

# How do I be right without being an asshole?

3 upvotes | 16 February, 2020 | by SICFJC

---

This may be unavoidable at times because people get upset when they're proven wrong, and they shut down and get defensive.

For example, a woman was unhappy with some work I did. This was not my fault, but a result of her poor planning and inherent challenges with the venue. (Event photography) I send her a very polite email explaining the circumstances and challenges. This scenario raised this question in my head.

How can I disagree, and be right without also being an asshole? Is that even possible? Do any of you have experience with this dilemma?

---

Archived from [theredarchive.com](https://theredarchive.com)

---

## Comments

---

Terdmuffin • 9 points • 16 February, 2020 05:22 AM

You don't have to "be right" or prove anyone wrong. "Thanks for the input I'll take it into consideration on my future shoots ". If you're good at what you do, you don't need to explain anything to anyone.

Don't worry about vocal minorities. Sometimes you have to just do your best and rely on your product. This is especially true when it comes to artistic products. I work in culinary. I salt every chicken breast I cook the same. If one person complains it's too salty am I going to change how I salt my chicken tits? No. I'm going to trust my abilities, knowing that 100% of people aren't going to like my product. I'm totally okay with 99% of people liking what I do.

DeepNuttet • 3 points • 16 February, 2020 07:28 AM

Passive vs. Aggression vs. Assertive.

Assertive is the one you want.

jm51 • 1 point • 16 February, 2020 02:34 PM

Assertive is the one you want.

'When I Say No I Feel Guilty' is the go to for assertiveness techniques.

A female friend was forever moaning about her call center job so I bought her a copy. A few months later she was bragging about how easily she could handle disgruntled callers.

Flamethrowa21 • 7 points • 16 February, 2020 04:54 AM

Ben Shapiro said it best: facts don't care about your feelings.

IXseed • 1 point • 16 February, 2020 05:34 AM

Use some tact and pick your battles accordingly.

FereallyRed • 1 point • 16 February, 2020 08:18 AM

If the issue is business related, be professional, reserved, and to the point. Write your reply as if it may be read out to a judge in court.

Because it might.

In personal life, you have to determine what actually matters. Nobody wants a DEER.