It's Been 10 Years Since Tropes vs Women in Video Games:

What's Changed?

Content Warning

Caprica and the Queerness of Sam Adama

90K views • 12 years ago

CC

Too Many Dicks - Video Games

270K views • 11 years ago

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Fembots, Advertising and Male Fantasy

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The Huffington Post's Sexist Linkbait Strategy

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Retro Sexism and Uber Ironic Advertising

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Glee, GQ and the Sexualization of Young Girls

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Toy Ads and Learning Gender

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Kanye West's Monster Misogyny

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Women's Stories, Movies and the Oscars

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True Grit, Mattie Ross and Feminism?

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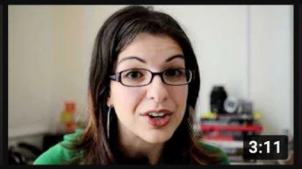

Feminism in Focus - Anita Sarkeesian

131K views • 10 years ago

#1 The Manic Pixie Dream Girl (Tropes vs. Women)

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Zack Snyder's Sucker Punch is a Steaming Pile of Sexist...

266K views • 10 years ago

XBOX 360
Wii
POP CORN
Click below to visit the Kickstarter Page

ten years

trauma

ten years

fear

anger

trauma

PRIDE

fear

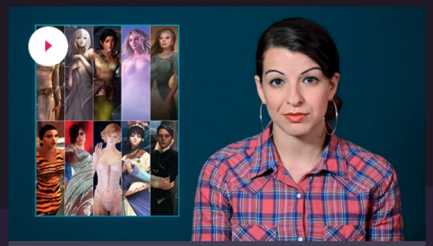
anger

we won

Tropes vs. Women in Video Games

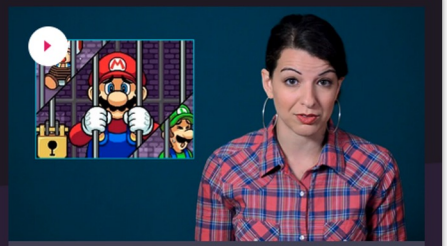
Mar 07, 2013

Damsel in Distress (Part 1) Tropes vs Women



May 28, 2013

Damsel in Distress (Part 2) Tropes vs Women



Aug 01, 2013

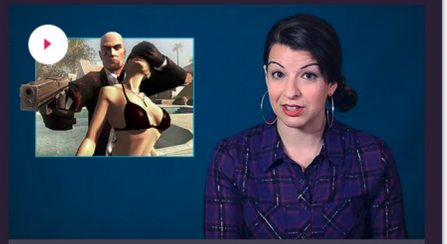
Damsel in Distress (Part 3) Tropes vs Women

Aug 02, 2013

The Legend of the Last Princess – Hypothetical game concept

Nov 18, 2013

Ms. Male Character – Tropes vs Women



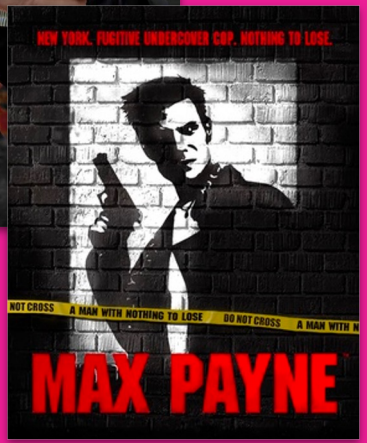
Jun 16, 2014

Women as Background Decoration (Part 1)

anti-
tropes

anti-
me

UNCOMPROMISED ARTISTIC VISION


NEW YORK. FUGITIVE UNDERCOVER COP. NOTHING TO LOSE.
NOT CROSS
A MAN WITH NOTHING TO LOSE
DO NOT CROSS
MAX PAYNE

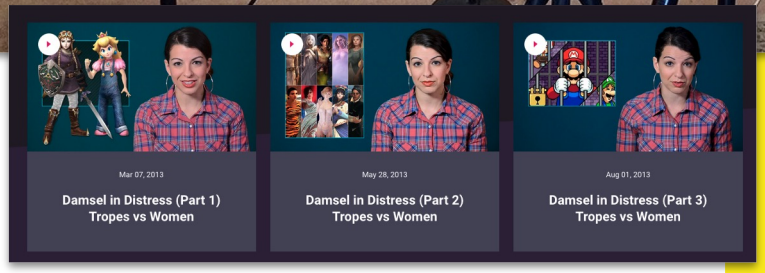
MAX PAYNE 2
THE FALL OF MAX PAYNE

ROCKSTAR GAMES PRESENTS
MAX PAYNE 3

FEAR

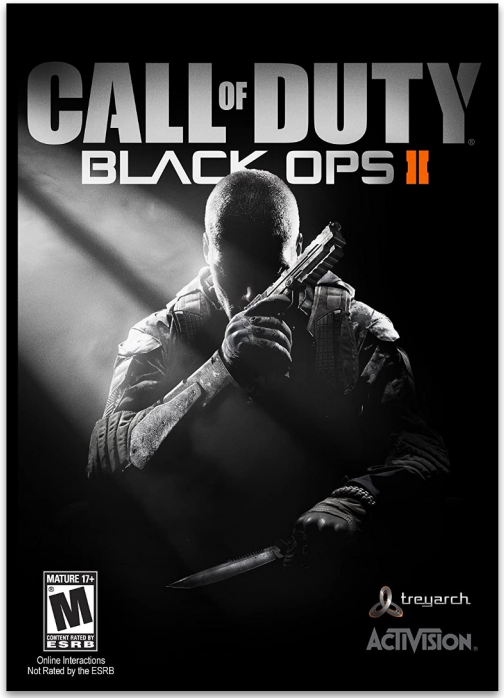
DIVA LITE 301
ikan
Nikon

TR BEC
F LM
ST


Mar 07, 2013
Damsel in Distress (Part 1)
Tropes vs Women
May 28, 2013
Damsel in Distress (Part 2)
Tropes vs Women
Aug 01, 2013
Damsel in Distress (Part 3)
Tropes vs Women

TIME 19
CREDIT 0
Double Dragon (1987)
SAMSUNG

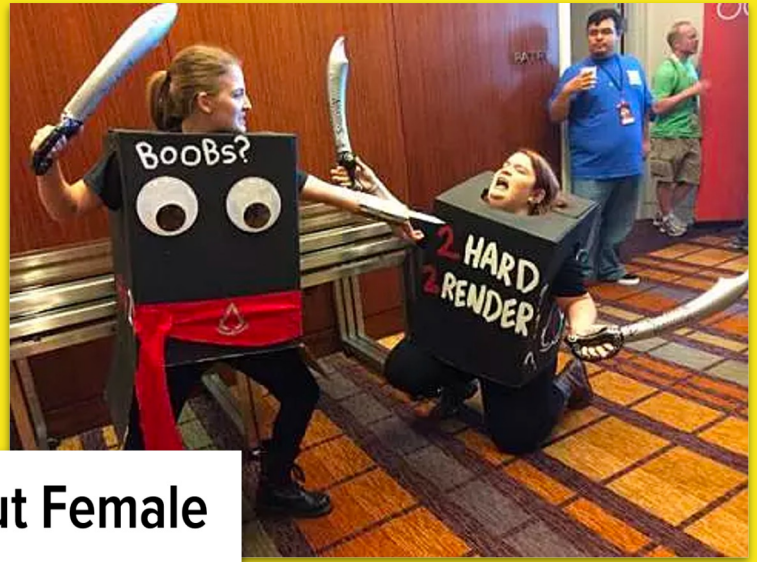
2012


CALL OF DUTY
BLACK OPS II
MATURE 17+
M
CONTENT RATED BY ESRB
Online Interactions Not Rated by the ESRB
treyarch
ACTIVISION

XBOX 360
EA SPORTS
MADDEN NFL 13
EVERYONE
E
ESRB

XBOX 360
HALO 4
MATURE 17+
M
ESRB
343
Microsoft Studios

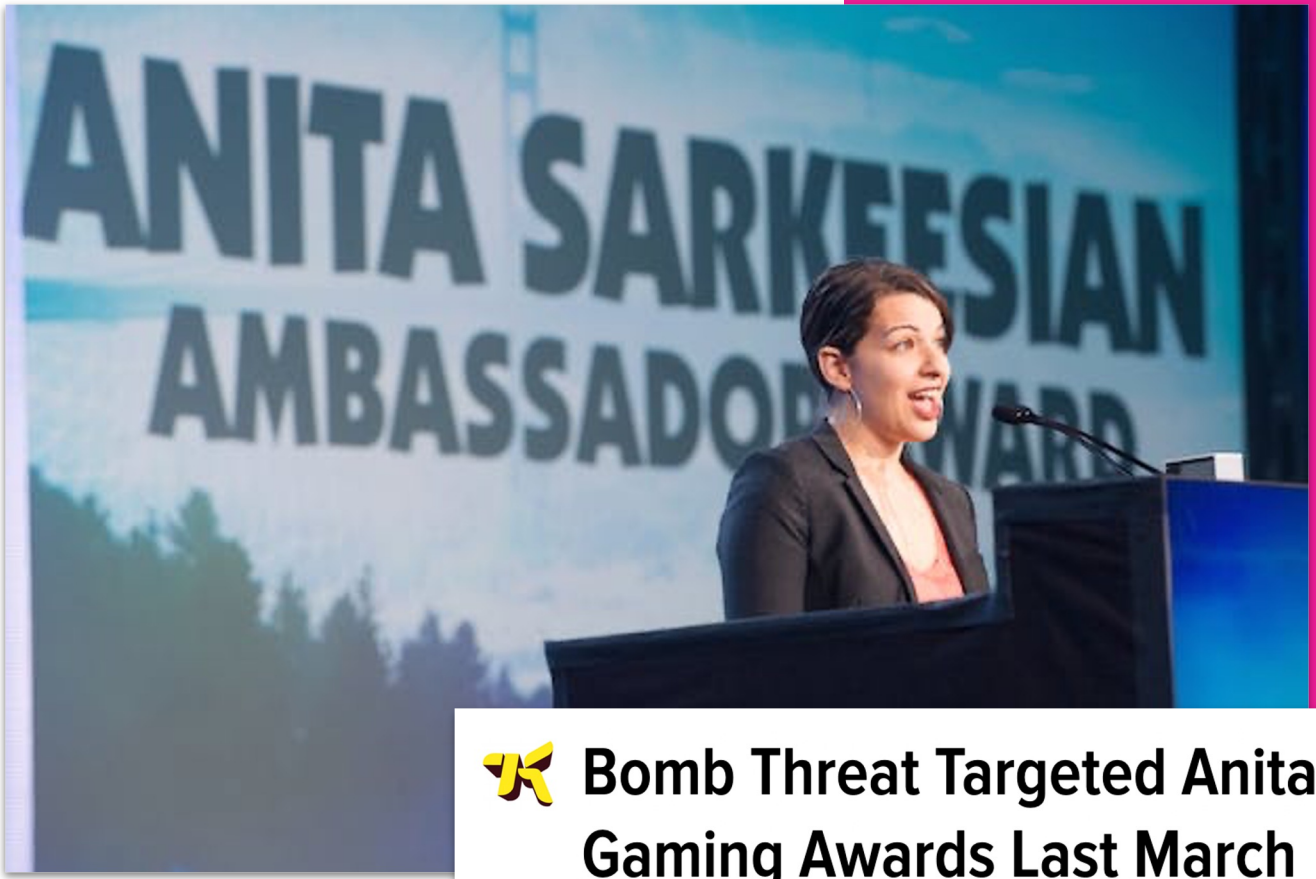
Animating women should take 'days,' says Assassin's Creed 3 animation director



Ubisoft In Trouble Over Comments About Female Characters

THE VERGE

Adding female characters to new 'Assassin's Creed' would 'double the work,' says Ubisoft



Bomb Threat Targeted Anita Sarkeesian, Gaming Awards Last March

THE WITCHER 2
BIOSHOCK 2
WATCH DOGS
RED DEAD REDEMPTION
SHELLSHOCK
grand theft auto IV
DEUS EX HUMAN REVOLUTION
THE WITCHER
HITMAN
PROTOTYPE
CALL OF JUAREZ The CARTEL
grand theft auto V
ASSASSIN'S CREED BROTHERHOOD
MAFIA II
FARCRY 3
Saints Row
THIEF
HITMAN
BIOSHOCK
GOD OF WAR
ASSASSIN'S CREED II
DEAD ISLAND
METRO
NO MORE HEROES 2 DESPERATE STRUGGLE

GamerGate

E3 2015 proves to be one small step forward for womankind

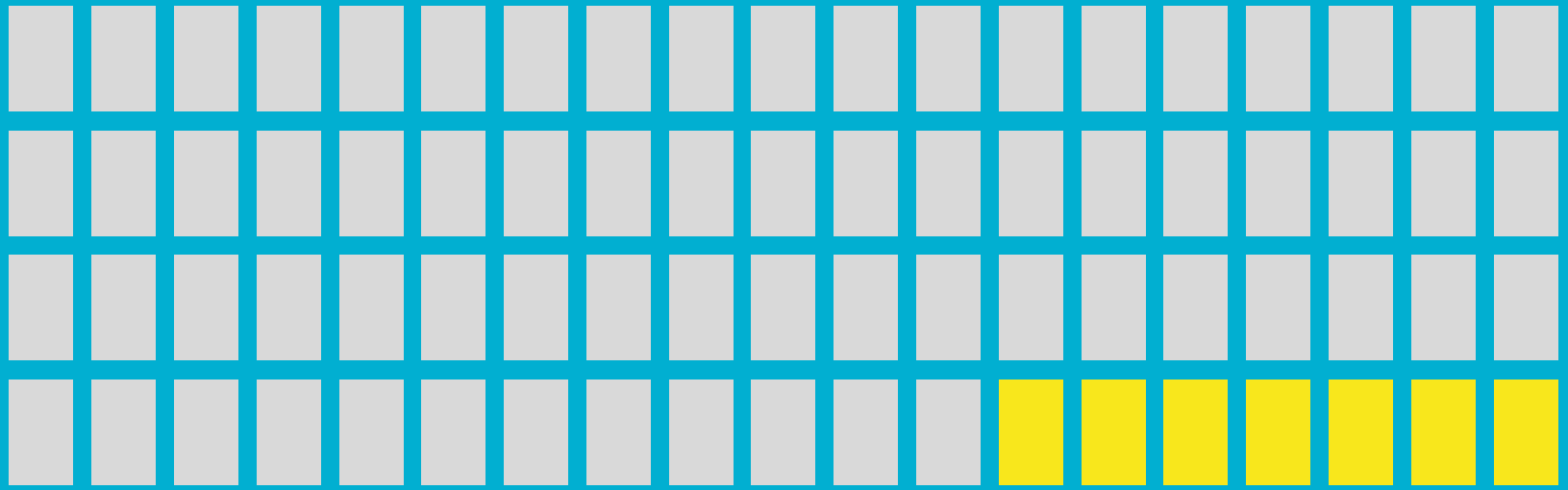
Meet the women making their presence felt at E3 2015

The Rise of the Female Hero at E3 2015

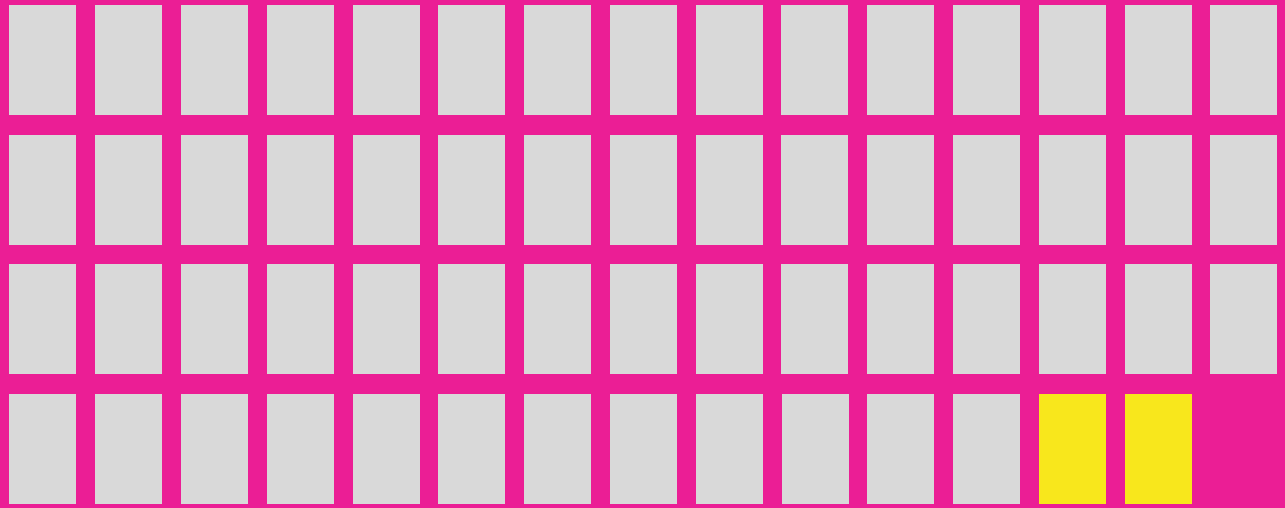
Though this year's E3 saw plenty of muscle-bound masculine heroes, more playable female characters had their time on stage, too.

Aol. Women at E3 better represented on stage, in games

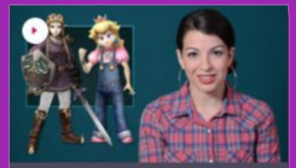
In 2015, there were 7 games with exclusively playable female protagonists or 9% of 76 titles



In 2016, there were 2 games with exclusively playable female protagonists or 3% of 59 titles

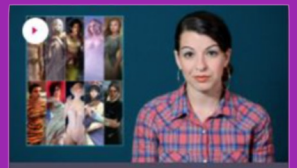


gone
home



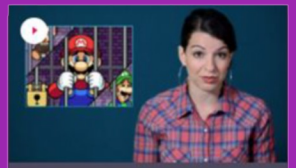
Mar 07, 2013

Damsel in Distress (Part 1) Tropes vs Women



May 28, 2013

Damsel in Distress (Part 2) Tropes vs Women



Aug 01, 2013

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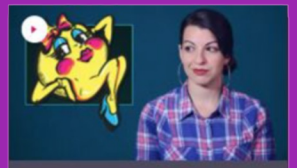
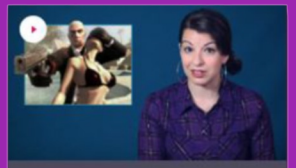


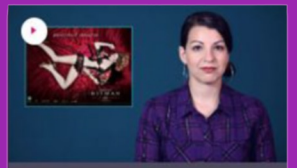
Nov 18, 2013

Ms. Male Character – Tropes vs Women



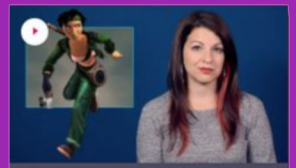
Jun 16, 2014

Women as Background Decoration (Part 1)



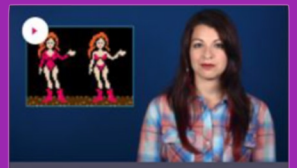
Aug 25, 2014

Women as Background Decoration (Part 2)



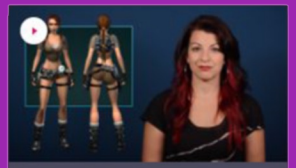
May 11, 2015

Jade – Beyond Good & Evil



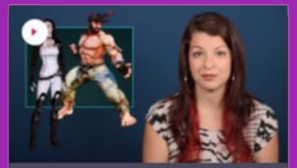
Aug 31, 2015

Women as Reward



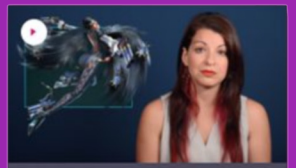
Jan 19, 2016

Strategic Butt Coverings



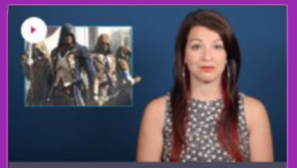
Mar 31, 2016

Body Language & The Male Gaze



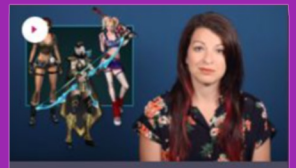
Jun 06, 2016

Lingerie is not Armor



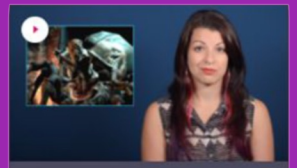
Jul 27, 2016

Are Women Too Hard To Animate? Female Combatants



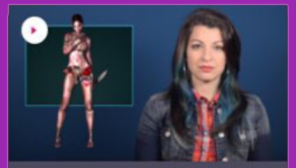
Sep 01, 2016

All the Slender Ladies: Body Diversity in Video Games



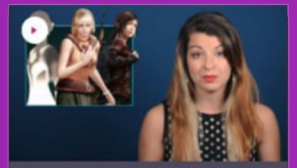
Sep 28, 2016

Sinister Seductress



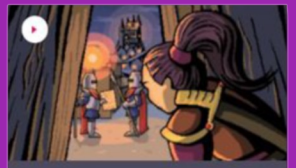
Jan 31, 2017

Not Your Exotic Fantasy



Apr 27, 2017

The Lady Sidekick



Aug 02, 2013

The Legend of the Last Princess – Hypothetical game concept

Jun 06, 2016

Imperfect Dark Trailer (Perfect Dark Spoof)

Mar 05, 2019

Queer Tropes vs Video Games: Video Games' Relationship Status – It's Complicated

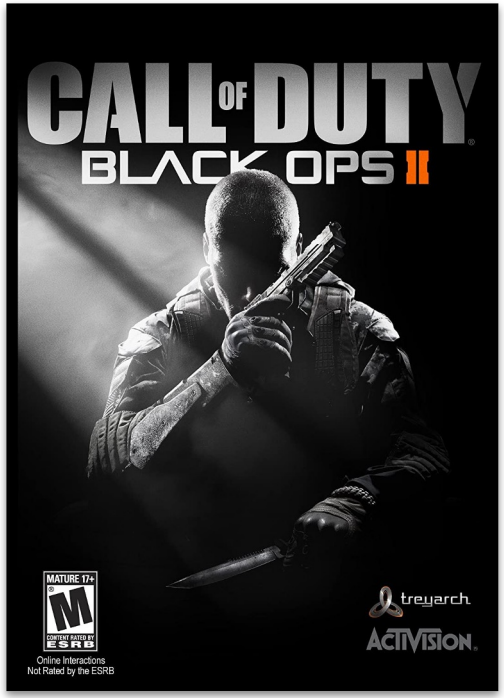
Mar 05, 2019

Queer Tropes vs Video Games: Are You Gay or Just Coded That Way

Mar 05, 2019

Queer Tropes vs Video Games: Press 'B' To Hate Gay People

2012


CALL OF DUTY
BLACK OPS II
MATURE 17+
M
CONTENT RATED BY ESRB
Online Interactions Not Rated by the ESRB
treyarch
ACTIVISION

XBOX 360
EA SPORTS
MADDEN NFL 13
EVERYONE
E
ESRB

XBOX 360
HALO 4
MATURE 17+
M
ESRB
343
Microsoft Studios

~~2012~~ 2021

CALL OF DUTY
BLACK OPS
COLD WAR

EA SPORTS
MADDEN NFL 22
MVP EDITION
BUCCANEERS
15
E
Mild Lyrics
In-Game Purchases (Includes Random Items)
Users Interact
NFLPA

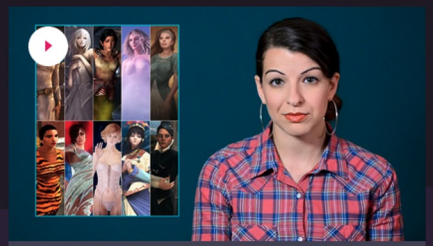
HALO
INFINITE

so nothing?

Tropes vs. Women in Video Games

Mar 07, 2013

Damsel in Distress (Part 1) Tropes vs Women



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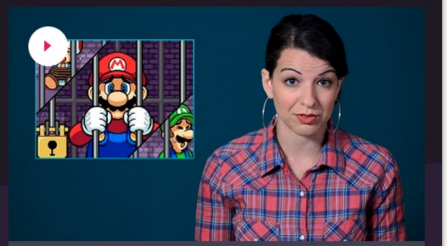

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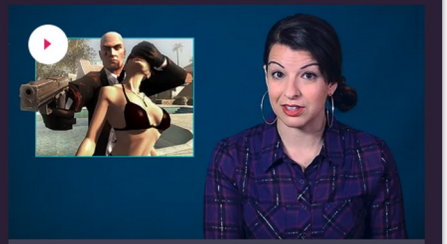


Jun 16, 2014

Women as Background Decoration (Part 1)

we won

There are less games now where a woman takes off all her clothes as a reward if the player completes the game fast enough.

There are less games where women are brutally tortured in the background just for texture.

There are less games where the goal is to save your dead wife’s soul from hell.

white

cis male

protagonists

“Death of the Single Player Game”

#1 Larger Diversity of Characters

#1 Larger Diversity of Characters

#2 We Have Less Stories

THE BIG CON

Spiritfarer
Farewell Edition

Boyfriend DUNGEON

CHICORY
A COLORFUL TALE

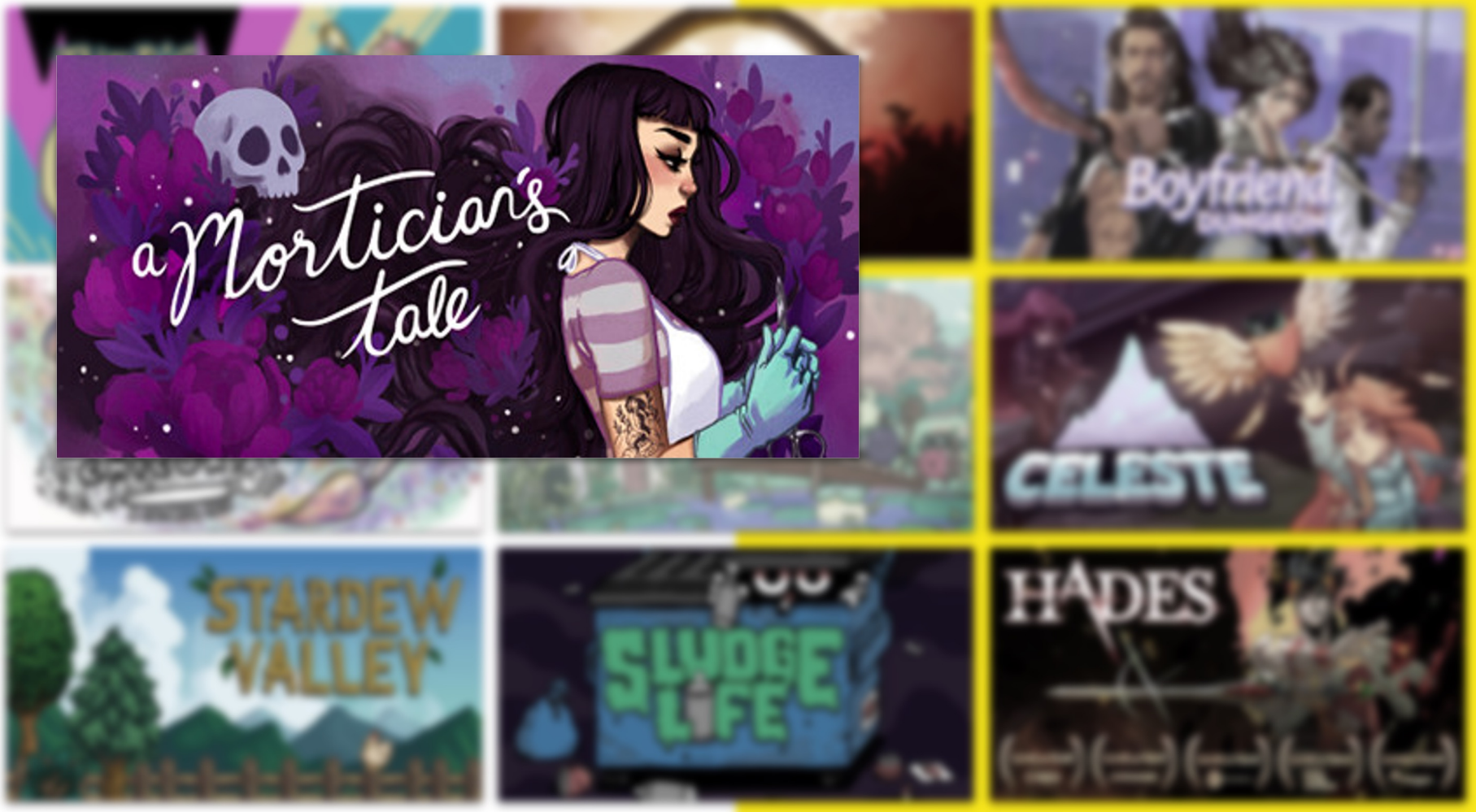
garden story

CELESTE

STARDEW VALLEY

SLUDGE LIFE

HADES
GAME OF YEAR IGN
GAME OF YEAR EUROGAMER
GAME OF YEAR ARS TECHNICA
GAME OF YEAR ROCK PAPER SHOTGUN
GAME OF YEAR Polygon


a Mortician's tale
Boyfriend
CELESTE
STARDEW VALLEY
SLUDGE LIFE
HADES

a Mortician's tale
Boyfriend
STARDEW VALLEY
unpacking™

Gone Home

Last of Us 2

progress

accountability

DISHONORED
REVENGE
SOLVES
EVERYTHING™

DISHONORED 2

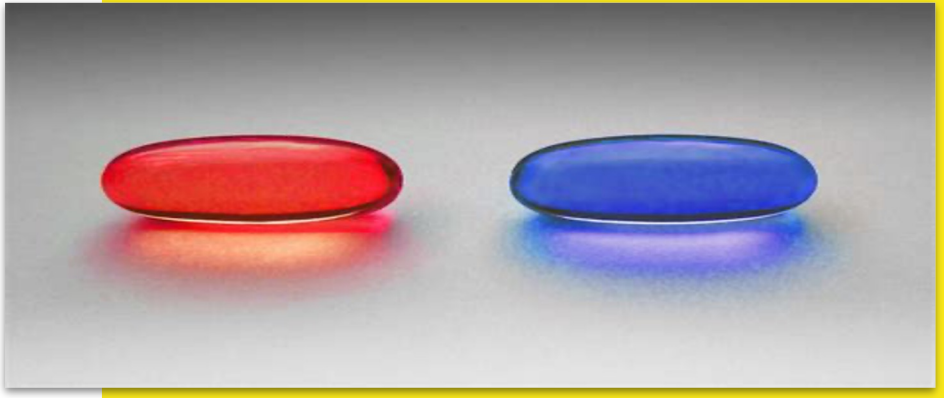
gaming doesn’t exist in a vacuum

"What we have right now isn't equality. It's not like equality. But it's still enough to enrage the old guard because when you've been used to privilege, equality feels like prejudice."

-laurie penny

privilege

privilege



GamerGate

GamerGate

Trump

gone
home

PC

How the founder's toxic culture tore apart Fullbright, the studio behind Gone Home

Co-founder Steve Gaynor has stepped down following complaints from employees

By Nicole Carpenter | @sweetpotatoes | Aug 4, 2021, 8:55pm EDT

privilege

we are not okay

RIOT GAMES

ACTIVISION®

BLIZZARD® ENTERTAINMENT

Report: Activision's Bobby Kotick Didn't Just Know, He Also Was Shitty To Women

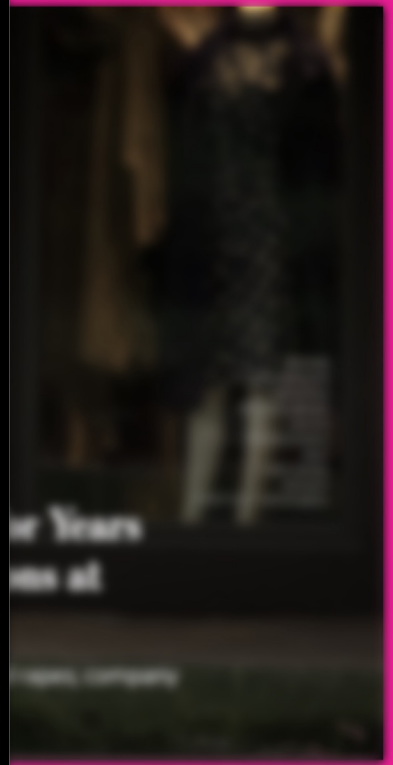
Call of Duty studios Treyarch and Sledgehammer Games are at the center of new allegations

Report: Activisio
Know, He Also W

Stephen Totilo
@stephentotilo

Regarding Kotick's potential $22 million, in recent years, Ubisoft has had a similar but much smaller CEO payouts (each about $200k/year) tied to hiring more women and improving workplace culture

axios.com
Gaming giant pivots on CEO bonus targets
Ubisoft is no longer offering its CEO new bonuses for increasing the gender diversity of its workforce.



power

MURDER

SEXUAL ASSUALT

RAPE

HARASSMENT,THREATS, AND VERBAL ABUSE

REINFORCING STEREOTYPES

USING PROBLEMATIC LANGUAGE AND JOKES

OBJECTIFYING AND DEMEANING OTHERS

ten years ago

ten years ago

TODAY

“You can’t be neutral on a moving train.”

-howard zinn

GAMES AND ONLINE HARASSMENT HOTLINE

THE
CULTURE
SHIFT
PROJECT

to make the games industry safer:

I am committed to start doing

I am committed to stop doing

I am committed to keep doing & improving on

tropes was

ESSENTIAL

Media criticism

Community support initiatives

Labour movements

Unionization

Workers demanding better treatment

let’s get to work

Accountability & Repair in Games

Today 3pm
Room 202
South Hall

A Hotline for the Games Industry

Friday 11:30am
Room 209
South Hall

thank you.

gameshotline.org
feministfrequency.com

@anitasarkeesian
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