Tuesday, November 20. 2007

On Strike Rapier's lack of respect for AWTeen and its Citizens

I had hoped that, by now, I would be able to write about Strike Rapier in a positive light. After all, he did get AWTeen's world services restored quickly and world population has increased significant week-over-week. However, I can't help but think that either DaBean or Matthew would have done an equal job in restoring world services. However, Matthew and DaBean would both have been superior Governors because both would have been considerably more helpful and forthcoming to AWTeen's Citizens than Strike Rapier has been.

Why is it that the AWTeen Caretaker position seems lately to always end up in the hands of those with excessive hubris and arrogance? While one could argue that JerMe and Dr. S developed their arrogance towards the world's population during their tenures, Strike Raper hit the ground running, chewing people out within hours of taking the position. In fact, over the past five days, the following statements are a fraction of what has been posted in the Activeworlds forums alone. First, DaBean offered a suggestion to Strike in regards to his testing a bot that constantly changed the world's attributes:

DaBean: Why not do that in markdev1?
DaBean: Very annoying here
[several lines omitted for brevity]
DaBean: Please do it in a different world. Formal request
Strike Rapier: request denied.

Here's another case. Chorus Line asked about having the Peacekeepers leave AWTeen:

Chorus Line: have we ditched them yet?
Strike Rapier: I think my life would be easier if I just ditched you.

And another, where Strike responds to a thread stating that GC is prohibited from participating in any AWTeen events:

Strike Rapier: Im the Governor ol boy. Right now my opinion is that you are not fit to represent AWTeen. So im not going to let you.

So this is how it is? "ol boy?" "I'm the boss, and what I say goes?" While Strike was never an expert in the public relations department, comments such as these cross the line into outright arrogance. Strike sure isn't going to make many friends if he tells them all off in response to simple, reasonable requests such as these. It not very difficult to be a little more polite when answering a normal question about bots, even if he chooses not to follow the advice. It's not very difficult to actually answer the question when someone asks about world policy. And it's clearly not very difficult to take two minutes to craft a decent response to someone who has just been publicly humiliated as to why he isn't allowed to participate in any committees. What ever happened to the concept of respect? SW Chris has previously commented that respect should be given unconditionally, and I completely agree.

As to the people who are being put down by Strike, why aren't you standing up for yourselves? You should be downright mad that Strike has the brass to think he is better than you are. Respond to his comments, and if it keeps up, talk with your feet (or teleporters).

The AWTeen leadership job can be done well while still upholding respect and common courtesy, as Chanty proved in the past. Strike's behavior in these circumstances is unacceptable for someone who is in a position of great responsibility. If he doesn't change his ways soon, the world will remain a joke to the rest of the community, just like it was under JerMe and Dr. Squailboont.

Posted by Brant in Commentary at 07:32