

# Pink Pistols Posting Guidelines

Our various mailing lists and forums require certain rules be set, such that:

- Topicality is established
- Order is maintained
- The group's mission is advanced
- Our public perception is preserved
- And the rights of all are secured

## Topicality

Unless a particular Pink Pistols group is otherwise posted, ALL Pink Pistols forums, lists, pages, and groups are for the posting and discussion of issues specifically of interest TO the Pink Pistols. Some of our groups, such as the Pinkpistols-Politics Yahoo Group, are for specific sub-topics.

- Firearms law
- Self-defense
- Reports of attacks/defenses of members of the sexual-minority community
- Selected news articles of particular interest, i.e., about firearms, GLBT life as pertains to defense, and humor in reasonably good taste.

Things considered off-topic include, but are not limited to:

- Posts unrelated to guns and/or the sexual-minority community
- Posts selling things. It doesn't matter if it's holsters or rubber ducks, our forums are not advertising venues. If you want to offer training services or similar, please post your information to Operation Blazing Sword for inclusion in the map.
- Random memes and "Demotivational" posters. SOME memes that are appropriate by the criteria above may be acceptable. Don't be surprised if they go away, especially if they are fanning flames.
- Sexual hookups. We are not Grindr or OK Cupid. Go there for hookups.

These are the "Holy War" topics, and other ways to "Crash Land". A "Holy War" topic is one that will not be resolved, regardless of how much arguing or wrangling about it you do. NO ONE will EVER admit defeat in a Holy War topic, and it only results in a pointless flamewar, so they are not permitted.

- Insulting others over politics or religion. You may not see a problem with declaring that a problem would "be solved easily" if only people worshipped your way, or voted for the candidate you like, but others probably won't see it that way. (Anarchy or atheism are included, as the lack thereof is not a defense for the actual issue, which is *insulting others*.)
- Getting into "Glock vs. 1911" type arguments. The best gun is the one that saves your life. Period.

- Arguments over “stopping power” of a given round or caliber. The .22lr you HAVE is better than the .50 GI you don’t have. Shoot the best gun you can shoot accurately and will practice with regularly. Guns that hurt you to shoot will make you reluctant to use them, and if you can’t hit the target, it’s worse than useless.
- Complaints over “booger hook on the bang switch” in posted photos only annoys people. You don’t know the circumstances of the photo. If someone asks you to critique it, that’s one thing, but if someone’s proud of their gorgeous picture, don’t get up their nose because their finger’s on the trigger. No one wins these arguments. They just flare into open flame nearly instantly. It’s as if photo film were FLAMMABLE or something!
- Rabble-rousing of one minority against another. This is the “<Blank> Lives Matter” rule. These posts rarely, if ever, do anyone any good, and only cause strife. If one group is happy about the post, you can be reasonably certain that another group will hate it.
- Blocking or otherwise sassing a mod or admin during the performance of their duty (Though sassing me is a bad idea in general. I bite.)
- Referring to straight members of the Pink Pistols as “allies”, thus reducing them from equal member to “other” status, or demanding that the Pink Pistols be a “queer only” safe space. These concepts are antithetical to what we’ve been building for over a decade and a half, and will not be entertained.
- Electioneering. The period around elections tend to be very emotional. People are wound up about the candidates, the process, the parties, and whether or not your vote is “wasted” by voting for candidate X. We understand that you have strong opinions about these things. Go post them on your personal wall or page. Keep it off the Pink Pistols page. This is a particularly pernicious form of “holy war” that cannot be resolved through arguing about it. Your vote is yours. Vote your conscience. Someone else’s vote is none of your business, nor is it your business to “educate” them because you consider their choice “wrong”. Knock it off. (Occasional snark, like posting the Pinestraw meme, or SMOD, is ok, just don’t overdo it. Those are actually memetic complaints about the people who are electioneering rather than electioneering in and of itself.)

Please consider the reason for your post. Are you informing, discussing, or agitating? The first two are acceptable so long as the post conforms to the other guidelines. Agitating is not acceptable. If you are just stirring up anger or fear, your post will be deleted. You may find yourself moderated or banned. Trolling is not okay in our groups, and trolls may be summarily ejected without warning and without explanation. If we warn you first, consider yourself fortunate and accede to our wishes in this regard. If we’re telling you not to, it’s not okay to do on our forums.

### **The First Amendment**

It never fails that someone will read these guidelines (or not) and, upon being moderated for a post, start foaming “muh free speech!” from all orifices. Let me make this crystal clear.

You do not have free speech in our forums. You have regulated speech in our forums. If you do not like this, go away. Private groups are not required to provide you with “First Amendment” rights, and do not. This forum is being provided for the specific needs and goals of the PINK PISTOLS, not of you personally or any other organization. Posts that do not coincide with the goals of the Pink Pistols may be deleted at ANY TIME. Authors of such posts may or may not be moderated, or in the absence of lesser moderation options, banned. Keep in mind that Facebook has only three moderation options: Lock the post, delete the post, delete the post and ban the poster. We do not have the ability on Facebook to moderate the posts of individuals, only of the ENTIRE GROUP, which is unworkable. (If you think waiting to get approved to join the FB page is a pain, just think what it would be like for EVERY POST to require admin approval.)

You are not being “censored”. You are free at any time to go to your own personal wall, or blog, or page, or whatever, and post whatever you like.

### **Stay POSITIVE**

I know terrible things happen. You want to talk about it, to work through your own feelings and to figure out what you want to do. Everyone else feels the same way. But when you write a post, ask yourself what you want and expect FROM the post. If you are wanting and expecting people to come together to work through their feelings and increase their knowledge together, great. Keep on going. But if your intent is to make people angry, to make people fearful, to make people ashamed, then don't post it to one of our groups. Stirring those things up creates no goodwill.

I know you want to make that snide, snarky response. I'm the queen of snark, and know what you're feeling. But is it appropriate? Is it HELPING, or is it just you venting your spleen? If you're just venting, what will the result be? Will it inspire others to go out and cause havok? Will it start a screaming match, with foul language and insults spewing back and forth? Or will it bring people TOGETHER to do something GOOD?

Stay positive or stay silent. Don't make matters worse. If you absolutely HAVE to comment on something, go do it on your own personal wall or blog. But don't attribute it to US.

### **How To Report A Problem**

If there is a problem with a post, contact a moderator or admin. If you do so in a private message, include a LINK to the problem post. Don't just tell us “Joe Hmfphlbg is causing trouble.” or “Fran Megflglbl is a racist, ban her.” Tell us what the problem you see is, and give an URL so we can find it. Keep in mind that we may not agree with your assessment of the situation.

On Facebook, you can “tag in” a moderator by linking their name into a comment. Please consider doing it as a reply to a specific post in a thread, or just add it to the bottom if the OP is the problem. You can also usually click the down-arrow at the upper right corner of a post and choose “report”. That’ll flag the post to the attention of the admins for review. The only thing wrong with this is, we don’t know what about the post you took issue with. If we don’t find the problem, we won’t do anything about it. Consider dropping us a PM if you can.

## **Pink Pistols Forums**

These are the forums currently being run by or for the Pink Pistols, excluding local chapter sites.

### **Run by Pink Pistols International**

Main Pink Pistols Yahoo Group: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/pinkpistols/info>

Pink Pistols Politics Yahoo Group: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/pinkpistols-politics/info>

Pink Pistols Facebook Public Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2204691521/>

Pink Pistols MeWe Page: <https://mewe.com/group/56b67b3b5051de0fcfa3456f>

Pink Pistols Subreddit: <https://www.reddit.com/r/pinkpistols/>

### **Not Run By National, but by volunteers**

Pink Pistols Unofficial Twitter Feed: <https://twitter.com/search?q=pnkpistol>

Operation Blazing Sword: <https://www.facebook.com/OperationBlazingSword/>

Local Pink Pistols Chapters can be found at <http://www.pinkpistols.org/find-a-local-chapter/> and may include links to forums run by those chapters. Local chapter pages may have posting guidelines that are completely different from those run by the International level. Please refer to the local chapter page for their own posting guidelines and rules of conduct.