

# Khitomer Conference 2021

## Age Ratings

Host: Lancaster & Y. Minawara (Obsidian Fleet)

Room One • Session 4

[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:01:05 PM

Hello all, and welcome to a special discussion around Age Ratings and your sim. Or as Ben and I have been calling it "Age Ratings: Be TV Kirk, Not Internet Kirk. "

Today's panel is going to focus on age ratings, the different levels, and how to work with those ratings to still be an inclusive and welcoming community on the internet. For context, we'll be using the RPG Rating system, which you can see below. You can find it at [rpgrating.com/create](http://rpgrating.com/create). Other sims might use other systems, but for a unified single appearance, we'll be using this one.

	0	1	2	3
Language	<input type="radio"/> No swearing permitted.	<input type="radio"/> Infrequent, mild swearing is permitted.	<input type="radio"/> Swearing is permitted, with some limitations.	<input type="radio"/> Swearing and mature language is permitted.
Sex	<input type="radio"/> No sexual content is permitted.	<input type="radio"/> Mild sexual innuendo and references permitted.	<input type="radio"/> Sexual content is permitted, with some limitations.	<input type="radio"/> Sexual content may be described in detail.
Violence	<input type="radio"/> No violence permitted.	<input type="radio"/> Mild violence is permitted.	<input type="radio"/> Violence is permitted, with some limitations.	<input type="radio"/> Explicit violence is permitted.

[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:01:36 PM

I'd just like to flag, I have been calling it something that would be very fitting in a later part of this xD

[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:02:10 PM

Yes, but we are playing nice today. I even put on real pants for this event.

[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:02:26 PM

oh there's pants on, this gon be good then

[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:02:47 PM

You don't normally wear pants?!

[SC] Reece 2/20/2021, 1:03:01 PM

I was told there would not be a pants requirement.

[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:03:13 PM

Good sir I have been working from home, I've had to buy another pair of sweatpants to keep up

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:03:26 PM**

OH you meant trousers....

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:03:38 PM**

Well, jeans

But, onto bigger and better things - Today we're going to be talking about how to work age ratings into your sim. Our topics are as follows:

TP1 - Even Truckers have a cadence to their cussing

TP2 - Kirk Faded to Black

TP3 - When should YOU fade to black?

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:06:09 PM**

I'd like to say as well, a lot of this is common sense. I mean, if you'd hear it in South Park, don't go putting it in anything but a 222 or maybe even a 333

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:07:11 PM**

Yup! I'd like to add that making sure your crew understands the rules and limits helps keep things cohesive. While there is a rough guideline provided above, it is just that, a guideline! Tweak as you need

**[OF] Capt. Phoenix Lalor 2/20/2021, 1:08:23 PM**

*interesting to read this.*

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:09:03 PM**

Exactly that! For example, on my sim, we allow swearing and violence *but* there's a part in the rules that flags that if it's extreme (so would fit in a saw movie or the aforementioned south park) then you're getting pulled to the side and told "No! Bad player! Wash your mouth out with soup!"

**[OF] Paul - CO USS Athena20/2021, 1:09:04 PM**

My general rule: If they wouldn't have said it on TNG, it shouldn't appear in a post.

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:09:45 PM**

Shall we talk about language? Language that is foul and uncouth? I think that's as good a place to start as any.

**[OF] Capt. Phoenix Lalor 2/20/2021, 1:09:52 PM**

*Smirks*

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:09:56 PM**

Yes, yes we should

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:10:01 PM**

*Fvadt!*

**UncleBirdy 2/20/2021, 1:10:26 PM**

Frak

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:10:44 PM**

Frak is fine, just don't use the one it's a stand in for 🤖

**[OF] Capt. Phoenix Lalor 2/20/2021, 1:10:52 PM**

*Utinu en lokirim!*

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:10:57 PM**

Frell

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:11:32 PM**

Discovery seems to have pretty well put a nail in the idea that Humans no longer curse. Vance was heh... pretty direct.

**UncleBirdy 2/20/2021, 1:11:42 PM**

Unless either: the sim rating allows or it makes sense to do so (with the appropriate rating, of course)

**[OF] Capt. Phoenix Lalor 2/20/2021, 1:11:55 PM**

A human not cursing?

**UncleBirdy 2/20/2021, 1:12:05 PM**

F@@k that

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:12:10 PM**

I mean, Picard *also* put the nail in that coffin there

**UncleBirdy 2/20/2021, 1:12:12 PM**

Lol

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:12:13 PM**

I'm fine with it, being 18+, as long as it's used to some end in the post as a simply expletive. Not in place of common language. Ie: its now a adjective filling 10 spots in a sentence

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:12:54 PM**

No Catcher in the Rye homage?

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:13:01 PM**

lol

**[OF] Capt. Phoenix Lalor 2/20/2021, 1:13:01 PM**

<-- Covers her character swearing by using her characters native language

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:13:11 PM**

Aye, see I'm all for swearing in context (as my earlier point about how the rules on my sim work shows) or minor swearing (if it appears in any Trek pre-2016, I'll usually let it slide)

But I'm not a fan of people dropping f bombs left right and centre

**[PF] Amethyst 2/20/2021, 1:13:32 PM**

I've seen a lot of people do that.... I've always wondered why the universal translator never translates it.

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:13:33 PM**

A cuss should accent the moment, not be part of it's background

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:13:52 PM**

"dammit, Jim!"

**Allison 2/20/2021, 1:14:01 PM**

Cussing should be kept to a minimal, even on 18+ sims

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:14:05 PM**

I've usually taken it as an example of selective translation. We see it with the Klingons a lot

**[OF] Capt. Phoenix Lalor 2/20/2021, 1:14:20 PM**

My character never input her language into the translator or she told the computer not to translate.

I'll remind you of that shortly in game.

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:14:45 PM**

I usually explain it as the character becoming so distressed that the UT can't translate it's meaning so it defaults to not.

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:14:48 PM**

I have also been known to use the likes of SOB for either punctuation or occasionally a touch of levity.

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:15:06 PM**

since part of translation is localization, and if the UT can't determine context...

(I also, sometimes garble curses as the idiom that's *effectively a curse*)

**Allison 2/20/2021, 1:15:46 PM**

Naxea doesn't cuss that much. Besides, she IS a Marine :p And it was posted in a flashback that she learned cussing from humans, so its the humans fault she cusses 😊

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:15:58 PM**

I have had a UT render something as "you expletive!"

**[OF] Capt. Phoenix Lalor 2/20/2021, 1:16:12 PM**

hehehe not S'hib's fault cool Not my fault Cool

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:16:17 PM**

Timmoz, my Orion, curses a lot. But its usually in Orion.

**UncleBirdy 2/20/2021, 1:16:26 PM**

@Allison always blame the humans lol

**Allison 2/20/2021, 1:17:09 PM**

Yep

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:17:12 PM**

I mean, I don't curse, and can't really, the sim I'm in is PG-15, so 111 or *maybe* 101 or 102

**[PF] AlexM 2/20/2021, 1:17:16 PM**

Swearing has way more impact when it's used sparingly. It makes it a point of emphasis, showing that something is not business as usual.

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:17:26 PM**

which means I have to be careful with the character getting exasperated in any case.

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:18:22 PM**

See, I would take a PG15 / 15+ to be any variation of the 2's

Up to and including 222

But it is up to the discretion of the respective CO what they will and won't allow under it

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:19:15 PM**

In the heat of a moment even the most put together of captains might let out an expletive to relieve the stress. To show them doing so shows that they are human(oid) and that they have reached a certain breaking point. A crossed line. Any adrenaline rush might get someone out of character and into saying something they wouldn't normally.

It adds that layer of realism

**Terrie 2/20/2021, 1:19:58 PM**

Swearing also has a spectrum. They got away with Dammit even in the 60s.

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:20:22 PM**

^that

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:21:04 PM**

I agree. For example, a post I'm currently in on Imperator has the captain giving his first impression of the Admiral, in which he says both of them initially thought the other was an SOB, half jokingly.

**Allison 2/20/2021, 1:21:09 PM**

I remember when Battlestar Galactica remake came out. It seemed like everyone's character was saying "Frak" LOL

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:21:21 PM**

I've been in high school education for like ten years now, and I have heard 15 year olds say words that people would blanch at. Swearing is about self-expression, self-identity, and- yes- the need to stress something emotional when they otherwise lack.

**Terrie 2/20/2021, 1:21:37 PM**

Also shocking your elders

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:21:49 PM**

And these are perfectly decent, lovely Human beings.

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:22:07 PM**

just f\*\*ng potty mouths

kiss your mother with that mouth? lol

**[SC] Reece 2/20/2021, 1:22:44 PM**

decent, lovely Human Beings? 15 year olds you say? 😊

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:22:45 PM**

<https://www.sciencealert.com/swearing-is-a-sign-of-more-intelligence-not-less-say-scientists>

LOL well OK, with some obvious growing up to do... but...

**Cara Letsul 2/20/2021, 1:23:02 PM**

I don't agree with that article

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:23:11 PM**

Also I vividly apologize for the pic in that link.

But its a fascinating read.

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:23:13 PM**

Fair enough

Let's stay on topic shall we?

**Cara Letsul 2/20/2021, 1:23:35 PM**

And I do call the bird getting eloquent

in a derisive tone.

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:23:59 PM**

on the 15+, I live with a 16 yr old. He knows more curse words than I do - and I used to hang out with guys in the Navy

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:24:08 PM**

I mean, honestly, if you're playing >18 age people, cursing should probably be expected, and it's really a function of your players. I've found that a "Session 0" or discussing it over is a good limit to set

like.. some people don't mind a sim where you curse as a gerund.

**UncleBirdy 2/20/2021, 1:24:22 PM**

As a RL Military Vet, swearing comes naturally to me. My wife (bless her for taking me on. Lol) even had to take to me about my language, early in our marriage. Lol

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:24:32 PM**

but some what it to have power, such as a webseries that had the presenter not swear for .. what was it, 650 episodes?

so when he did, it ad the impact of how much he absolutely loathed the comic he was covering.

to me, this is why you decide between 2-3. >\_>

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:26:13 PM**

Isn't it just hilarious when a 15 year old kid rattles off words you have never heard- and then for shock value wants to *explain* them? Yikes.

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:26:18 PM**

Anyway, shall we press on? We've got two more subjects, and if people are getting this involved here, imagine what it's going to be like when it can get a little bit childish! And yes, that's what makes it my favourite bit

**UncleBirdy 2/20/2021, 1:26:19 PM**

In the end, it should come down to three points:

1. Is it allowed on the sim?
2. Is it something my char would say/do?
3. Does it move the story along, or is it unnecessary?

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:26:37 PM**

yes 😊

**Nikki 2/20/2021, 1:26:58 PM**

like Birdy is saying, swearing even overly is kind of character related. depending on the sim rating some characters *should* freeflow with it. i'm not a fan of hearing swearing myself, but i think it's good for necessary characterization.

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:27:08 PM**

This



**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:27:31 PM**

No no, you're thinking of \_child making\_

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:27:58 PM**

One doesn't preclude the other

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:27:59 PM**

Which leads us to talking point 2 - Even Kirk Faded to Black

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:28:40 PM**

So, as the title says, even James T Kirk, the 007 of Trek, knew when things were about to get too raunchy and cut away

Unless we're talking Kelvin Kirk, he'd cut *back*

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:29:09 PM**

There are a lot of jokes surrounding our hobby. Scan a WattPad page or Fanfic site, and you will find no limit of... content... that has been mocked to death.

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:29:11 PM**

Though that barometer has shifted somewhat. I mean we see bare buns in Discovery.

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:29:30 PM**

For sure, but even then we have limits

**[22] greenfelt 2/20/2021, 1:29:32 PM**

And in some cases a lot more.

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:29:44 PM**

absolutely

truth!

**Allison 2/20/2021, 1:29:53 PM**

We see way too much in Discovery. I never want to see a Klingon have sex again

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:30:05 PM**

Yeah that was horrifying...

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:30:09 PM**

Knowing the limits of your sim is key, and of the audience that we will be sharing with.

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:30:38 PM**

(I actually haven't seen that because I skipped most of S1 Disco.)

I think that's the main point. Like in D&D, having a Session 0, or at least, a nova post discussing preferences is key

**[PF] CorCordale 2/20/2021, 1:30:54 PM**

So now that we know what limits look like, we're less likely to pressure or break them in the future.

That's the lesson that that single moment in Discovery teaches us.

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:31:13 PM**

Keep it that way. All your missing out on is the awesomeness of Lorca and Season One Tyler. The Awesomeness of Pike outweighs both

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:31:31 PM**

to summarize: *Two of everything.*

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:31:33 PM**

so that everyone's on the same page. (Granted: Also, if your sim allows sub 18 year olds, that'll influence what you can allow too) (Yes, I'm looking forward to SNW.)

**[PF] CorCordale 2/20/2021, 1:31:35 PM**

Is this the Bash Discovery panel?

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:31:38 PM**

much as I may agree, no bashing is one of our rules today

**[PF] CorCordale 2/20/2021, 1:31:43 PM**

Or are we all just vastly off topic?

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:31:44 PM**

I hope not.

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:31:45 PM**

Nah, I was asiding.

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:31:46 PM**

There isn't anything wrong with wanting to write that type of content - even with someone else, but the fact of the matter is that everyone involved has to be comfortable.

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:32:04 PM**

so, for example: I'd probably stick with 2 or less, but if I had say, 16 year olds, 1 or less.

**Terrie 2/20/2021, 1:32:04 PM**

Consent!

**Nikki 2/20/2021, 1:32:05 PM**

including the readers!

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:32:14 PM**

Waas bout to say that

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:33:01 PM**

warn your readers.

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:33:01 PM**

We share out content on a public forum. I know for a fact I don't come here to read smut (for lack of a more accurate descriptor). Sometimes it is better to leave out the details and let our mind fill in the blanks

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:33:29 PM**

There's nothing wrong with GDocs if you want the smut side, peeps. Tuck it away...

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:33:38 PM**

Like, we know Data and Tasha Yar got freaky. But the showrunners were courteous enough to hide it from us

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:34:01 PM**

Or more importantly make it clear what is/isn't allowed

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:34:01 PM**

eh, it depends. Some people join ships BECAUSE they can write smut. I think honestly, ratings are part of the the disclaimer you put on the front page about it

**[OF] Captain Hawkins 2/20/2021, 1:34:05 PM**

If it doesn't push the story forward, the details are not needed.

**Nikki 2/20/2021, 1:34:38 PM**

yes! this. even on a 333 sim, this is how i would feel.

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:34:43 PM**

Amen

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:34:49 PM**

for example, if I see "333" sim and "adult 18+" I am forewarned (and usually go elsewhere)

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:35:05 PM**

And I agree with Kyle. I'm a big fan of supporting creativity, if people really want to write that stuff, do, it but don't do it on the games. Time and a place for everything and where everyone can read it is not the time or place.

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:35:32 PM**

I hve a big disclaimer on the join.

**[PF] Amethyst 2/20/2021, 1:35:32 PM**

A growing number of us have opted for 18+ simply to avoid the instance of minors completely.

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:35:46 PM**

This is not 'as the nacelle turns', or 'debbie does romulus'

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:36:00 PM**

And you can work with it. For those more inclined to the Discovery style of expression, you may show a bit more (leaning into a 3/18+ setting) and fade before you get to the actual bits. Alternatively, you might prefer a scene of your characters on a bed, Some light kissing, and a cut to one of the characters putting their boots back on.

But you need to make sure whatever you are writing is marked clearly. If you are a CO looking to allow this style of content, maybe consider implementing a rating system for the titles to warn people.

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:36:01 PM**

if that's what you want, awesome. Go to a place that supports ya

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:36:01 PM**

agree here. I mean all respect to the younger crowd, you are our future and we love ya for it but...

**Cara Letsul 2/20/2021, 1:36:07 PM**

My husband had termed it this isn't Porn Trek

**Allison 2/20/2021, 1:36:07 PM**

I join ships because of the character I have in mind and the era of sim I am looking to join. Such as my Marine character, Azhul Naxea she is a Bajoran who was born into the Cardassian occupation so her family history is darker than a character I would place in the Enterprise era, etc.

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:36:47 PM**

Point.

**[SC] Beth 2/20/2021, 1:37:12 PM**

I like the whole "fade to black" concept for this, but I don't think it's out of line (in an appropriately rated sim) for description up to that point. Some sims are heavily into character building and the development of a relationship (including the physical attraction component) can play a bit role in that.

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:38:02 PM**

To me the rating things seems more about *when* to fade to black, or when to fade back from black.

**[SC] Beth 2/20/2021, 1:38:02 PM**

Making sure our characters act in line with their feelings is important to making them believable.

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:38:10 PM**

If people want to make out a bit, that's fine, but we don't need to know about their spinal phaser lance

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:38:13 PM**

My opinion is: get upfront consent and disclose what you feel the ratings include, and if you're OK with smut, etc. etc.

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:38:24 PM**

I think it all boils down to the accepted settings in the game as to where/when to fade

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:38:26 PM**

as long as your players and readers are on the same page, it's good.

**Terrie 2/20/2021, 1:38:26 PM**

As long as everyone on the sim agrees on where the line is, go wild

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:38:45 PM**

... just don't go "oh, uh, this is really a fetish sim" about a month or so in, because that's NG.

**[SC] Beth 2/20/2021, 1:38:48 PM**

Agreed on the consent front, but I think everyone defines "smut" somewhat differently.

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:38:53 PM**

and everyone feels bad. >\_>

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:38:58 PM**

Exactly. But it comes down to how the sim you are writing on handles this kind of content. A 1-1-1 sim might have some stronger limitations

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:39:06 PM**

True, which is why I feel you should define it.

**[PF] CorCordale 2/20/2021, 1:39:21 PM**

Be upfront, before they even hit the Join button

Folks need to know what they're getting into

**[SC] Beth 2/20/2021, 1:39:45 PM**

The sims I'm on define it in the join rules. That way anyone joining has confirmed they've read them.

**[OF] Captain Hawkins 2/20/2021, 1:39:57 PM**

And know the allowed limits so all can respect one another.

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:40:00 PM**

There was an awesome quote from Angela on Mock the Week. When you throw a "Naughty Costume Party" you are going to have some people who show up as a risqué nun, and some people who show up with a strapon.

**Terrie 2/20/2021, 1:40:03 PM**

Plus, there's a lot you can do before the fade to black, no matter where you set the line. Tasha's seduction of Data tells us more about the characters than what came after

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:40:20 PM**

Our definitions are so hard

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:40:25 PM**

*groan*

**[SC] Reece 2/20/2021, 1:40:26 PM**

I was going to say we have very clear rules on our games for this.

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:40:30 PM**

This is a great example - If you are going to allow people to talk about their bedroom behaviour, warn potential newcomers as soon as the join page

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:40:41 PM**

It's on our join page

It's important. I don't want you to be mad when I cut it off

**[OF] Captain Hawkins 2/20/2021, 1:41:01 PM**

or at the beginning of the JP if there is a concern.

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:41:02 PM**

poor choice of words...

**[SC] Beth 2/20/2021, 1:41:12 PM**

Ours is more along the lines of defining what actions are and aren't ok. 🙄 But that makes sense for ours.

**[OF] Capt. Phoenix Lalor 2/20/2021, 1:41:37 PM**

Please do not write another's character in Porn dimensions when writing a date post

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:41:50 PM**

And everyone is going to have a different definition for their sim. As long as you define where to fade to black...

**Cara Letsul 2/20/2021, 1:42:51 PM**

Writing scenes is a big matter of trust with the individual writers.

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:43:13 PM**

See, Imp doesn't have a hard line, instead it has the age rating set up so smut is impossible and even says sexual content will not be tolerated. But I'd say, as above, they make out a bit then fade to black, fine, just don't write, as Sep said, Debbie does Romulus

**[SC] Beth 2/20/2021, 1:43:16 PM**

That is true. A lot of JP writing takes place outside of the JP itself... in discussions and DMs.

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:44:04 PM**

Another thing to consider is "casual sexualization" that could be exploitive and make your writers uncomfortable.

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:44:09 PM**

my general rules is 'if a teen seeing parents like this, would run from the room screaming, then fade to black a step before that'

**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:44:09 PM**

yeah, that;'s why, for example, I said our PG-15 sim is likely 0/1 sexuality because certain scenes have come up and resulted in effectively banning sexuality beyond certain scenes. A lot of what is considered acceptable has been made by incidents and figuring out what the ships players are comfortable with

**[OF] Sepandiyar 2/20/2021, 1:44:28 PM**

aaaaaand i'm taking that lol

**Reminder 2/20/2021, 1:45:03 PM**

*This is your 15-minute warning*

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:45:17 PM**

The robots bullying me again...

**Allison 2/20/2021, 1:45:22 PM**

Dammit

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:45:24 PM**

Listen reminder bot, I am already surprised we lasted this long

**Glenn 2/20/2021, 1:45:36 PM**

going off topic for a sec to a previous subject: regarding bios.....GM's should avoid selecting "perfect" characters, maybe noting in the application that perfect isn't required...and they should embrace flawed characters, for whatever reason their flawed. Maybe accept something like prejudice for example.

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:45:45 PM**

Is a great example of three steps after you fade to black!



**Zhanyt Lafizatar 2/20/2021, 1:45:57 PM**

I'd talk about specific examples..

but i think that'd be mean to people involved, sadly

**[OF] Captain Hawkins 2/20/2021, 1:46:28 PM**

You are lucky the bot said something. I was about to warn you myself.

**[SA] Wes of Star Army 2/20/2021, 1:47:49 PM**

My site is 18+ overall because I don't want to deal with people's parents or the legalities of dealing with people who can't technically agree to terms of use or whatever, and I allow each RP on it to set their own RPG ratings in terms of language, violence, and sexuality. Plots with NSFW content are kept in forums that only members who specifically request access to them can see, so no one accidentally sees or reads about something smutty unless they want to. This system seems to work well for us.

I got an nsfw channel on my discord and if you've signed up for nsfw content on the forum, our bot lets you in, and boy do people post some freaky stuff in there. 😄

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:51:21 PM**

But I do want to start bringing this to a conclusion.

As part of the big finish, I want to remind people that a big part of simming is working with other people, discussing what you want to happen and how you want those to play out. Make sure you as both a player and GM have open and candid discussions with your crew. While you lead the game, a quick way to lead your players away is by huge changes people might not want. The Vesta for example has internal "command" discussions on smaller matters, but bigger matters and changes will always be sent out to the crew. If anyone wants to leave, there is never any hard feelings around people wanting to sim their way.

Keeping these options open to players, and being honest about these options is the best way to run a game with a crew of people that share a degree of high mutual respect. At the end of the day that respect will be what makes people happy and keeps sims going for long times.

In short, don't be afraid to fade to black when you're done heavy petting and they're laid out on their back.

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:52:40 PM**

I like that ending. Literally nothing I could say could put anything better, so instead I say this; when writing stuff for general consumption, write Gene Roddenberry's Star Trek. Not Axel Braun's Star Trek

**[SA] Wes of Star Army 2/20/2021, 1:52:55 PM**

Fade to black is kind of great because people will often imagine something more fun than you can make up, haha.

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:53:28 PM**

Yeah that's very true

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:53:38 PM**

Sometimes the mystery is better than the reality.

You can give enough to titillate, but don't go trying to arouse.

**Reminder 2/20/2021, 1:55:07 PM**

*This is your 5-minute warning. Consider moving the conversation to the appropriate overflow room.*

**[PF] CorCordale 2/20/2021, 1:55:12 PM**

In the end, what you imagine will always be better than what is shown. That's why Tell, Don't Show works so well

**[SA] Wes of Star Army 2/20/2021, 1:55:37 PM**

Most of the players on my site are in our mid 30s it seems like and as we got older, married, had kids, etc I've noticed a trend away from explicit raunchiness. I wonder if you've seen the same.

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:56:14 PM**

As someone who has been writing outside of fanfiction, you see it a lot with new authors wanting to express all their fantasies in one place.

Not just young, but a lot of new players get a little wrapped up

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:56:57 PM**

I imagine that, with COVID, there has been *some* uptick, re: lockdown sucks.  
some kind of ersatz expression

**[SA] Wes of Star Army 2/20/2021, 1:57:10 PM**

GMs should avoid roping unwitting RPerS into their personal "magical realm."

Thanks for hosting this panel!

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:57:38 PM**

Thanks for participating, if no one had, we'd only have lasted about 10 minutes

**[SA] Wes of Star Army 2/20/2021, 1:57:47 PM**

That's what she said.

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:57:51 PM**

lol

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:57:55 PM**

or he.

**[SA] Wes of Star Army 2/20/2021, 1:58:34 PM**



**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:58:49 PM**

Yes all thank you for coming here with us! We hope you all enjoyed yourselves, and we'll clean up the mess for the next party! Have a great day and enjoy the rest of the event

**[OF] Cam 2/20/2021, 1:58:53 PM**



**[PF] Amethyst 2/20/2021, 1:59:01 PM**

Thank you for a great panel!

**[OF] Captain Hawkins 2/20/2021, 1:59:05 PM**

WOO!!!

**[OF] Lancaster [TF47CO] 2/20/2021, 1:59:11 PM**

Wait, we're cleaning the mess? I was just going to keep drinking and let someone else do it

**[OF] Captain Hawkins 2/20/2021, 1:59:38 PM**

We have red shirts to deal with the clean up

**[OF] Y. Minawara 2/20/2021, 1:59:47 PM**

Oh no got lackies to clean the mess

**[SC] KyleB 2/20/2021, 1:59:48 PM**

Dont we have bots for that?

**[OF] Emu - Fawkes/Loki/Acad 2/20/2021, 2:00:01 PM**

Feel free to continue your conversations regarding this topic in [#overflow-one](#) !