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

Thursday, November 15. 2007

Martin: unprofessionally representing Activeworlds, Inc.

I have a lot of respect for how Activeworlds, Inc. handled the last election, but actions this morning have caused me to question that respect. The voting was fair and honest, the results were announced publicly, and the schedule was followed as prescribed. Flagg definitely knows what he's doing, communicates well with Citizens, and he is a great asset to the community. However, one of AWI's other employees, Martin, has not been as understanding.

After the election concluded, there was some discussion in the AW forums about how to improve the political process after Strike's term concludes. Nobody was inciting "revolution" or even stating the current results should be changed. Instead, there was what many considered a simple debate of process and procedure on how to improve the elections system in the future. Several citizens even posted real-world examples of different types of voting systems, comparing and contrasting the advantages and disadvantages of each. There wasn't any hint that anyone considered the results to be illegitimate.

Then Martin inappropriately decided to end all discussion by locking threads of which he (personally) disapproved.

I've noticed Martin lock other threads needlessly before, and there seems to be little reason for his doing so. Nothing in any of the threads he has locked in the AWTeen forums over the past month has violated the Universe's content guidelines - unless suggesting that AWI might have room for improvement or joking around about polls are violations. It would be easy to understand if profanity were posted or lewd pictures were offered up, but the targets of his locking lack any consistency. Martin seems to have no problem leaving threads open where personal attacks proliferate and people seem ready to kill each other, yet he locks threads where actual constructive discussion is occurring. He also inserts off-topic and irrelevant comments randomly in many threads that contribute little or nothing to the discussion.

Furthermore, Martin's actions are in conflict with Flagg's own stated policies for ejection in AWTeen. Flagg stated that ejection was to be the only punishment for "misbehavior," and that banning from chat is not permitted. Here, Martin hasn't even warned anyone that he saw a problem with what they were posting, and then he locked threads to which many people were contributing, effectively "banning people from chat." In one thread, JerMe's post obviously angered Martin, so why didn't Martin send a telegram to JerMe and talk to him about the issue rather than overreacting by silencing the discussion?

I thought the idea of having AWTeen discussion boards was to have a place for people to discuss things without those in charge interfering? JerMe used to lock threads in his forums all the time, so Brock started new forums where he never interfered with anything anyone had to say - and Brock's forums became very popular. Now we don't have to worry about a Governor limiting speech, so we instead have to worry about abuse of power from AWI representatives?

Martin's actions are unprofessional of an AWI representative and are not representing the company in a good light.

Posted by Brant in Commentary at 09:35

Tuesday, November 13. 2007

Why DaBean will take AWTeen

Flagg has announced that the AWTeen election results will be published tomorrow, November 14. We're not completely in the dark about how the race might turn out, though, as exit polls have shown a close call. However, some interesting interviews have shown that additional forces are at work that I believe will lead to a startling upset in this race. After analyzing data from several sources, I predict that DaBean will be AWTeen's first Governor.

I recently labeled DaBean the "Ron Paul of Activeworlds." Just as Paul is experiencing a late surge in the presidential race, DaBean surged late in this campaign. Before the official list of candidates was announced, DaBean was polling with near-zero support in the straw polls. His campaign, with Kapara as co-Governor, seemed loosely defined and even more loosely organized. It looked as if he wouldn't have the slightest chance of even getting onto the ballot.

As the campaign unfolded, however, DaBean continued to gain more and more support until he surpassed even Matthew in the final poll. He still lags slightly behind Strike Rapier in that poll, but I predict that DaBean has managed to surpass Strike and will be announced as AWTeen's next Governor tomorrow.

Why would I draw such a seemingly off-the-wall conclusion? First, DaBean's rise in support has spoken for itself. Since there were no major events during the last days of the election, nothing indicates that the bottom would have fallen out from under DaBean's support at the last minute. On the other hand, Strike's numbers have trended downward over time. Whereas he took a large percentage of the vote in the first polls, Strike garnered less conclusive leads in latter votes. Likewise, there is no reason to suspect that trend has reversed, either.

Second, I interviewed twenty citizens in-world using telegrams to find out who they voted for. Surprisingly, the in-world numbers turned out much differently than those on the forums. In-world, DaBean garnered three votes for every two of Strike's, with Matthew receiving little support. When I probed further in an attempt to determine why the results were so strikingly different, I found that there was one nearly-universal answer: DaBean's work with AWNewbie was exceptional, and the citizens felt that he would contribute similarly to AWTeen.

How could the race have turned around so unexpectedly? Here's why:

Strike Rapier has been very active in the AWTeen forums, while DaBean has made few posts. Because this election was so non-political, saying nothing actually helped more than talking about the issues. As soon as someone made a post about anything of substance, it was immediately flamed out. Strike Rapier had nothing to gain, but a lot to lose. Strike Rapier was framed by some citizens over his handling of free expression and speech, and he lost his cool in the forums when responding. Matthew was also framed by his opponents as being inept and too young for the job, a stigma he was unable to shake. Even after the discussion died down, people who were just reading the threads were deterred away from both of the criticized candidates.
DaBean and Strike Rapier have extensive contacts elsewhere in the Universe, whereas Matthew's main contacts come from within AWTeen, a demographic already involved with the election. Because Flagg did not prevent people who have never visited AWTeen from voting, this election was decided by how high turnout outside the community was, not by the smaller number of citizens who were active within the AWTeen community.
The fact that DaBean heads a "Newbie" world helped immensely. Anyone who he assisted in the world is likely to know him personally and vote for him, so he likely took a large percentage of the new citizen vote.
Strike Rapier has a lot invested in Activeworlds, but he manages a number of other galaxies and Universes. Citizens of those Universes and Galaxies and solservers can't vote in AWTeen's elections, and they comprise a larger part of his social network.
As has been stated before, the Activeworlds forums are not frequented by everyone. DaBean's demographic of outsiders is unlikely to participate very actively in the straw or exit polls, and those polls have relatively small samples.
When DaBean is announced as the world's next Governor tomorrow, AWTeen will take a turn in a new direction. Even if he isn't and someone else is selected, whomever the eventually chosen Governor is will face immense challenges, and will have to work like he's never worked before if he is to be reelected.

Posted by Brant in Commentary at 08:38

Monday, November 5. 2007

The age of AWTeen's Caretakers

Eric (XelNaga) recently made a post in the Activeworlds forums regarding the age of AWTeen election candidates. The topic has stirred up quite a bit of controversy in recent days. Some believe that the world should be For Teens, by Teens, while others believe that older people will have more experience and be more suited to the job.

I subscribe to neither. Nobody should care how old someone is if the person does a good job.

To illustrate, imagine that someone is chosen for AWTeen Governor and has been in the position for six months. She has done an excellent job, earning the respect and admiration of everyone who visits the world. World visitors double under her Governorship, and the world sees events the like of which Activeworlds has never seen before. AWTeen's petty bickering and squabbling dies away, forgotten in the sands of time.

Then someone reveals that the Governor is actually 30 years old. She had never disclosed her age before.

Ask yourself truthfully if you would change your vote in the next election simply because you found out her age. Here's someone who has turned around a struggling community, and you say you're going to vote her out because she's older than 19? Come on.

It would be far better if, in this election cycle, people didn't even ask what age anyone is. A forum post was made last week criticizing Strike Rapier for being too old, and Matthew for being too young, all in the same topic!

I've seen people in the non-virtual world who are excellent leaders and are young, and I've seen people who are poor leaders and are old. Making a blanket statement such as "everyone 13 or under is too immature to run a world" ignores strengths such as the 13-year-old's energy and new ideas. Likewise, stating that someone over 20 is "out-of-touch" ignores that the person may have been privileged to be a supervisor in a paying job or have college education, which certainly must provide some benefit to leadership capabilities in Activeworlds.

I think what many people forget, especially on the older rather than younger, side, is that old people were once young people too. Our society seems to look at elderly people as, well, "non-people," as if they are from a different race, and that they are "out of touch" with the "real world." But if you talk to an elderly person and ask him or her about his or her youth, you'll hear all the same crazy stories as you might hear about today's young people. And while Citizens in their twenties are hardly "elderly" by any means, some of AWTeen's visitors still hold onto this notion that these older AW visitors are "out of touch."

In schools, the older students generally head organizations that are staffed by younger people, serving as mentors to them. In the entertainment industry, it's common for the star to be older than the intended audience. Take Hanna Montana, for instance, with tickets to concerts selling for up to $5000/seat nowadays. I don't know anyone who's 15 who watches the show, but Destiny Cyrus (who plays the lead) is that age.

AWTeen is a world that has long ceased to be for teenagers. It wasn't a world for teenagers as far back as five years ago, and it certainly isn't one now. It's time for the world's leadership to acknowledge that truth. The next leader should work on creating a world that appeals to both teenagers and adults, and the community should support this goal by ignoring age when selecting that leader.

Posted by Brant in Commentary at 10:52

Wednesday, October 31. 2007

A comment about optimism

Over the past few days, I have been working on a proposal to change AWTeen. I had figured that it would be better to actually do something about the things I'm criticizing instead of simply commenting on them. Before I was able to finalize the proposal, however, it was leaked to the Activeworlds forums. Now that it's already publicly available, I figure there's no reason to take it down from the website, so instead I'll comment on its seemed reception.

I should point out that the leaking of the proposal does not state my intent to run for an AWTeen position. If I had wanted to declare my candidacy, you would have known about it in no uncertain terms, and I did not send a telegram to AWTeen Elections with my name (so don't telegram mine either). The proposal was and still is a living document, with about 10 versions being created over the past two days. In fact, those who knew about the proposal can tell you that AlexTheMartian was the Governor candidate just yesterday, and I was trying to convince Eric to take the top spot before I noticed the thread. The proposal was not about me, but about the idea.

The responses to the proposal were very interesting. While there were a few people who actually did read the entire proposal and commented on it, it seemed that others responded simply to disparage the proposal in any way they could. That's not surprising, given that Matthew, SEVENs, and Strike Rapier, who contributed a majority of the comments to the discussion, are running for their own positions. And after those posts, some of which are even self-congratulatory for "killing" the AWDream idea, who in their right mind is going to say they are actually in support? Certainly not the ten other people who telegrammed their support to me both before and after the thread was started.

Yes, they did an excellent job at tearing apart the proposal - so well, in fact, that they caused Chanty to reconsider whether she had ever wanted to be involved with the idea in the first place, and I consider that a tragedy. This whole event makes one wonder whether, if I had posted the same proposal but with my name deleted and replaced it with SEVENs's, nobody would posted any negative comments at all. See, it's easy for people to stand around and complain about how things are bad now. However, I see very little discussion as to why things are bad, and even less as to how to improve what is bad. Instead, the same few people put down everyone who has any ideas for change whatsoever, and that's what's gotten AWTeen into the situation it is in now.

And, of course, those who claim they've "been around longer than two weeks" are clearly demonstrating that they are using their vast store of experience to the absolute fullest in developing a clear path forward for improving AWTeen. It's easy to understand why JerMe, digigurl, and Tony M decided to give up (but not to forgive the way in which they did it) .

Nobody who has ever created something great has started by aiming low. Bill Gates did not start Microsoft with the intent of developing a software company that brought in revenues of $500,000/yr. He saw the potential of the technology and was optimistic about its growth to its current astronomical market share of greater than 90%. Here, however, everyone is like the mom and pop shop on the corner that is content with barely earning enough to keep its one mini-mart open.

Sure, Flagg hasn't said that he would rename the world, but of course he didn't - because nobody thought of the idea at the time! I didn't even have a chance to E-Mail the proposal to him before it was leaked. Those who hold the current mentality of everything negative assume "Well, Flagg didn't say he would rename the world, so he won't even consider it."

Instead, how about the following, equally valid, thought: "Flagg hasn't flatly denied he won't consider renaming the world, and if we produce a well-thought-out proposal with good reasoning, why wouldn't he go for it?"

This might not be the right proposal for AWTeen, but it shouldn't be shot down without consideration. I haven't decided whether or not to follow through with this proposal and get my name on the ballot, or whether someone else wants to take over - or whether nobody should run at all. Some have even suggested that this idea be proposed for a new world instead. What I do know is that I'm not going to be shot down by extreme pessimism, and that I, and those who support the proposal, can decide for ourselves which direction is best to move forward.

Posted by Brant in Commentary at 10:09

Tuesday, October 30. 2007

An Open Letter to AWI Regarding AWTeen

I wrote this open letter to AWI regarding the current happenings in AWTeen. My point was not to comment on anyone's actions, but to encourage AWI not to write awteen off and to keep an open mind towards its future, along with providing some context and history of where I'm coming from. I figure this to be an appropriate venue to share it.

Aloha,

My name is Eric Rosloff, citname Eric (formerly XelNaga), citnum 315650. I'm writing this letter to express my thoughts on the current situation that has befallen the world awteen, a community in which I was, some years ago, a very active member. In recent years I have used active worlds only sparsely, and as I am now 21 years old have no real remaining connection to awteen, save through those other citizens with whom I shared my time with back in the day.

I became active in awteen at 15 years old, and during my tenure there (remaining active within the world for about three years) I shuffled between several leadership roles, both official and unofficial. My time serving as a public representative, member of the core, and member of the council played a large role in building my confidence as a speaker and facilitator and gave me experience in working with (and dealing with) others in a context that I imagine few ever get the chance to be a part of at such a young age. I worked with others of different ages, backgrounds, and ideals in strive of facilitating the growth and direction of a community made up on a unique brand of teens.. those who for whatever reason sought connection through this online medium. The things I learned during that time proved invaluable for me when I went on to be a facilitator and organizer for communities I was involved in out in the "real world", especially as an example of an organization that was run by it's own members as opposed to the concrete hierarchies found in many typical institutions for youth.

The height of my involvement happened to be during a time, some years ago, when the teen community of active worlds was several hundred strong. The low price of citizenship (then $20) provided much greater access to teens, who often relied on the finances of parents or a slim allowance to fund online activities. During this boom time the existing structure of leadership in the world made significant changes to itself to adapt to raised demand. New positions and staffers were added, holding worldwide events (both major and minor) became a significant priority (and were generally well attended), and awteen ultimately evolved from another themed building world into a thriving worldwide community.

The change in citizenship price had a devastating effect on the teen community. When the price of using active worlds became more than an incidental expense, the number of teens (along with the population at large) dwindled significantly. In the time since then, awteen's population and activity has steadily decreased, and its institutions have shrunk along with it. Finally, it seems, it has reached the point where those institutions are unable to sustain themselves based on the current level of activity (or lack there of), and have faded out. I think this is natural and an acceptable reaction to the current situation, which leaves you at AWI with the question of what to do next.

Considering all of the above to be context, the point of this letter is to strongly encourage you at AWI to keep an open mind towards the future of awteen. I have always been a firm believer in the idea of a world "for teens, by teens", and as I am no longer a teen or member of the community, I do not seen it as the place of myself or other members of my "aw generation" to attempt to set up new structures based on experiences we had back in the day. I do, however, sincerely and strongly hope that you will be open and receptive to the developing needs and desires of this present teen community, and willing to accommodate them should they come to some cohesive decision about how they'd like to chart their future. I would also suggest aiding in the constructive development of this dialog, but perhaps it would be best left in their hands.

To conclude, being a part of the community of awteen made a serious positive impact in my life, and I hope that such opportunities remain available for teens of this new aw generation. Every community goes through ups and downs, periods of growth and periods of decline, even great changes and reformations. Please, whatever you decide to do, don't write awteen off. Thank you for taking the time to listen.

Regards,
Eric (315650)

Posted by Eric Rosloff in Commentary at 03:27

Monday, October 29. 2007

Stop defending those who got us into this situation

Every time I talk with people in-world and on the AW forums, I am shocked at how many turn a blind eye to the actions of JerMe, Tony M, and digigurl. Apparently, the three citizens still have quite a few supporters, and I'm writing this article to question why. It is time for members of the AWTeen community to show themselves some self-respect and stop defending the actions of these former Caretakers in any way.

There have been many Caretakers of AWTeen - some good, and some bad. However, before those to whom I have referred above, none of the Caretakers has so hatefully harmed the world on purpose. There were Caretakers who didn't have enough time, and there were Caretakers who were inept, but they certainly had the best interests of the world in mind. These three, however, have demonstrated a complete lack of respect for the community that has worked hard to make the world what it is today - and they should not be a part of it in the future.

First, let's review the facts we have on the public record for each of the Caretakers. In regards to JerMe, his resignation caused great consternation when it was announced publicly in-world. In particular, JerMe addressed digigurl by using a manner that is extremely derogatory to women. The full chatlog is available here at jerme.txt. Furthermore, after this log, JerMe took the AWTeen forums offline as "punishment," which were previously located at AWTeen.com. The move was hardly unexpected, as animosity had been growing between Brock and JerMe for quite some time (ref: awportals.com).

After JerMe resigned, digigurl and Dr. Squailboont were appointed as Caretakers. On October 16, Dr. Squailboont posted a thread in the AWTeen newsgroups stating that he would remove the Hermes chat relay bot three days later. While I believe this was a good move (see why global chat relay is a bad idea), the announcement was changed three days later when Dr. S suddenly decided to leave with no further explanation.

As if leaving suddenly and without explanation isn't bad enough, the Caretakers then decided to shut the world down by taking all their bots with them. Dr. Squailboont sums up his poor attitude in his own words: "In other words: We're outta here. Good luck with Flagg (ref: here)." One member of AWTeen's staff, meanwhile, was scheduled to host a public meeting the day this resignation occurred, and wasn't even notified of the whole fiasco!

Note that not once in this entire article did I examine these three's actions as Caretaker. I only focused on how they respected the position and their staff members. My purpose is not to put Dr. S or JerMe or digigurl down any further, but to demonstrate that their behavior was abhorrent. If I were one of the members of their staff, I would be downright mad at their actions. Instead, I was berated by S E V E N s here for stating my mind and standing up to Dr. S.

What is wrong with this community that people are still befriending JerMe, Dr. S, and digigurl despite how they have treated other people? I'm sure that few community members would allow someone to stand in their face in person and shout slurs at them. And if you were suddenly fired, thrown out into the street without warning and without an explanation, wouldn't you curse your boss? Yet, for some reason people have let these two things happen to them online. Think about this: what does it say about you when you stand by and allow things like this to happen?

I realize there may be circumstances that lead to their resignations that we don't know about. If there are, then I hope that those circumstances have been worked out and that everything is OK now. But there are ways of resigning with honor that were not adhered to here, and this resignation was completely disproportionate compared to whatever has happened in the past. How about telling the community a week in advance, at the very least, so that continuity can be achieved?

It's time for everyone to gain some self-respect and stop being bullied around. Nobody can blame AWI or GSK or me or anyone else other than the Caretakers for this current mess. It is the previous Caretakers who have destroyed AWTeen's credibility and have earned the world a reputation for childishness and self-serving behavior.

Finally, let's also keep in mind not only who is guilty, but also who is innocent - the rest of the community. We're all on the same side here - we want to rebuild the world and recover. We should be banding together to fix this mess as soon as possible.

Posted by Brant in Commentary at 07:17

Saturday, October 27. 2007

The Collapse of AWTeen

Note: The following post was written by Matthew, not Brant.

Following the post by Dr. SquaiLboonT on the AWTeen forums that the world would be handed over to Flagg and the Peacekeepers, discussion quickly moved to the reason behind this. While Boont and Digigurl would not provide any (real) information as to the reason behind this decision, many of the users of AWTeen, and people who were not users, talked about the reasons. There were disagreements. Some people thought that Boont and Digi were completely in the right for doing this. Gnu summed it up in his post with the following statement.

Cause really, if there's half the world abusing the volunteers on the team, people bickering in the background about changing the way they run things and one really persistent little muck-racker, then there's not much point to providing these services anymore, no?I have to wonder about this. Was half of the world really abusing the volunteers? Of course not. Sure, there were people who did not respect the Caretakers, or put them down in front of everyone in the world. But, the volunteers were not being abused. I was a Just Ask Me, that's a volunteer position. Was I ever "abused"? No, I wasn't. Nor were the majority of other people who gave up their time to help the world. Neither, of course, were "half the world" abusing Digi and Boont. There were certain people who abused them, but it never got out of hand, as far as I could tell. Had the Caretakers cared to use their privileges to moderate the world like they were supposed to, this would not have happened. Digigurl constantly abused her powers, banning certain people for simply annoying her, but not banning others for doing the exact same to other people. Whenever Boont was on, he just spent his time sending annoying console messages from some telephone. This let the users of AWTeen run wild, doing whatever they wanted. This led to a small collapse in the community. Older citizens simply left. They could no longer deal with the chaos of the world. The same happened to new tourists in AWTeen. They got insulted by so many people, and nothing did anything about it. Of course, they left the world. Who would want to stay somewhere where they just get put down? By allowing this action to continue, the CTs were leading the world to its death. They were also not following the duties they had to AWI, as AWTeen is an AWI world. They were pretty much forcing away most of the new users, who could have became citizens.

A big part of this problem was the aging of the Caretakers. I don't mean in physical age, but in how they acted. No longer did they want to deal with the twelve year olds in AWTeen who whined about everything. They had better things to do with their lives (or so they claimed). Of course, they weren't willing to resign from their positions, which they should have done. From what I can tell, none of them wanted to give up their power in the world. They got so annoyed with the world that they simply decided to shut it down. That was a very, very bad move, especially because they were supposed to be the mature ones of the world, as the Caretakers. If they truly deserved the position of Caretaker, they would never have done this. The reason that they were still the caretakers, however, was simply because of the way that the position got passed down from CT to CT. You didn't get the position because you were the best person for the job; you got it because you were the best friend with all the Caretakers. I can say this with certainty out of a similar personal experience.

At the meeting on the Friday that the CTs left AWTeen, there was supposed to be a meeting. This meeting was supposed to be to discuss a position I had suggested for the world, the Community Liaison position. I had suggested this position because of the obvious lack of communication between the Caretakers and the users of AWTeen, which I discussed earlier. I was set to receive this position. When Boont and Digi announced the removal of Hermes from the world, however, I was very public on my disagreement with their decision to do this. Pretty much as soon as I first said that I disagreed with their actions, both of the CTs decided to shun me. They would not talk to me on MSN or AW. What had changed that had made me bad for the position of the Community Liaison? Absolutely nothing. The only difference was that I no longer agreed with them on one simple thing. This is just proof of how the only way to help change the world was to suck up to and be friends with the CTs and other high staff, who, of course, were their friends. All that came out of this was the age of people in the government getting older and older.

It is time for a new generation of people to come in and manage AWTeen. People like Jaguar Hahn, who are actually friends with people in AWTeen. People who know what the users of AWTeen want, and what kids their age like to do. The current generation was good while they lasted, but it is time for them to move on and pass their contributions to the next group of teens, like the first CTs of AWTeen have done. Young users of AWTeen have every ability to do well running AWTeen. They just need the chance.

Posted by Matthew in Commentary at 17:25