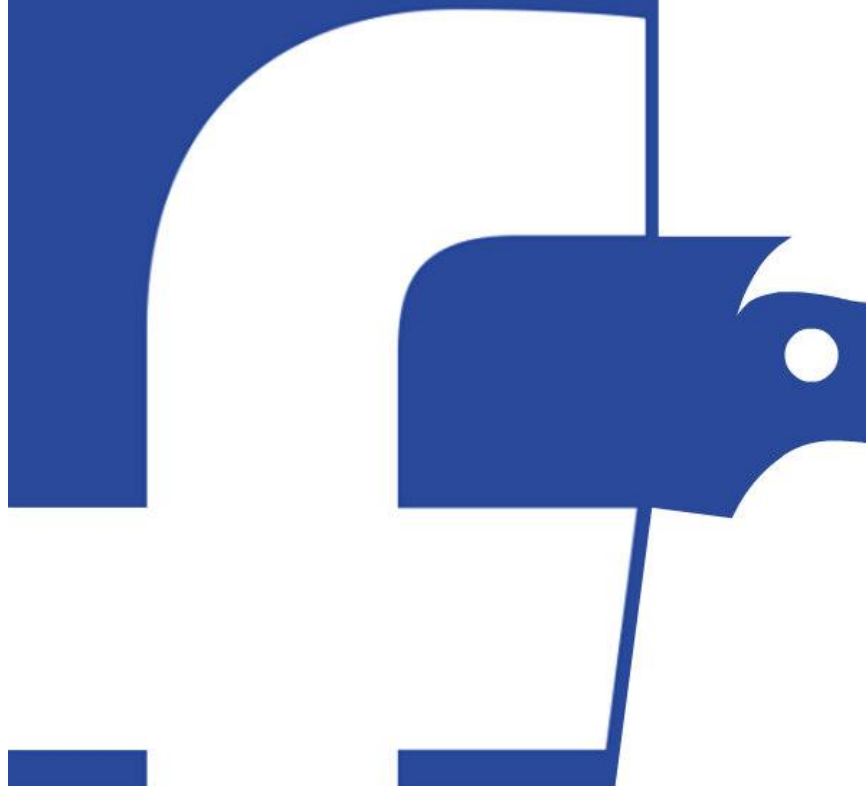


**another pSecret pSociety pshort pstory**



**Facebook Types, A to Z by Mike Bozart (Agent 33) | JUN 2018**

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by Mike Bozart

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While dining at the Panda Express (my one animal-protein day for the week) on Seneca Place at South Boulevard (Charlotte, NC, USA) with my charming, one-of-a-kind, lemon-pepper-chicken-loving Filipina wife, Monique (Agent 32), on a hot Saturday afternoon in June (2018); I overheard several, ebullient, 20-something Asian Americans at an adjacent table having a Facebook-specific discussion. My ears perked up. They were trying to decide how many types of users there were on the zeitgeist-revealing social-media site. The female said that there were around 50; the guy next to her claimed that the number was more like 30; another dude then boldly stated that it could all boil down to a dozen. I quietly mused: *How many modes and nodes of narcissistic gratification are on that online platform?*

During next Monday's lunchbreak at the office, I pondered this idea of classifiable types (or categories) of Facebook users. A faux-incandescent lightbulb went off in my 53-year-old cranium. My not-what-it-once-was brain's rust-encrusted gears started to grind out a possible story idea. *What if I logged onto Facebook right now and noted the first 26 types that I run across. A type for each letter of the alphabet. If a type is repeated, just skip it and move onto the next distinct one until 26 unique personality types are amassed. Yeah, let's do this!*

Well, lo and behold, I scrawled some crude notes on the back of an 8.5" x 11" (21.59 x 27.94 cm) yellow sheet of paper that had the 6<sup>th</sup>-draft revisions of my 11,111-word novelette *Lost in Lost Cove* on the reverse. The end result was two paragraph columns with 13 bracket-enclosed leadoff letters. And now, without further ado, I present my 26 Facebook types, knowing quite well that there are actually many more, and that some users roost in multiple pigeonholes.

**[A]** Animals-always Annette. This Facebook type loves to post photos and videos of cute, cuddly pets. Occasionally she (or almost-as-frequently he) will post pics/vids of predators displaying uncommon compassion for prey that would normally become a quick meal. Sometimes they will state that animals are much kinder than humans, conveniently forgetting that nature is just an endless sequence of one organism consuming/suppressing another.

**[B]** Block-first-and-ask-no-questions-later Belinda. This type maintains an itchy trigger finger on the blocking feature. The slightest show of non-agreement – much less disapproval – will get you the axe. As soon as they awake, a block quota is set for that day. And will be reached. Always. This person has more people on their blocked list than on their friends list. And is damn proud of it. This misanthrope may even add sure-fire antagonists, only to quickly quarantine them. For them, blocking is arousing. Have they blocked you yet? The clock is ticking.

**[C]** Contrarian Conrad. This type loves to contest conventional wisdom. He (seldom a she) may remark that the science of today will be half-wrong in 200 years. You could comment that water is regarded as being wet, and they would have a terse comeback along the lines of ‘Ok, then prove it.’ Members of this type are skeptical of any and all assumed truths, and may entertain nutty conspiracy theories. Whether it be the prevailing political, scientific, business, or societal sentiment; they have a rebuttal in hand, and will readily lay it down.

**[D]** Drunk-posting Drevon. This type loves to post when they are intoxicated. After getting sauced, he (or sometimes she) executes their feels-so-cogent-at-this-impaired-moment, frequently-quite-dastardly deeds, replete with glaring misspellings, ALL CAPS posts, crude jokes, confusing metaphors, ad hominin attacks, and even call-outs of other types. There’s a (mis)perceived slight to remedy, and now that they are inebriated, it will be a piece of cake. This type cringes the next morning at last night’s masterstrokes. But by midnight next Friday, it’s game-on again. Night owls, make that popcorn.

**[E]** Even-keeled Evelyn. This type never seems to get upset. By anything! She (or somewhat-less-often he) could be witnessing a wholesale riot and would merely check to see if it was teatime. To them it’s all just human folly. Slanderous comments and incendiary posts will get nothing in return from this type. Though, they probably do sigh. But sighs are very hard to see on Facebook. At least until there is a sighing emoji.

**[F]** Famous-in-my-own-mind Fabian. This type greatly bolsters the psychological theory that humans are the undisputed masters of self-deception. He (or not-as-often

she) is usually a rocker or rapper (but may be an amateur actor, artist, author, model, or comedian). At one time, maybe a decade or three ago, they got their sure-to-be-a-hit song played on a low-wattage radio station at 3:13 AM. Fame struck. Notoriety landed. Or, so they thought. It's highly unlikely that even 0.001% of their hometown know who they are. Still, you are expected to fawn over – and consistently like – their performance pics; they won't like yours. After all, they're celebrities, you cave dweller!

**[G]** Gospel-quoting George. This type wears their religion on their sleeve and wipes it on their screen for all to see. They are mostly evangelical Christians. Though, similar religious verses could emanate from devout Muslims, orthodox Jews, Buddhist extremists, fundamental Hindus, etc. Most are just sharing their faith. But, hell is really hot. It's not too late.

**[H]** Happy-happy Harriet. This type is out to show you that this life is pure joy. You're alive – be happy! It's really that simple. Why don't you get it? You may cynically think that her (or nearly-as-often his) rose-colored glasses are pretty thick, but they're not going to let their time on Earth pass by without loads of smiley faces on their wall. Are these types still smiling after the photos are taken? Why, only a malcontent would ask such a contemptuous question. Shame on you! Now, let's see those pearly whites. Remember: Grinning is winning.

**[I]** Inspirational Ivonne. This type loves to post inspiring quotes. Aspire! Success is attainable. It's right there. You are going to win this game called life. If you just follow the motivational post on her (or just-as-often his) page, why, you could soon begin posting similar messages on your page. And then, maybe your friends would share these posts. And so on. The whole world could be reset in a positive-passage-posting direction. Surely, it will happen. Well, maybe after tomorrow's post.

**[J]** Jacked-up Jack. This type has just drained their 5<sup>th</sup> travel mug of coffee (with a possible stimulant added) and is ready to attack whatever the day throws at them. They are spoiling to get going – to start getting busy – busy doing something. Anything. But before he (or sometimes she) self-launches, they post an early-morning forewarning stating something like 'I have 440 volts flowing through my veins and my 50-amp breaker just tripped. Look out, world!' This person may

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