**An Appeal to Non-Bronies**

*Prelude*

This is for anyone who doesn't like the show or doesn't consider themselves part of the brony community. Though I highly recommend you read this all the way through, I can't force you to do it if you don't want to. What I will say is that I believe reading this will improve your understanding of the situation and hope it'll have an impact on how you look at and evaluate people in the future. Also, if you decide it's TL and DR, *please* read the last section: I don't care if you hate the community, but there are some things that you absolutely *need* to know. In the meantime, I'll address several issues that are points of contention with bronies: the show being for little girls, over-enthused fans, and the perceived sexual deviancy.

It's A Show For Little Girls

Why? I know it's a typical defensive question, but really: what actually makes it exclusively appropriate for a young, female audience? Yes: it was *produced* for that demographic, but nothing is *only* capable of serving the purpose for which it was made. Viagra is a prominent example of something not conforming to its intended functionality. As for the ponies: nothing about miniature horses is linked, in any way, to young human females. Most things that we, as a society, have labeled feminine, "girly", and masculine, "manly", are completely arbitrary and have no concrete basis. This goes for colors like pink and blue, which are associated with girls and boys respectively: neither boys nor girls have any innate aversion to the opposite color. It's just a way of identifying the babies, and actually used to be reversed so that boys wore pink and girls blue. Just because our ideas of what is "manly" and "girly" are common and socially acceptable, there is no logic proving them correct.

This theme of questioning arbitrary concepts of masculinity and femininity can be applied to the plot of the show as well: what about lessons in friendship is a girly thing? Who *can't* benefit from some education in communication and building relationships? What part of that is off limits to men? Why shouldn't men be just as capable of communicating and socializing as women? It's food for thought.

And as for it being "gay", well... I think that's self explanatory. If it's not, however, I'll as the obvious question: why would that be a bad thing?

Bronies Are All In Everyone's Faces About It

True, there *are* a lot of bronies who are excessively enthusiastic, though they'd protest and claim there's no such thing as when it comes to My Little Pony. That being said, there's absolutely no reason to blame that on the rest of the group. Many claim that the in-your-face bronies are in the minority. I don't know about that, but I'd say that's probably true. The bronies that are more pronounced are obviously going to attract more attention, and therefore will be the image many associate with the fandom. One person I've spoken to wondered why, if we're the majority, we don't do anything to stop them. Like "we" could do anything, provided that we even *wanted* to.

Something to consider, amidst the "us vs them" attitudes, is that bronies are just people called "bronies": they have the same capacity for stupidity and/or asininity as anyone else. Just as in any population, you will find a range of personalities, intelligences, and ideas that aren't compatible. It's not at all unique to the brony community, as it exists, as stated, in *any* given group of individuals.

However: though some guilt lies with them, some also lies elsewhere. Yes, they shouldn't be asinine and shove it in people faces, but it's usually nothing to get riled up about. It's like getting upset every time you see a commercial for something you don't like: you're witnessing it and you're being exposed to the fact that it exists, but you don't have to *experience* it. Just as you have the right to refuse to watch the show, they have the right to express their opinions and fascination with the show. It's going to take cooperation from both sides.

They're A Bunch Of Horse F\*\*\*ers, Also Pedophiles

Obviously not true, so I'll address the real situation: Rule 34's ("If it exists, there is porn of it.") application to the show's characters. Sexuality is an integral, albeit unpredictable, aspect of humanity. There are a few angles I'd like to use to approach this, so indulge me while I diverge for a bit.

At the risk of sounding as though I believe homosexuality and bestiality are comparable (let me be clear: I don't), I'll say that I apply the same attitude I have towards the former to this: I don't care as long as its participants are in their right minds and consensual. Of course, animals can't give their consent and it's wrong. However, the visual depictions people make regarding this stuff doesn't hurt anyone else and can usually only be found when looking for it. I recognize, though, that it's often found when *not* looking, which I admit *is* a problem. It needs to be understood, though, that people don't *choose* to what they're sexually attracted, it *really* doesn't concern anyone else, it has little to no bearing on their personality, and this *certainly* isn't indicative of pedophilia. Furthermore, it should also be known that this part of the fandom has no impact on the value of the of the actual show. It doesn't ruin the show: the first episode is the exact same as it was before people started with all that. There is *no* difference. The only difference it has is that which is perceived.

Fear of sexuality isn't natural, and it causes unnecessary friction between opposing parties. To be honest, I'm not uncomfortable seeing another male's genitals: it's a natural part of human anatomy and is no more significant than a man's nose or ear. Yes, it is the tool by which he reproduces and is therefore innately valuable, but aesthetically there's really no *objective* difference in importance. People accidentally seeing the Rule 34 stuff isn't good, but it's nothing to hate the show and the rest of the fanbase over: the show, its creators, and the rest of the fans have little, if anything, to do with it.

Also, side note: with the great things bronies do, I don't care who or what they jack off to. They deserve to be treated like human beings.

*Final Word*

##### Here's perhaps the most important part and what I'll hope you'll read, if you read anything. Bronies, whether or not you like anything else they do, provide a great service to society: their charity work. *Bronies For Good* has lead many projects and improved many lives, always working by their mission statement: “*Bronies for Good is committed to fostering the growth of a global community of caring, socially conscious individuals through the organization of service events worldwide and encouraging individual, group and social involvement.*" They've built a clinic in Uganda and a Green Village in Burundi, provided mentors to children with life-threatening illnesses, many other things that you can find out about on their website.

##### You don't have to like the show: I don't care about that. To be honest, you can hate me for the stance I take and the opinions I've presented: I won't care about that either. What I *DO* care about is what effect your actions toward this community have on people who depend on it. The way you act when interacting with this community's members is incredibly important, and, if negative, can deter them from associating themselves with it. *THAT'S* what I care about. What you do and say can affect the lives of so many. What if a major news outlet decided to use this to scare people, to mark bronies as menaces to society? What toll would that take on the charities they operate and to which they contribute? What would happen to the *subjects* of those charities: the sick and wounded Ugandans, or the homeless and starving children in Burundi? There is no room for "probably" or "hopefully": we can't hope that the community's charitable support stays strong under persecution, and that the people who need the help will get it. I know I am being dramatic, but I don't think I can overstate its importance: the implications of your actions, as a whole, can be a matter of life and death for some people. Please do the right thing.