

An Admonishment for Catechumens & Neophytes
Part 2
The Orthodox Chat-Room Surfer and Troll

Trolling on online Orthodox chat forums does not constitute an Orthodox Christian spiritual life. Winning so-called theological arguments whether online or in real life does not constitute a spiritual life.

Being Orthodox also does not mean being stuck to an internet device 24 hours a day on chat rooms and various other social chat forums showing just how much we know (or think we know) about the Faith to others. Being Orthodox is not about getting our views, opinions...etc from 'orthodox e-celebs' who may be shills and click-baiters pushing their own agenda that is ultimately contrary to the Church. They are just 'talking ortho-heads' with vested interests not necessarily in line with the Faith and with our Holy Tradition. It is nothing more than being an opinionated armchair theologian and an armchair Orthodox.

We need to wake up. These shills (perhaps even willing marionettes of worldly powers) and click-baiters (who are not interested in our spiritual welfare, or to guide us into Orthodoxy out of love, but only after our clicks for money) are the current persecutors of Christians, in addition to the usual persecutors from the world. These shills and click-baiters are the peddlers and pronouncers of "Orthodox Takfirism." Their vision of Orthodox Christianity has no room for Orthodox Christians who are not conforming to their interpretation of Orthodox Christianity, and their denunciations and accusations of those who refuse to conform motivate them to be internet trolls on various chat rooms, forums and social media platforms. This is a horrifying new reality, the spirit of "Orthodox takfirism," the mindset that makes religious accusation of others into a way of life, enforced by cyber-bullying and trolling and other forms of intimidation, for those who do not measure up to their ideology and their mistaken perception of what they believe Orthodoxy to be.