Kidnaping the Reason

By ANNA CONDA 4 July 2014

Whenever a Staff decides to lock a thread or to delete a post could hijack the rationality. And yet, a few days ago, it happened in an MOOC course forum with which we are conversant and Staff appealed that "a student's work was posted without permission" and did shut up all the voices.

I am concerned to avoid those unfair barriers trying to mitigate the voice of someone, but particularly the one of my seven-year-old daughter. When she wants everyone to hear what she says, moves her little hands like butterflies dancing a waltz in

the air. She was born deaf, which is an enough handicap for her growth to enlarge the troubles, arbitrarily, along the road that she will have to go through her life. I do not wish the unreasonableness could silence the beautiful sounds of the "voice" of my daughter or of anyone else.

The existence of rules is necessary for a fluent and normal relations between people, and I am convinced of the benefits that they provide, like in posting a work without the author's authorization as it guarantees protection against any malicious use of our own works. But as almost everything, each case or law or rule has nuances and contexts where be applied so it is advisable not to forget them if we don't want committing large mistakes. In this manner, it's bound to always remember that when arguing about any topic, all the parts accept as a basic principle, the use of any evidence, without limit, that contributes to enlighten the theme. Thus, once the author started or accepted the

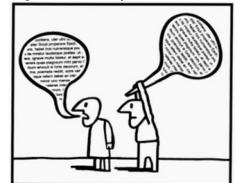
debate, he has given permission to use his draft —in this concrete case because the draft was the issue in debate. If this were not so, it would be sterile to reason about anything. Let's imagine two people in an exchange of ideas about God with the ban on making use of what is substantive of the very notion of what God is. Worse, that only the antagonist has the ban while the author doesn't —this latter matches with what happened.

When I get a medical condition, I go consulting a doctor —an expert in Human Health— who interprets the results of the

analysis and hears me the symptoms that I say I'm suffering. Then, with knowledge and experience, considers with a high degree of assertiveness which is the origin of the problem, and finally looks for a proper solution, either with medications or with the use of surgery. I put my health in the

surgery. I put my health in the hands of the expert, which has the huge power of killing me if he would prescribe me some improper drugs, or if he used improperly any of his instruments during a scan. Also, if I had a legal difficulty, my autonomy would be subject to what the judge decides —an expert in Law and Justice. I hope he has enough knowledge to make the correct interpretation of the facts and to choose correctly the applicable law, but not simply by forcing the facts to fit into a particular law.

A Staff—an expert in (...)— even having to perform the same techniques as doctors or judges, does not have the dimensions to kill



or to lock up in jail to anyone through the exercise of his duties like by blocking a thread or deleting a post. However has an important ability to affect on other essential concepts like life and liberty are. I'm talking about the thought, very close to those other notions because cannot be understood one without each other. By choosing the easy way —simply push a button and without any intellectual effort— Staff removes the thoughts, the reasoning and the arguments, denying any act from intellect. Instead, an alternative is to engage in conversation with stakeholders reach deeper to to understanding about the matter before decides.

The application of any rule should not be made without sense, but on the contrary, those who are entrusted with its administration also have the responsibility to preserve the importance of the rule by making valid argumentative actions that are sound. Thus adding significance to the pedagogical work that MOOCs being made. To do otherwise would mean kidnapping the reason.

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