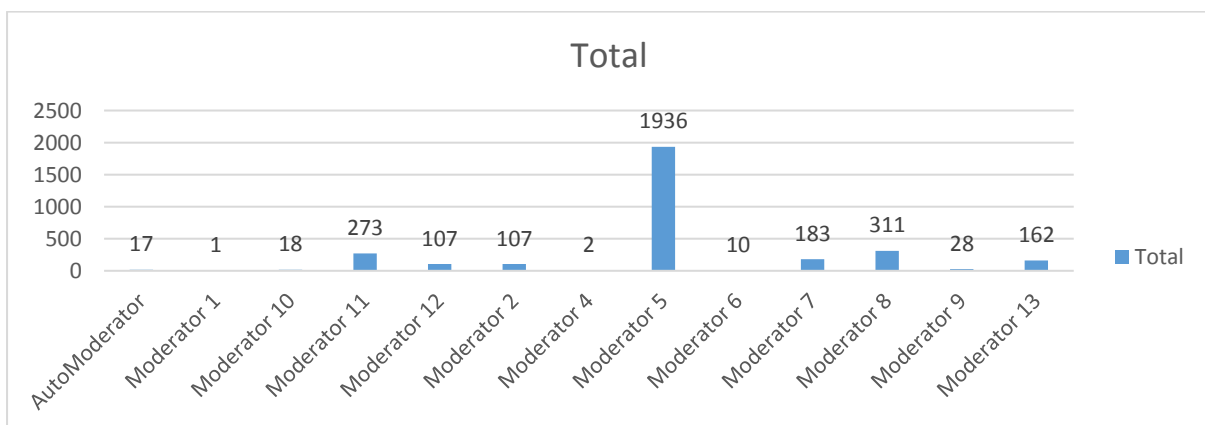
Initial Analysis of Moderator Actions:

Using that data, we had 3,155 mod actions, across 13 moderators (including Automod, Guywiththepants and MrAdamLerner who was modded with flair only privileges to assist in catching up the backlog when we implemented flair and was then removed). For the purposes of this analysis, I have assigned a random alias to each moderator with the exclusion of Automod.

They fall into the following 38 categories:

Action	Action	Action
accepted moderator invite	edited rule	set contest mode on link
added approved contributor	edited settings	set suggested sort link
approved comment	edited wiki page	stickied comment
approved link	Enrolled	stickied link
banned	ignored reports comment	unbanned
Changed Permissions	ignored reports link	unignored reports comment
changed wiki page listing preference	invited moderator	unignored reports link
changed wiki page permission level	locked link	unlocked link
created rule	removed approved contributor	unset contest mode on link
deleted rule	removed comment	unstickied comment
distinguished comment	removed link	unstickied link
distinguished link	Removed moderator	
edited flair	removed wiki contributor	

I've broken down the mod actions according to who made them (this does not include contribution to modmail or other moderation discussion as there's simply no way to quantify nor track this metric). 5 Moderators account for 97% of the moderator actions (this includes /u/MrAdamLerner at 5.13%).

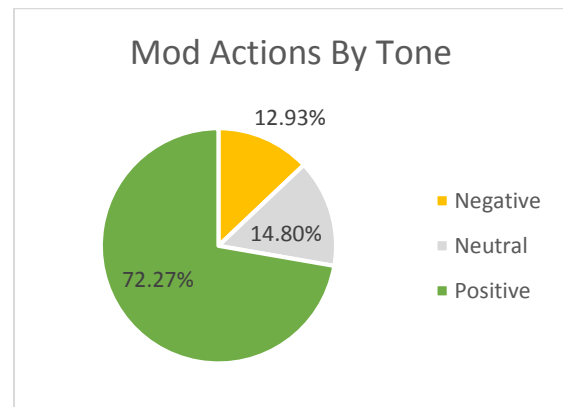


Good Mod/Bad Mod: Tone Analysis of Moderator Actions

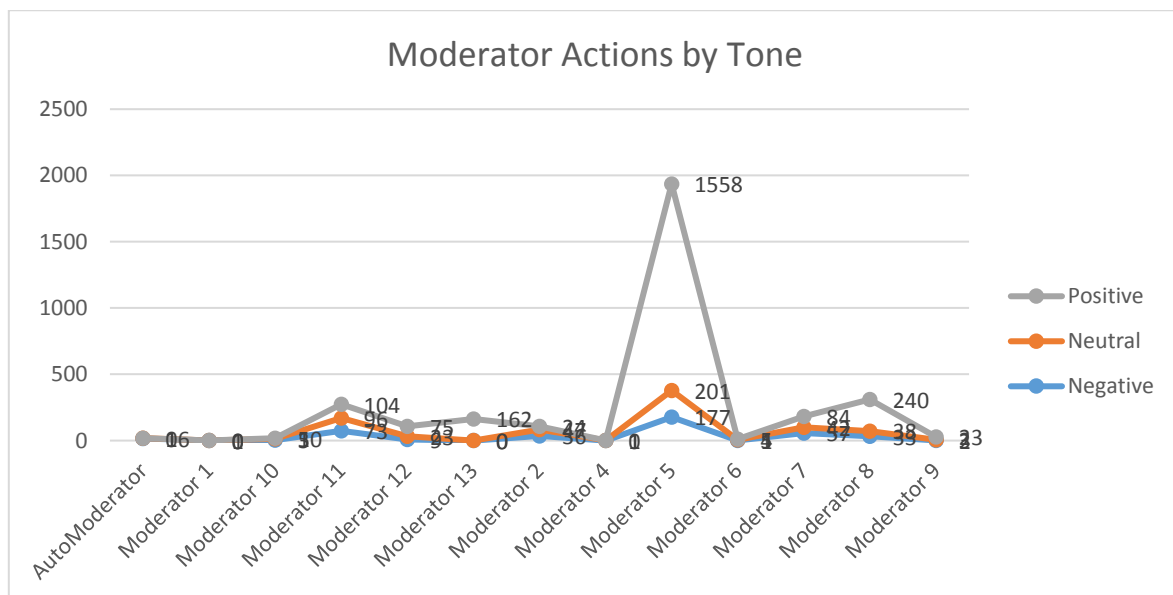
I then went through and broadly categorized moderator actions as Positive, Neutral or Negative, from a user perspective. For example, removing a link or comment would be Negative, Ignoring Reports or Approving a Post is Positive, while housekeeping issues such as editing rules or the wiki, editing subreddit settings, setting contest mode on the banner, etc. would be Neutral.

Those stats are as follows:

Mod Action Tone	% of Total
Negative	12.93%
Neutral	14.80%
Positive	72.27%
Grand Total	100.00%



As we can see, the overall tone of moderator interaction with the subreddit is positive. If we include Neutral values, which are generally un-noticed by quality-of-life issues like setting user flair, the numbers jump to 88.07% positive. I feel this is borne out by the overall user feedback we receive, for example the overwhelming community response to /u/wishbound for doing the Deals/NP thread, as seen in /u/raggedclaws' *2016 Best Of* post.



Bringing the Banhammer: Analysis of Permanent Bans and Ban Retractions

Moving on to banned users, especially as this is a topic that has raised with concern on a number of occasions in internal modmail discussions, specifically the idea that we are quick to ban people and/or have banned a large or disproportionate number of people. The following numbers are taken from the banned user page and are not time period limited, they cover the subreddit from Day One.

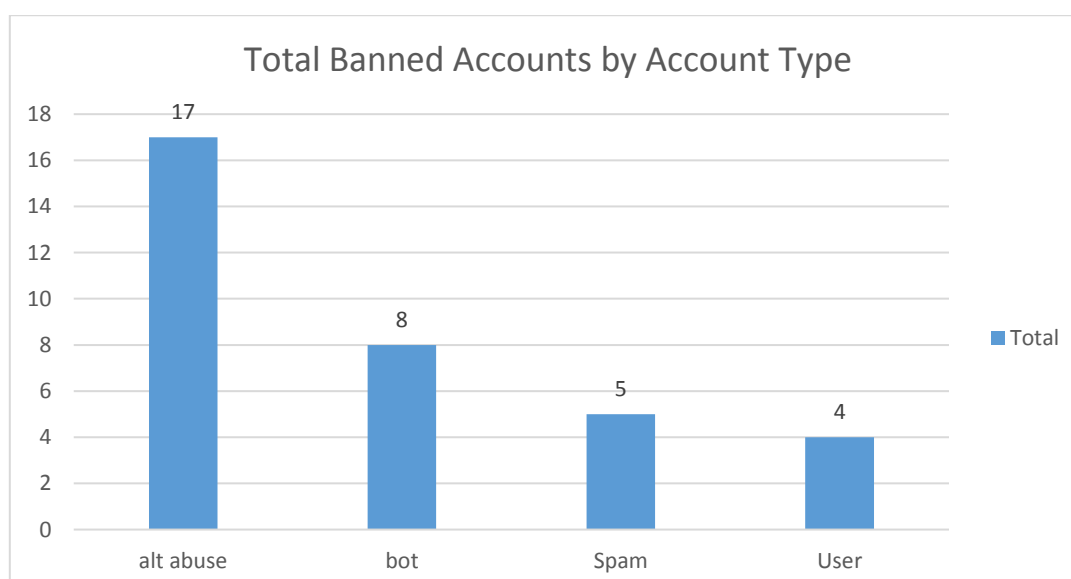
We have 2,845 subscribers. There are currently 34 banned Reddit accounts on the subreddit.

/u/Corrado13	/u/Tessellate___	/u/nigger_shave
/u/patriciaelle	/u/tessellate	/u/TheShavingGroup
/u/Shrugfacebot	/u/navigatorbot	/u/JaredWasBanned
/u/fiveoclockshadowclub	/u/PM_ME_YOUR_SOTD	/u/Jared90210
/u/ama0290	/u/f-off-Garewolf	/u/CALL-YOU-OUT
/u/comprised_of_bot	/u/fuck-off-Garewolf	/u/SPELL-IT-RIGHT
/u/Roam_Alone	/u/wicked_edge_sux	/u/WETSHAVING_MUTINY
/u/youtubefactsbot	/u/Tessellate___	/u/mobile_monster_
/u/Magicplayinggeek	/u/QuoteMe-Bot	/u/DirectImageLinkBot
/u/chris_shaves	/u/-ecksdee-	/u/bigdaddyjug
/u/movie2kforall	/u/Lets-Tessellate	
/u/thelinkfixerbot	/u/wet_shavers_sux	

*Please note, reddit's stats do not count deleted accounts. I added BigDaddyJug in above from memory, but if we have banned anyone else who has subsequently deleted their account it won't be included.

When you consider the reason each account was banned to account for bots and spammers and alt accounts, we have the following statistics.

Reason for Ban	# of Accounts
alt abuse	17
bot	8
Spam	5
User	4
Grand Total	34



We have permanently banned 4 user accounts, /u/Corrado13, /u/BigDaddyJug, /u/Lets-Tessellate, and /u/magicplayinggeek which is 11.7% of the total number of banned accounts.

Compared to our subscriber base of 2,845, we have banned 1.20% (one point two percent) of the total number of subscribed accounts, including bots, spam and alts. Filtering the 34 banned accounts strictly for the 4 individual user accounts banned as a percentage of subscriber count, that number is 0.14% (fourteen hundredths of a percent).

Unbanning: When We Make A Mistake

If we then consider the moderator action “unbanning,” this has historically been used when a user was banned permanently (no set expiration), and then unbanned. Temporary bans that are set for a given time period and then automatically expire, are not counted. These typically occur where after discussion, the mod team decided on a shorter ban period or decided a permanent ban was not necessary. As a mod who has handed down a permanent ban that was later reversed after mod discussion, I consider these a good barometer of how often we as a team reconsider or get it wrong the first time. This now pulls from the moderator log data and is limited to the previously mentioned time periods.

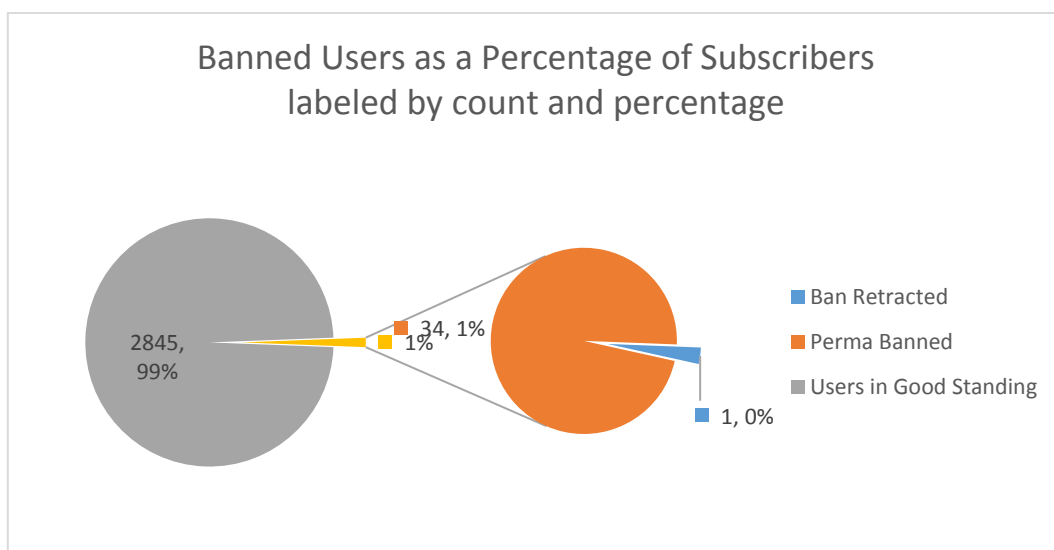
That has happened on 3 occasions, /u/Razorock, /u/koviak, and /u/Ironyingbored.

Two of those have moderator added unban reason of “was temporary.” Discounting these, that leaves one occasion where we essentially overturned a ban, in the case of /u/koviak. Out of 34 permabanned accounts, that’s an error rate of just under 3% against the permanent bans we have let stand, and 0.03% (three hundredths of a percent) of the total subscriber base.

/u/Koviak was banned originally for this post, including responses: <https://redd.it/5h3ry2>.

He’s a /r/wicked_edge user, it appeared to be intentional trolling but apparently he’s just super proud of his stolen horsehair plumbing brush. He hasn’t returned since he was unbanned, and recently has this to say about it <https://redd.it/5k41dq>. The consensus was to reverse the ban, and he hasn’t neither been an issue or been active on the sub since.

To summarize:



Conclusions and Thoughts for the Future:

Shavem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Phasellus pretium lectus eget diam finibus sagittis. Vivamus consequat libero magna, vitae finibus orci venenatis dapibus. Duis tempor sem nunc, at auctor libero maximus quis. Sed rhoncus ex eros, ac rhoncus metus convallis vitae. Suspendisse libero nisl, elementum ac facilisis at, vehicula vitae dui. Interdum et malesuada fames ac ante ipsum primis in faucibus. Nunc dictum auctor suscipit. Proin nec tempus est.

Suspendisse aliquam purus sed felis gravida, quis convallis eros lacinia. Nulla tincidunt vel magna sit amet pellentesque. Nam ac tortor sed orci ornare vehicula. Proin suscipit lectus sed ante luctus, in molestie lorem rutrum. Nulla fermentum, nunc ac pulvinar pulvinar, orci dui malesuada lorem, dignissim vulputate ligula purus non diam. Aenean elit velit, congue congue tempor ut, maximus nec ex. Donec pharetra mi mi, sed pellentesque ex tincidunt quis. Phasellus ac venenatis nibh.

Ut posuere varius lobortis. Donec accumsan elit quis purus consectetur placerat. Etiam tellus purus, feugiat id mollis sit amet, pulvinar in sapien. Class aptent taciti sociosqu ad litora torquent per conubia nostra, per inceptos himenaeos. Aliquam in erat a urna tempus porta. Aliquam consectetur non felis eget tincidunt. Maecenas dictum lacus ut erat lobortis interdum. Maecenas semper commodo urna, ut pulvinar ipsum posuere quis. Aliquam dapibus erat ante, quis pharetra ligula ornare id.

Nullam vitae mi sed ex dignissim pretium. Nullam ut sollicitudin neque, sit amet maximus sapien. Cras luctus, metus in aliquet congue, dui felis rutrum nisl, at tempus enim purus quis ligula. Nulla facilisi. Suspendisse lorem nisl, condimentum at volutpat luctus, semper et mauris. Mauris ligula ante, auctor hendrerit nisl at, hendrerit dapibus lectus. Phasellus ut magna sit amet ante rutrum molestie et a elit.

In mattis pulvinar nulla, non tempor ipsum sodales ac. Curabitur molestie pretium lorem, vel mattis sapien dignissim eget. Fusce tempus laoreet libero, ut tincidunt augue varius vel. Ut lacus elit, porta eget iaculis vel, pulvinar ut mauris. Integer ac elementum eros. Aenean efficitur, purus a laoreet hendrerit, odio sem vehicula nisi, sit amet dapibus lectus enim eu diam. Duis ac turpis vel nulla ullamcorper facilisis at nec lectus. In hac habitasse platea dictumst. Phasellus felis dui, pulvinar at porttitor eget, suscipit sit amet arcu. In porttitor leo id elit tristique convallis. Proin efficitur sapien pharetra dui condimentum mattis.