
Subject: Re: Top or bottom posting; does it really matter?
Posted by [Quadibloc](#) on Tue, 28 Sep 2021 23:55:19 GMT
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On Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 7:11:08 AM UTC-6, Questor wrote:

> Unfortunately, the term "woke" is being smeared by conservatives,

True enough.

> and there's

> not clear clear consensus on what it means to liberals.

I don't think that's the problem.

At least wherever I have seen that term used, it had a meaning that was clear and consistent enough that you could put it in a dictionary.

Someone is "woke" when his understanding of the situation of a disadvantaged group is genuine. When he sees what they're really living with, rather than seeing it through the distorting lens of his own experiences and assumptions. When he sees how they perceive their situation.

But that doesn't eliminate all ambiguity about who is "woke".

To illustrate why, let's take another term: "feminist". This one does potentially have multiple meanings, as it can also refer to forms of female supremacism. But its basic meaning is simply: a feminist is one who believes that women are fully human beings, fully equal to men in rights and dignity.

Now, a man could be a feminist by that definition, and yet also believe that abortion is homicide. There's no contradiction between believing that adult women are people, and that babies are people too, even when they're not born yet.

But such a man would hardly be **acknowledged** as a feminist by most of those we think of as feminists, would he?

Similarly, a man could indeed be knowledgeable as well as empathetic to the plight of black Americans, to the extent that he would qualify as "woke", and yet have doubts about Black Lives Matter due to other concerns: he could recognize the difficulties of the situations police officers often find themselves in.

Again, such a one might be woke without being likely to be **acknowledged** as woke.

