

Delphi: Self Assessment



Led by	Reflection Freenote
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INTRODUCTION

Today's topic is **Objective vs. Subjective Self-Awareness**. In seeking self-awareness we can use either objective or, more commonly, subjective means.

Objective self-awareness has to do with examining myself and my characteristics, as I would other objects in nature. So, I can objectively measure, my height, or my weight, or how many sad thoughts I have on a depression questionnaire. I can then compare my height or weight or number of sad thoughts and feelings to other human beings.

While we are all utterly unique, we are at the very same time all very much the same, as compared to say, dolphins or paramecia. So am I taller or heavier, or sadder than other people on average. This is objective knowledge about my personal nature as an entity in the universe. It has the benefit of being unaffected by my own personal biases in judging these things (which is a substantial benefit).

Subjective self-awareness, by comparison, is utterly personal. It has to do with my reflections upon my own thoughts and feelings for themselves and without reference to “norms” or the averages of others. The benefit of reflection upon subjective self-awareness is that this is where I live, and this is what I really do have to be dealing with, regardless of what my normative objective reality may be.

So for example, lets say, objectively I have good intelligence, and test well on these sorts of measures, but still feel as though I am not as smart or as gifted as other people. Objectively I am a smart person. But subjectively, I feel that I am not. While the one thing is objectively true, the feeling that I have is the reality that I am living with. And which is going to be more important in my life?

If I am objectively bright, but think that I am not, I may not put myself in situations that I think would be overly challenging. So I may end up having rather blighted opportunities in living as a result. It seems as though it may be an important part of explorations in self-awareness to compare my subjective estimate of myself with objective measures.

Of course, objective measures are not always right either. Besides, I may not really understand what an objective measure is actually measuring.

So if I take a personality test and it says I am high on neuroticism, I may have my own idea of what neuroticism means which may actually be different than what the test is measuring or what the test means by that word.

Likewise if a test of depression shows that I am high on this, I may have a certain view of what “depression” is, and what a “depressed” person looks and acts like, which may not be either what the test measures, or what depression actually is.

So in exploring my subjective understanding of my self, and comparing this to objective indications, I can potentially uncover interesting things about myself as well as about the nature of being a human being generally. And I can learn these things about humanity in ways which are intrinsically meaningful because it relates to me in some way.



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Meanwhile, SL is a perfect place to test out some of my explorations in self-awareness. In SL we have the opportunity to very easily engage with many people, in many different ways, doing all sorts of different things.

So no matter what the element of personal interest is, I can explore that through discussions with others. If I wonder about whether I am bright, or properly motivated, or social, or stressed, or anxious or pursuing the right vocation, I can talk to other people or engage in activities which will actually put these issues to simulated tests.

- ≈ So, to what degree have you examined your nature objectively?
- ≈ How has this related to your subjective examination of these issues?
- ≈ If these have been different what do you think that means?
- ≈ And how do you use SL to examine and explore the nature of your personal reality.

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DISCUSSION:

- [16:41] chenka Hexicola: I am thinking about time scales for these characteristics. With objective measures like height or weight we think of them as fairly stable, at least over a period of weeks
- [16:42] Reflection Freenote: very good point Chenka
- [16:42] chenka Hexicola: While often our subjective perceptions are quite variable
- [16:42] Reflection Freenote: some things are very stable like height, and other things are very changeable, like blood pressure perhaps
- [16:42] chenka Hexicola: perhaps over timescales of hours or even minutes
- [16:43] Tymeless Sands: I think SL provides a rich platform to explore these issues as you have described them. I think sometimes I have felt less than proficient in a number of social areas and have found that people acknowledge things about me that I had considered, but not validated. Since these people don't know my RL, I feel it must be true.
- [16:43] chenka Hexicola: When dealing with objective measures of mental state, what stability is implied?
- [16:43] Reflection Freenote: it is interesting Chenka, that my mood at the moment can seriously effect my judgement about some personal quality
- [16:44] Reflection Freenote: interesting Tymeless, I have found interesting social validations as well
- [16:44] chenka Hexicola: @Tymeless be aware that some people talk of "projecting" our expectations onto others in our social interactions
- [16:44] chenka Hexicola: which could happen just as easily in sl as rl
- [16:44] Reflection Freenote: I'm wondering if it has been easy to find opportunities to test things out, or has it been hard to find good opportunities?
- [16:45] Reflection Freenote: Chenka, why don't you tell us a bit more about that
- [16:45] chenka Hexicola: about projecting our self-images?
- [16:45] Reflection Freenote: yes
- [16:46] Pi Peapod: do we not see others to the extent that we know ourselves?
- [16:46] Tymeless Sands: yes Chenka, but in SL there is less opportunity for peoples subjective view of me to be clouded by RL information. They get a more "pure" me since they can only develop opinions based upon what I do/say here and or respond/react to them.
- [16:46] Reflection Freenote: what do you mean Pi?
- [16:46] Lea56 Hyun: I agree, Tymeless
- [16:47] Reflection Freenote: so we are not as easily categorized by initial impressions here perhaps, or life roles
- [16:47] Pi Peapod: Knowing ourselves is like vocabulary, we can only communicate with the words that we have learned so far.
- [16:47] chenka Hexicola: Using Reflection's example of "feeling stupid", one can validate that self-image
- [16:47] Tymeless Sands: yes, Reflection. I agree with Chenka that I probably project a lot in SL, but even that is good information for me if I am open to exploring it deeply.
- [16:47] Reflection Freenote: so, understanding others and self, is related Pi?
- [16:48] Pi Peapod: yes
- [16:48] Tymeless Sands: I like that Pi... maybe SL helps me to expand that vocabulary too :-)
- [16:48] chenka Hexicola: through social interactions in SL or RL, even if the "stupid" self-image is objectively false
- [16:48] Pi Peapod: Criticizing others is like a way of critiquing ourselves.
- [16:48] Bee Bluebird: yes
- [16:49] Reflection Freenote: so Chenka, you are saying that we can still quite easily validate subjectively false impressions about ourselves, even here in SL?
- [16:49] Pi Peapod: of course
- [16:49] chenka Hexicola: yes we can, Ref

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- [16:49] Tymeless Sands: I think finding opportunities to "practice" are plentiful in SL, there is NOTHING you can not do here. Its great that I can create what I hold in conceptual mind almost immediately here. That may also be dangerous though since I can explore the "dark" side as easily as I can explore more productive aspects of myself too.
- [16:49] Jen Dix: I have learned a lot here from how others receive me. I think I take words more seriously than intimations (probably I read them better). So hearing patterns of response here from many different people helps
- [16:50] Pi Peapod: until a person understands the concept of subjective then they "think" that they are being objective.
- [16:50] Reflection Freenote: yes, and tymeless, I wonder if our projections are not a bit easier to see here, as we are more skeptical about reality generally. In RL we so often simply assume that our impressions are valid because it "looks" that way to me
- [16:50] Jennette Forager nods.
- [16:51] Pi Peapod: yes Ref
- [16:51] Jen Dix: chenka, I think that's interesting about false impressions. I worry a bit as I grow/change that I'm somehow heading down the "wrong" path--kind of like hanging with the wrong crowd when you're a kid. Only I don't blame the crowd.
- [16:51] Tymeless Sands nods @ Reflection, and I think Chenka's point about validating "stupid self" can more readily be dismissed for the same reason.
- [16:51] Reflection Freenote: well, it is possible that we can learn important things about ourselves and others through exploring less socially sanctioned aspects of our nature
- [16:51] Jennette Forager laughs softly....
- [16:51] Jennette Forager: why is it that the "creative" crowd always appears to be the wrong crowd?
- [16:51] Jen Dix: lol jennette, I don't know!
- [16:52] Jennette Forager: :-D
- [16:52] Thoth Jantzen: i think that's a misperception.
- [16:52] Tymeless Sands: its like "playing" out a script held in mind... like RL we are free to play it over and over, but maybe more willing to examine it and finally let it go since sl is not "real" and try something different, than we would in RL.
- [16:52] Pi Peapod: there is no "wrong" path, people "grow" to the extent that each person chooses to be open to learning more about oneself.
- [16:52] Jennette Forager: sure..... and take risks; and try things...
- [16:52] Reflection Freenote: so perhaps, Tymeless because of the ease of interaction we have so many more opportunities to get past our invalid subjective impressions as they are more consistently challenged in more different circumstances
- [16:52] Jennette Forager: all stuff that we feel we must be cautious about in RL
- [16:53] Reflection Freenote: Jeannette, it does seem as though creativity and conventionality are almost diametrically opposed
- [16:53] Tymeless Sands: I agree Jeannette, and perhaps we feel the risks in sl are lower, so we are willing to explore it more.
- [16:54] Lea56 Hyun: True, Tymless
- [16:54] Jennette Forager nods.
- [16:54] Jennette Forager: And while it is valued... there are such risks involved
- [16:54] Jen Dix: I interact with far many more new people in more substantive ways in sl than in rl. So I have a lot of "data" from people who are unbiased about me, who are sort of fresh input
- [16:54] Jennette Forager: I hear you Jen
- [16:54] Lea56 Hyun: It has been interesting to me as i watch my evolution here that I was a lot more "wild?" at first and the longer I am here the more I become like my first life self
- [16:54] Tymeless Sands: me too Jen :-)
- [16:55] Tymeless Sands nods @ Lea

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- [16:55] Jennette Forager: Is that some sort of experimentation that then allowed for some sort of actualization, some realization of the "real you"?
- [16:55] Jen Dix: me too, lea
- [16:55] chenka Hexicola: Can we say that the "self" we are looking to be aware of is largely our habitual patterns of behavior?
- [16:55] Lea56 Hyun: I didn't think it would happen, Jen, so it is surprising
- [16:55] Jennette Forager: shedding illusions which are perhaps limiting?
- [16:55] Tymeless Sands: I can be my "creative" self without risk of damaging my RL "reputation"
- [16:56] Reflection Freenote: yes, lea, it seems as though we settle into habits here too, and those may tend to mirror the "norms" of our First Life (FL)
- [16:56] Lea56 Hyun: yes I think so, Chenka, at least that is how I interpret it
- [16:56] Tymeless Sands: take down those professional veneers and just BE whoever I want
- [16:56] Lea56 Hyun: Nods to Reflection
- [16:56] Jen Dix: we settle into habits here, but I think it's more like we settle into ourselves
- [16:56] Jen Dix: it's hard to maintain multiple personalities/identities
- [16:57] Lea56 Hyun: Yes, Jen
- [16:57] Jen Dix: I know for me my rl self also changed. so I didn't just reset into habits
- [16:57] Reflection Freenote: I don't think of the self as our most common habits Chenka, although that is an important part of us. I think our untapped and hidden potentialities are a more important part of self, and those are potentiated in SL, I think
- [16:57] Tymeless Sands: I like that Jen "settle into ourselves"
- [16:57] Jen Dix: :)
- [16:57] Lea56 Hyun: That is a very good phrase:-)
- [16:57] chenka Hexicola: @Ref are those hidden potentialities available to objective measures?
- [16:58] Tymeless Sands: and if I don't like this new self, I can delete it (grins)
- [16:58] Lea56 Hyun: But I agree with Reflection, for now I am referring to my habits but as far as my spiritual self that is a bit different
- [16:58] Jennette Forager: I agree Jen....
- [16:58] Lea56 Hyun: lol, true, Tyme
- [16:58] Bee Bluebird: I think life, in SL or RL, just reflects what is our present belief
- [16:58] Jennette Forager: many people have commented on how I am different since being in SL.
- [16:58] chenka Hexicola: Re: "settle into ourselves" that may imply a bit more solidity to "ourselves" than is warranted
- [16:58] Jen Dix: have they, Jennette?
- [16:59] Lea56 Hyun: I thought I would be different in first life Jen but so far, no or not that I am aware of
- [16:59] Jen Dix: people in my RL are pissed off that I am different ;)
- [16:59] Reflection Freenote: maybe part of what we do here, initially is we explore some very different vectors of self, and then have a period of integrating what we find with our "normal" habitual FL self. And maybe if we are here long enough, we might then go through another phase and explore yet another vector to then be additionally integrated?
- [16:59] Jennette Forager: Integration of our Real selves and our "wish that was me selves" would be a positive step I think.
- [16:59] Lea56 Hyun: I wonder how much it has to do with our first life age...it is possible if I had discovered SL in my 20s, I may have changed? Who knows?
- [16:59] Jen Dix: I have "objective" if value-laden information that I have changed ;)
- [16:59] Jennette Forager nods, and listens.
- [16:59] Pi Peapod: constantly messing with my AV keeps me looking at different aspects of myself.
- [16:59] Reflection Freenote: yes, Chenka, hidden potentialities are measurable, I think.
- [17:00] Bee Bluebird: hehe Pi ☐

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- [17:00] Tymeless Sands: sounds great Reflection, I hadn't thought of it that way.
- [17:00] Jen Dix: I think that's right, reflection. sort of forays into new ways of being; that seems pretty healthy, actually. little foray out, then fall back to regroup, then off in another direction
- [17:01] Pi Peapod <- still looking for a "good" Scottish kilt outfit.
- [17:01] Reflection Freenote: that's interesting Pi, so your avatar is a symbolic exploration, sort of an artistic and projective one, do you think?
- [17:02] Pi Peapod: yes
- [17:02] Reflection Freenote: so long lea thanks for coming
- [17:02] Pi Peapod: as my digital skill grows my ability to not only express myself grows but my understanding of my self grows.
- [17:02] chenka Hexicola: I initially expected to be able to adopt a trial character - role-play - in SL; but I found myself backing off from it. It is so much easier to stick with one's rl self-image.
- [17:05] Reflection Freenote: so, exploring new dimensions of self, can be unsettling it sounds like
- [17:06] Deoridhe Quandry: I think it often involves having to face parts of ourselves that we've rejected, for one reason or another.
- [17:06] Reflection Freenote: it does seem as though most of our explorations of self in SL, are conducted very much in the form of a psychodrama?
- [17:07] Reflection Freenote: we create personal narratives of various sorts, that is
- [17:07] chenka Hexicola: There is certainly a lot of romantic drama, but i don't know of much other drama
- [17:07] Deoridhe Quandry: The social group/in group acceptance drama is played out a lot.
- [17:07] Reflection Freenote: that's a good point Deo. Certainly to the extent that we explore less conventional elements of our nature. I wonder if there are other examples that you had in mind
- [17:07] Marvin Macbain: hmm. Lots of people write "no drama please" in their profiles. Does that mean they tend to get into drama?
- [17:07] Pi Peapod: Of course the more personalities that I encounter in myself the less "self" I find there to actually be. ;o)
- [17:08] Jen Dix: tons of drama here. :)
- [17:08] Deoridhe Quandry: Ref, I was thinking about the number of gender switchers, and how that can play into acitng out undeveloped sides of our being.
- [17:08] chenka Hexicola: @Pi that is the direction I have been going in rl for several yrs and I find sl supportive to that view.
- [17:08] Pi Peapod: cool
- [17:08] Marvin Macbain: How much of the drama is due to people consciously roll-playing in ways that go way beyond their rl personalities and inhibitions?
- [17:08] Reflection Freenote: well Chenka, there seems to be a lot of narrative (leaving the baggage of the term drama to the side for now) that has to do with my relationships with other people having to do with business, and education, and organization and community development also (even extended family, perhaps)
- [17:09] chenka Hexicola: @Ref my SL life has not been that rich
- [17:09] Reflection Freenote: so Pi, the more you explore the more you are able to define yourself in terms of multiple potentialities, rather than as a set dimension?
- [17:10] Jen Dix: I think Marvin is right that we get into drama (intense narrative) because we're stretching what we are familiar with and perhaps comfortable with
- [17:10] Deoridhe Quandry: I would imagine some of it, Marvin. People who come in playing a role often are inflexible about that role, which can cause a lot of tension when they encounter different people or friction from that inflexibility.
- [17:10] Jen Dix: I had a vision of putting out a no drama sign in thothica just to remind myself to chill out about some things :)
- [17:11] Marya Blaisdale: lol

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- [17:11] Marvin Macbain: Some of us do that; I'm interested in knowing more; I've observed a bit of it, but never really gotten into it myself, as far as I'd say.
- [17:11] Deoridhe Quandry grins at Jen.
- [17:11] Deoridhe Quandry: I don't think No Drama works like Bloody Mary.
- [17:11] Jen Dix: lol good point, Deo!
- [17:11] Marvin Macbain: I am thinking of the "family roll play" groups. Anyone know what I'm talking about, or belong to one?
- [17:11] Bee Bluebird: I think whatever is activated on the belief system, aware or not, will show up in the outside
- [17:12] Deoridhe Quandry: I know of several.
- [17:12] Bee Bluebird: SL or RL
- [17:12] Marvin Macbain: Anyone belong to one, so I know how careful I might have to be about saying something dismissive? :)
- [17:12] Pi Peapod: Ref, I find that the "self" is so expansive that the more that I explore it the more expansive I notice it to be. For example, I have a German side, an Irish/Scottish side, and even an American Indian side not to mention the multiple philosophies that I can agree with or see the sense of.
- [17:12] Jen Dix: I belong to a RL family....
- [17:12] chenka Hexicola: Don't know what family role playing scene is on sl
- [17:13] Marvin Macbain: Well most of us belong to rl families :) My rl mother's day is going on around me and I'm trying to be present there as well :)
- [17:13] Reflection Freenote: yes, I'm not well acquainted with it either Marvin; perhaps you should share the concept with us
- [17:13] Jen Dix: family is just one structure we're a part of here in sl. I think there are many
- [17:13] Deoridhe Quandry: On SL, there's entire organizations around adopting children into families and then roleplaying like those families. The child avatars who roleplay it are particularly interesting, as well, both in their play and in the outright hostility they often encounter.
- [17:13] Marvin Macbain: Well I am not an expert. But I've run into people who talked about their SL parents and siblings.
- [17:14] Jen Dix: hostility, deo?
- [17:14] Marvin Macbain: Some of them acted like young kids in the presence of older siblings for example.
- [17:14] Pi Peapod: yes, that is weird how that happens
- [17:14] Marvin Macbain: Then you have people who play at pregnancy and childbirth...
- [17:14] Deoridhe Quandry: Yes, Jen. I've even encountered it (I have a childform for some of my unmodable clothes). I've had people ask me to leave or refuse to acknowledge me when in that form.
- [17:14] Reflection Freenote: so Marvin, this would be an overt form of traditional psychodrama, it sounds like
- [17:15] Marvin Macbain: You could characterize it that way, I guess.
- [17:15] Jen Dix: I suppose some people are here to escape kids
- [17:15] Deoridhe Quandry shudders at the thought of talking, pregnant bellies.
- [17:15] Marvin Macbain: Although I don't think these people make a point of staying in character, the way they do in more hard core roll playing scenes.
- [17:15] Deoridhe Quandry: It was interesting to me how that was the only time I felt overtly judged by my appearance.
- [17:16] Bee Bluebird: self awareness, it's not an easy path, it's easier to point the finger it seems
- [17:16] Deoridhe Quandry: Even though my behavior was identical to when I wasn't in that form.
- [17:16] Reflection Freenote: so how different is this from the methodology and psychological effects of other role play, I wonder marvin
- [17:16] Pi Peapod: I have a pregnant Schwarzenegger AV...
- [17:16] Marvin Macbain: Are you saying you played a child avatar, Deoridhe?

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[17:16] Jen Dix thinks the slavery roleplaying is far more disturbing the family roleplaying but hesitates to bring it up

[17:16] chenka Hexicola: @Jen u mean Gorean?

[17:16] Deoridhe Quandry: No, Marvin, I'm saying I have a child form. My behavior doesn't change, so I don't consider it playing.

[17:17] Jen Dix: I don't know what the flavors of it are, Chenka

[17:17] Reflection Freenote: ok Pi, that is pretty out there. I think you have really pretty impressive potentiality;-))

[17:17] Pi Peapod: so is it a child form or just a small person? Who identifies it as a child?

[17:17] Marya Blaisdale: I guess the 'family' roleplaying in Second Life is perhaps a subjective matter - some might perceive such a thing to be more of a small community, depending on ones own character and how it is interpreted, while others would perceive it and relate it to an 'actual' family situation

[17:17] Deoridhe Quandry: I can show you if you'd like. And I do in my folder organization, and other people have upon seeing it.

[17:17] Pi Peapod: okay :o)

[17:18] Thoth Jantzen: depending on the ppl involved, it can be 'useful', or it can be disturbing.

[17:18] Jen Dix: deo looks like a child sometimes and a fairy sometimes :)

[17:18] Jen Dix: lol or a child fairy

[17:18] Bee Bluebird: yes Thoth, it's all about perceptions

[17:19] Thoth Jantzen: and presentation, too, Bee.

[17:19] Pi Peapod: heh-heh, I am smaller than you

[17:19] Pi Peapod: Huggies!

[17:19] Deoridhe Quandry: Hee hee.

[17:19] Bee Bluebird: hmm.. then again tho one being presented will interpret based on its own perception

[17:19] Deoridhe Quandry: Yay! I love hugs!

[17:19] Marvin Macbain: You know, I would shy away from the slavery or bdsm roll playing in this discussion, or even in a serious study, since I think there are enough interesting aspects to a "family" roll playing situation, without being distracted by distaste or controversy.

[17:20] Reflection Freenote: gestalt psychotherapeutic techniques as well as various "body" therapies have relied on actual role playing for therapeutic purposes since the 1930's, so that this should naturally evolve in SL, is sensible it seems

[17:20] Bee Bluebird: so a flower can be ugly to some and beautiful to others

[17:20] Jen Dix: Marvin, you're probably right

[17:20] Bee Bluebird: and energy frequencies too..

[17:21] Marvin Macbain: Not that it isn't a good topic for study, but that there are so many "confounding variables"....

[17:21] Jen Dix: the truth is we role play in RL. most of us can just range further in sl

[17:21] Reflection Freenote: well Marvin, the sheer number of popularity of that sort of role playing suggests important things about the hidden and nonconventional "needs" of large numbers of people in society, don't you think?

[17:22] Chazz Heliosense: which sort?

[17:22] Reflection Freenote: Gorean, Chazz

[17:22] Marvin Macbain: Perhaps Ref, but the fact there's so much in SL can be explained by the anonymity afforded by the medium.

[17:22] Marvin Macbain: In other words, I think we see a magnified incidence of this type of interest here.

[17:23] Pi Peapod: People in society are effectively slaves so why so squeamish with gorean modalities?

[17:23] Reflection Freenote: sure, Marvin, agreed. And that is why it is so useful, because it is not as though the same emotions and impulses do not exist, if you don't explore them. They just come out in different ways, I think

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- [17:24] Reflection Freenote: issues of dominance and submission seem to be very important now in many dimensions of evolving society and culture
- [17:24] Pi Peapod: the more submissive the less fascistic
- [17:24] Jayme Walmer: women who want to treaded as slaves.. men who want to treat women as slaves... just why?
- [17:25] Chazz Heliosense: do you have an explanation to suggest for this emphasis on dominance and submission?
- [17:25] Reflection Freenote: IDK Pi, actually fascism requires a larger number of submissives who will ally themselves with a dominant leader
- [17:25] Deoridhe Quandry: A surprising amount of the people presenting as female in BDSM situations, including Gor, are male and male identified offline.
- [17:25] Pi Peapod: yes Ref, exactly. :o)
- [17:26] Jen Dix: yes, Jayne. That's my question....
- [17:26] Jen Dix: why do you say dominance and submission are important, reflection?
- [17:26] Reflection Freenote: Chazz, it seems to be the natural by-product of a breakdown of traditional hierarchical structures of social organization, and the increasing freedom which we have individually and in groups to explore new models of relationship
- [17:26] chenska Hexicola: I was thinking that adopting a submissive role can be an escape from self -- perhaps related to becoming a disciple of a guru etc.
- [17:27] Deoridhe Quandry: Being a submissive in modern BDSM can also be a very selfish thing; a role where someone's entire attention is focused on you.
- [17:27] Jen Dix: ah! now that I could understand, Deo
- [17:27] Chazz Heliosense: 'explore new models' -- maybe retreat to old models
- [17:27] Deoridhe Quandry grins at Jen.
- [17:27] Reflection Freenote: a submissive role may allow people to escape the anxiety which freedom causes many people
- [17:27] Jayme Walmer: good point Deo
- [17:28] Deoridhe Quandry: I personally found that it fed a deep insecurity of my value which doesn't seem reachable to lessdramatic feedback. I was a better person for those relationships.
- [17:28] Marvin Macbain: Well just doing what you're told and thereby experiencing new sensations and emotions is a kind of magical mystery tour for some.
- [17:29] Reflection Freenote: after all most of us are products of a culture which strongly indoctrinates us to accept individual liberty as natural and normal, but it is not clear that this is our most basic nature as evolved creatures
- [17:30] Deoridhe Quandry:there is a certain irony in me discussing this AFTER changing into a childish shape.
- [17:30] Marvin Macbain: Deoridhe, you say it fed a deep insecurity. In what sense? It alleviated this insecurity, or reinforced it?
- [17:30] Reflection Freenote: that is interesting Deo, so taking that issue to the limit, allowed you to see it more clearly?
- [17:30] Deoridhe Quandry: Alleviated some of it, Marvin.
- [17:30] Jen Dix: I think dominance and submission has different implications of slave and master, actually--but I'm not up on either subject
- [17:30] Reflection Freenote: hahaha Deo, good self-observation!!!
- [17:31] Deoridhe Quandry shrugs at Jen. "When I was submissive to my Master he was the Master and I was the slave. There is overlap, but also difference. BDSM is very complicated and individualized."
- [17:31] Jen Dix: ok
- [17:31] Marvin Macbain: Well here is a question then... should we make and/or enforce value judgements about the type of role playing that should be permitted? And if so, what should be the basis of such judgement?

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- [17:32] Jen Dix: I imagine people already make all sorts of judgments--try to stop them. And try to stop the role playing and see what happens
- [17:33] Reflection Freenote: it does seem Marvin, that SL is about exploring emotional potentiality without the conventional limitations which FL enforced or socially demands
- [17:33] Dragonfan Hooper: I didn't even respond to any of it because I was silent and I got no chance
- [17:34] Marvin Macbain: Ok. I'm assuming we make value judgements about real life behavior. Do we transport any of these value judgements from RL into SL?
- [17:34] Reflection Freenote: Marvin, I'm sure that we do
- [17:34] Marvin Macbain: What puts certain types of role playing beyond the pale, and why?
- [17:34] chenska Hexicola: I am going to guess that some of the anti-child reactions Deo experienced might be related to judgements about age-play sexuality -- which some ppl react strongly to
- [17:35] Deoridhe Quandry: US law puts child-adult sexual roleplaying beyond the pale, even virtually.
- [17:35] Marvin Macbain: I have two examples in mind. Child sex, and Nazi atrocities.
- [17:35] Reflection Freenote: I think it has to do with whether or not governments will threaten retaliation on Linden labs if they don't set certain limits
- [17:36] Reflection Freenote: while, SL is virtual, it is not disconnected from the powers of the world after all;-)
- [17:36] Marvin Macbain: The second example is also enforced by LL afaik, but without fear of retaliation at least by the US gov't.
- [17:36] Deoridhe Quandry: One of the places which asked me to leave specified it was issue with adults looking like or acting like children. Dishonesty, in short. Ironically, it was a philosophy sim. >.>
- [17:37] Dragonfan Hooper: lying is not the option either; being selfish is not a option
- [17:37] Marvin Macbain: more dishonest than looking like an anthropomorphic cat, or a dragon, or a robot or a spider?
- [17:37] Reflection Freenote: perhaps Marvin for any specific organization, there are organization-specific concerns that also play a role
- [17:37] Deoridhe Quandry blinks. "How is lying and being selfish not options?"
- [17:37] Dragonfan Hooper: well it shows that you're not telling the truth if you're lying; and being selfish doesn't earn you friends
- [17:38] Deoridhe Quandry: And yes, Marvin, the implication was those were less dishonest - perhaps because the perception is people can't actually be those, as I cannot actually be a faerie offline.
- [17:38] Dragonfan Hooper: you have to be honest about things