I'm a fan of precise language. Here are several evolutions that I've thought about over the years.

### **Normal**

What is the implication of the term 'normal'?

When someone describes an action X as normal, my gut instinct is that X action is acceptable and good because it is commonplace. There is a popularity and this implies positivity/moral weight. I believe everything is a spectrum with nuance so for more precise I am attempting to deprecate the term 'normal'.

In almost every case, I am replacing the term **'normal'** with **'common'**.

### **Ugly**

I've had particular taste in women from the beginning. My friends and I would see a group of women :

Friends : "Check out the one in blue"

Spencer : "Look at her friend, though"

Friends : "Spencer, noooo"

The world is incredibly diverse and people have an extreme variety of tastes. Any person who is conventionally unattractive or ugly, I am certain another person might find desirable.

Instead of using language that is generalist, I am attempting to use language that is specific to me -- I am not attracted to them, or they are not my type instead of citing some objective standard.

### **Good**

High level abstractions are proper for efficient communication. In everyday conversations the cost-benefit is much more in favor of over-explaining to avoid misunderstanding unless you have a deep history of shared fundamental language/ideas.

I intend to use more precise words, instead of higher level abstractions.

### **Cute**

Perhaps the oldest term on this list.

What is the connotation of the term 'cute'? The common images that are associated with cute are babies -- cute dogs, pandas, etc. The term 'cute' implies naivety, helplessness, immaturity, and weakness. Something that needs a protector and compassion.

The opposite of cute is not ugly. The opposite of cute is scary.

In high school, I didn't enjoy being called cute. Now, it's all for fun and I no longer feel the same way I did in high school but it's an interesting word.

### **Shy, Quiet, Introverted**

**Shy** - When they're not comfortable but otherwise would have things to say (they're talkative amongst their friends). Or worse, perhaps they want to say things but never find the time or courage (after-the-fact they wish they said X in the group discussion).

**Quiet** - Whether they're comfortable or not comfortable, they don't have things to say. They have courage and would contribute, however they have nothing to contribute.

**Introverted** - A type of person who can burn out with too much social interaction or busyness.

All of these traits would be associated with me, however I believe almost all of these traits to be undesirable. I am uncertain whether these characteristics can be changed or are immutable, but shyness is the one that I have worked on and had the most success.

### **Nice, Kind, Compassionate**

**Nice** - Polite or charismatic. The outcome is well for those who participate or observe the interaction

**Kind** - Results and action-based. Regardless of your personal feelings or emotions in the moment, choosing to help others as best as you can is kindness

**Compassion** - Inputs and feeling-based. Regardless of your actions and helpfulness, feeling empathy and concern and guilt over

In attempting to change language (or anything, really) it happens imperceptibly slowly. It is always 5 steps forward, 4 steps backward. The first step of change is awareness, then intentionality and postmortems.

It often feels like a failure when I intend to act differently or deprecate a word but it comes out anyway. In those times, I remind myself that while it was a mistake there were twenty other times where I avoided the mistake. I am proud of my progress and in theory progression over time will lead to perfection.

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-winTOqpcA>

cute girls doing cute things - Main Heroine