Dover wrote on Tue, 11 July 2006 11:47warranto wrote on Fri, 07 July 2006 07:35Unfortunately, the letter arrangement of words DOES make a difference. That's simply how the English language is. We have only so many letters that can be used, so different arrangements are bound to take on different meanings, and such words will be deemed socially acceptable or not.

Certain letter arrangements take on meanings that are not socially acceptable, and are deemed "foul". Simply because it is considered "foul" language, there are barriers in place to prevent the useage of them. Be it right or not, there are some "universal" swear words that are not deemed appropriate to use. The fact that they do not appear in the normal course of human speech also plays to that fact.

Stating that people react badly because they are told to is a moot point. That's the way things are with every form of human interaction. It would be akin to saying that the only reason sexual harassment is bad, is because we are led to believe it. After all, there is nothing special to simply another way of touching someone. Whether it's shaking hands, or grabbing something else, touching is touching, correct?

The problem with your comparison between swearing and the names with "w" is that one has nothing inately wrong about it, and one is deemed universally-socially unacceptable to use.

Universally-socially unacceptable? Is the n00bstories server exempt from society? How about JellyServ? How about ANY other mostly-full renegade server? Outside of Renegade: Almost all Counter-Strike servers don't ban for cussing. Most condone it. Outside of mutliplayer-gaming: Every high school, bar, and on the street. I recently attended a wedding and some of the friendliest people there did a bit of cussing.

It's not "universally unacceptable", it's unacceptable in UN's ivory tower.

If they didn't appear in the normal course of human speech, the UN server wouldn't have a problem, and there wouldn't be a mountain of people who are banned for cussing from their sorry excuse of a server.

Again I ask. What makes the word "Fuck" so special that it's considered "foul" or "a bad word"? It is any worse than "Procreate", "sexual-intercourse", or "baby-making"?

Why do you think that the worse the language, the higher the rating on movies?

I think you are confusing social with private. Social is something that blankets the general ideals of the society. Private deals with individuals. Had I meant places such as n00bstories, the street corner or a naval ship (bad joke), I would have said privately unacceptable. However, because I said socially, I mean socially. Heck even n00bstories will ban for foul language, if it is excessive.

Interesting how you bring up friendly people with swearing, considering the two have nothing to do with one another.