



**We say things to each other that we would never say face to face. Shouldn't we know better by now?**



- Presents opinion as fact so that readers will agree without question
- Use of **collective pronoun** ("we") to generalise; makes it seem like everyone is part of this problem
- Use of declarative extremes / **absolutes** to show bias or put across a strong view ("always", "never", etc)
- Use of **rhetorical question with implied answer** ('Wouldn't', 'Shouldn't', 'Couldn't') to lead the reader to make a certain conclusion



**Astoundingly, Dr. Turkle says, many people still forget that they're speaking out loud when they communicate online... "So what if you say 'I hate you' on this tiny little thing? It's like a toy. It doesn't feel consequential."**



- Use **sensational / hyperbolic language** ('Astoundingly') to suggest that people's behaviour is shocking and impossible to believe
- **Expert opinion** ('Dr') lends further credibility to the argument
- Use of **vague words** ('many') to hint at the large scope of the problem
- **Rhetorical question** ('So what...') to lead the reader to imagine the negative consequences.
- **Simile** compares mobile phones to toys, which are meant to be fun
- **Adjectives** 'tiny' and 'little' make it hard to believe that rude behaviour can have serious consequences.



**Still, he sometimes can't restrain himself from fanning the flames. When a political discussion thread becomes heated and he doesn't like the way it is going... he messages one of his "attack dog" friends**



- Use of the word '**still**' to suggest that everyone, like Bolcik has a polite side and the potential to act rudely; that it's an on-going problem.
- The **verb** 'restrain' implies that it takes considerable effort for people to control their behaviour
- Use of **metaphorical language** to suggest the severity of online arguments ('flames'/'heated' – suggests intense, uncomfortable, painful; 'attack dog' – suggests aggression, viciousness, a pack mentality and a predatory nature)