

Beau Bessette

Professor Crawford

English 101

September 18, 2008

The Secret Order of Gamers

In today's society the community of people who play video games has grown exponentially. Because of this huge rise in the number of people who play video games, the term video gamer which is usually used to encompass anyone who has picked up a video game controller does not do justice anymore to the variety of gamers in today's society. Today, there are different types of gamers who only play certain types of games. Many of these gamers will be offended if you clump them all together into one group. Therefore, this essay will appropriately classify each of those different types of gamers.

The first type of gamer is called a casual gamer. A casual gamer enjoys games that have a simple basis and that are easy to learn. There were not many casual gamers in the first early years of video gaming because those games were very difficult and took countless hours to master. In recent years, however, the amount of casual gamers has skyrocketed because games are now being developed to be simple and be a quick and fun diversion. These easier games have been classified as casual games. Casual gamers are not regarded as gamers to every other type of gamer as all the other types, while having other differences, believe that a game should not be a simple distraction, but a serious activity that should take a very long time to master completely.

A hardcore gamer is the polar opposite of a casual gamer. A hardcore gamer plays games as a serious activity, and consider it a big part of their life. These gamers play all types of games on all video game platforms except for casual games. These gamers love the challenge in games and usually play games on the hardest difficulty setting. They usually have started playing video games since their childhood and have devoted untold amounts of their time, beating one game after another.

The next type of gamer is an elite sect of hardcore gamers. These gamers are coined competitive gamers since they play in different competitions and contests to win prizes. Some competitive gamers do this as a job and make a living off of it. There are different video gaming leagues that where teams can win huge cash prizes. These gamers have spent hundreds and hundreds of hours perfecting their techniques to win in these competitions.

A retro gamer is the grand daddy of all gamers as these gamers only play games from the first beginning years of video games. These gamers can most often be found in arcades. A retro gamer was usually born right before video games became popular and grew up with games their whole life. Instead of moving on to more modern games these gamers continue to play and master the games they have known their whole childhood.

Another type of gamer is a fan boy. These video gamers play games because they like the unique characters in the game. These gamers enjoy games that have deep characters and intricate stories. They also like games in a series, since they get to see more of their favorite character. Fan boys do not really care if a game is good or bad; they just like to see their favorite characters. These gamers often have merchandise about that game like action figures, shirts, hats, etc. They may also write blogs or stories about the characters in the game they like.

This next type is despised by all other gamers. A hacker uses cheats, or other means to change a game and make it easier for them to beat it and mess with other players. A hacker will sometimes use cheat codes or guide books to help them beat a game. In online games, where there are several people playing at the same time together, a hacker will hack into the game and change it so the hacker will be able to do things other players can't. This ruins the fun for the other gamers.

Another type of gamer is called the professor. These gamers find out everything there is to know about a game and what went into making a game. If one starts talking to a professor and stumbles onto the subject of video games, one will be bombarded with information about different types of games, different video game companies, the status of gaming, new and upcoming video games and video game systems etc. While these gamers should be avoided by anyone not interested in games, most gamers look for professors as they usually have information about secrets in games and news about what kind of games are being developed.

Next we have the game tester. The game tester is employed by a video game company to play a game to check for bugs. These gamers play games before they are released to the public to make sure the game works properly. While getting paid to be the first person to play a game sounds like the dream job of every gamer, most video game testers do not enjoy their jobs. Video game testers have to play the same game over and over again for hours on end to make sure there are no bugs. If you are planning to become a video game tester, make sure you love playing video games and doing nothing else.

These are the different types that appropriately classify every video gamer. As you can see, video gamers come in many more varieties than most people realize. As the community of

video gamers continues to grow, more types might emerge. Now that you see how many different types there are, try not to simply call people gamers, but call them by their proper classifications.