Summary :

How wholesome memes could save us all

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With the pandemic of Covid 19, people are spending more time on the web, in order to avoid problems of the real world. Video games and "wholesome memes" distract us from death and politics. But it can end with "toxic positivity". However, the web is a lot more than just wholesome memes. Michael Hauben coined in the mid 90s the term "netizen", to describe people who were involved in early forums and group chats. The notion evolved since, with researchers using it to talk about digital activism. The term needs to be thought over again, considering the growth of online communities, some of which are even bigger than countries. These communities exist however on social networks and platforms owned by big companies which are now wealthier and as powerful as many nations thanks to content users put into them. These companies owe us more than just escapism, they owe us rights and protection.

How wholesome memes could save us all. Annalee newitz. 26 August 2020. NewScientist.

https://institutions-newscientist-com.docelec.u-bordeaux.fr/article/mg24732970-200-how-wholesome-memes-could-save-us-all/