

“Roasting Ethics”



Comedy roasting is the art and practice of making public fun of a specific person or entity, typically as a tribute. However, roasting can be a tricky business, as roasters must walk a tightrope between playful mockery and downright disrespect. Professor Anderson posits a positive theory of the ethics of roasting: when successful, he argues, roasts employ mechanisms that divert attention away from a joke's content. It is when these mechanisms fail that roasts become disagreeable.

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