

The interview was held on March 24th, 2025, between 9:00 PM and 9:40 PM on an instant messaging social platform called "Discord." The interviewee has cultural expertise of Norway, his country of residence. More specifically, he lives in Bergen, the second-largest city in Norway.

Within Discord, we had a private call. I enabled my camera and also offered him to open his camera with the clear sign that it's not mandatory to not cross any comfort zones. He decided not to open his camera.

The interview began with the question of ranking the following values from most to least important: honesty, friendliness, boldness, and respect.

He chose both respect and honesty as the most important, as he stated that he only likes people who are honest about what they're saying. He explained that these factors are of significant value due to his experiences of interacting with people.

For the second place, he chose friendliness, stating he would prefer having a person who is friendly and not rude as a friend. Upon asking him whether he was fine if people who were friends with him said rude things towards him in a joking matter, he clarified that it's fine among friends, and he doesn't mind it as he also jokes around with friends similarly. He emphasized that this was not the case with strangers, as he would then find it offensive.

As the least significant value, he selected boldness with the explanation that he does appreciate people who are willing to take risks for you, but overall, he still prefers people who try to be kind and don't take much action to make a change than people who are rude and take action to make a change.

Next, I inquired him what he enjoys most about his hobbies, to which he responded that he doesn't have any asides from chess, from which he got tired after a few months of playing due to a loss of motivation. I asked him whether he considers gaming as a hobby, as I know that he plays games, to which he replied that gaming is something that he does when he's bored and doesn't see it as a hobby.

Nonetheless, it seemed like a viable question topic to me, which is why I switched my questions regarding hobbies over to gaming.

Asking what he enjoys most about gaming was the fact that you can play games with other people (multi-player), as he stated that he does not have much of a social life outside the internet, which is why playing games gives him the opportunity to have social interactions with people. Another key aspect that he mentioned is the replayability and enjoyment of games, and that a game that is replayable is also enjoyable.

He explained that regardless, he does enjoy single-player games, especially those that have an environmental storytelling, meaning that the story of the game isn't primarily told by words but by the atmosphere and environment of the game. As an example, he put the "Half-Life" series by Valve.

He explained that the main religion in Norway is Christianity and that he thinks it's dominantly Catholic. After getting his permission and approval to ask regarding his beliefs, he stated that he, however, is an atheist. He assumes that his teachers are more on the atheistic side, not explicitly because they said it themselves, but because of their behavior.

When asking about other significant religions in Norway, he stated Islam due to migrants in Norway, elaborating that he has classmates that are Muslims and do pray at school and that the teachers don't mind it.

Within his school life, he said that religion does not make a difference in his school life, stating that even without Christianity, his school life would stay the same.

Religion does not play a role in his spare time either, except for celebrating Christmas, which he says is not

He observes that most people who call themselves Christians or Muslims don't follow Christian or Islamic rules, which he does think about sometimes in his spare time, whenever he sees it.

He does not see a problem with migrants partaking in Norwegian culture, stating that there is no reason for them to not do so. Furthermore, he said that in general he does not see a concern with increasing diversity in Europe but has seen plenty of people, primarily online, be unhappy with it. However, he stated that in real life, he hasn't seen people with such opinions but thinks that Norway in general is rather

unhappy with migrants, explaining that the current prime minister is unpopular for letting in migrants into the country.

What he thinks is the most important day in Norway is its national day (Constitution Day) on May 17th, a day that is celebrated across Norway.

He says that police patrolling in Norwegian cities is relatively common, usually after 6 PM. He said that it's not explicitly gang activity, but rather just teenagers hanging out. Likewise, he finds the term "gang activity" to be more fitting towards the US. He considers Norway a lot less brutal than in the US, explaining that Norway is less brutal than the US given that Norwegian gun laws are very strict, but that nonetheless there are still chances of violence there. As an example, he gave an incident that happened in Bergen, where an old man was punched by a teenager. He also stated that the police were really mad about people recording said incident. He assumes that the reason it's disliked is that it falls under the category of recording people without their permission.

He thinks that in Norway, small talk is not that common and that people, when they hold conversations, hold longer conversations.

Furthermore, he personally stands neutral towards small talk, saying that it's fine as it makes it easier to hold a conversation without needing to come up with anything to talk about. In his opinion, it's good for introverts.

As a taboo topic, he stated Anders Behring Breivik, a Norwegian neo-Nazi terrorist, and his manifesto titled 2083: A European Declaration of Independence, a book that supposedly featured accusations of Muslims and Jews "taking over Europe." He also stated a Nordic neo-Nazi group called the Nordic Resistance Movement. He explained that Norway was invaded by the Nazis in World War II and that they burned down numerous houses in Norway. As an anecdote, he told me about the time he and his family went from city to city in Norway during his summer vacation, and there was a WWII museum with an open-air area showcasing houses that the Nazis had burned. Around that area, there were also bunker installations and artillery

installations in the mountains. Overall, Norwegians were heavily affected by the Nazis, which is why he showed frustration over the fact that there are still people who support that ideology.

He shares the belief that it's necessary to stay tolerant towards everyone and not fall into hateful behavior.

He believes that if one of those taboos is broken by foreigners, it depends on the context on how bad it is. If it were someone, e.g., promoting Anders, it would be a worse case than someone who wants to know about these topics for educational reasons.