



Tom Comitta <tcomitta@gmail.com>

YouTube Video Notification

5 messages

YouTube Service <service@youtube.com>
To: TComitta@gmail.com

Thu, Jul 28, 2011 at 1:34 PM

YouTube | Broadcast Yourself™

Regarding your account: **tomcomitta**

The YouTube Community has flagged one or more of your videos as inappropriate. Once a video is flagged, it is reviewed by the YouTube Team against our Community Guidelines. Upon review, we have determined that the following video(s) contain content in violation of these guidelines, and have been disabled:

- Fuck You (for Janey Smith) - (tomcomitta)

YouTube is not a shock site. It's not okay to post gross-out videos of accidents, dead bodies or similar things intended to be shocking, sensational or disrespectful. If your video is graphic or disturbing, it can only remain on the site where supported by appropriate educational or documentary information.

Your account has received one Community Guidelines warning strike, which will expire in six months. Additional violations may result in the temporary disabling of your ability to post content to YouTube and/or the permanent termination of your account.

For more information on YouTube's Community Guidelines and how they are enforced, please visit the help center <http://www.google.com/support/youtube/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=92486>.

Sincerely,

The YouTube Team

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Tom Comitta <tcomitta@gmail.com>
To: YouTube Service <service@youtube.com>

Thu, Jul 28, 2011 at 4:02 PM

Dear YouTube Service,

While I agree that some of the visual content in *Fuck You (for Janey Smith)* video is startling, I do not agree with your decision to take it down or your decision to give me a "warning strike."

I am a poet and artist who works to reveal the dynamics and problems of certain given norms and the often unacknowledged (peripheral or hidden) characteristics of these norms in contemporary life—specifically, contemporary life on/as the Internet.

If you read the "info" on my video you would have found that the video is in fact educational and a documentary. Here's the info I offered (note the text in red):

[start info]

Fuck You (for Janey Smith)

after Goldsmith

after Porter &

after Bernstein

after Bizet

How the audio arrived:

While listening to iTunes on shuffle a few months ago, these two tracks happened to play one after the other. I had yet to hear Kenneth Goldsmith's rendition of Bern Porter's "The Last Acts of Saint Fuck You" and, considering their similarities, thought the second track was part of the first.

How the video arrived:

I typed the title "Fuck You (for Janey Smith)" into Google image search and collected, in their original order, every and all photos that Google offered. I did this for 9 "pages"--that's 283 photos. The framing and duration of each photo were determined by the defaults of iPhoto's slideshow function.

Note:

This is not intended as porn. If there is any intention here, it would be to show what's already there ([here](#)).

Regurgitation.

[end info]

As you've seen above, the nudity in my film was not my choice, but the choice of an algorithm that your company produced. (You are owned by Google, correct?) In effect, my video is a documentary not only of my chance remixing of two audio files, but of how your algorithm played with text "Fuck You (for Janey Smith)."

Poets, artists, and art enthusiasts have praised the video. My mother even saw the video and was okay with it.

I ask that you reconsider your choice to take the video down and give me a "warning strike" on the grounds that *Fuck You (for Janey Smith)* is in fact educational and documentary. There is literally no other way for me to describe the video than as "a documentary of defaults and default algorithms."

Thank you for the service of hosting my videos. And thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Tom Comitta

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Tom Comitta <tcomitta@gmail.com>
To: Samantha Boudrot <sam.boudrot@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 29, 2011 at 8:31 PM

[Quoted text hidden]

Tom Comitta <tcomitta@gmail.com>
To: YouTube Service <service@youtube.com>

Tue, Aug 9, 2011 at 12:07 PM

Dear YouTube Team,

Just wanted to follow up on my previous request to return my video to YouTube. I also ask you once again to consider removing my "warning strike."

I reiterate that my video is a documentary—a documentation of your Google Search algorithm—as well as an educational tool to inform a public (anyone who watches my video) of the logic of such an algorithm.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Tom Comitta

[Quoted text hidden]
