

**BOBA  
BOARD**

# Back to the Past

**A look at the future of sustainable  
online communities**



# Essential Randomness

@EssentialRandom 



Software  
Engineer



Mental  
Health  
Activist



“Terminally  
Online”



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- **Random identity** visible to strangers
- **Real identity** visible to friends
- Enables gradual reveal of additional information to specific individuals



**“Anonymity First”**

“Everything's been condensed down into like five unmoderated websites and we're all forced to hang out with nazis.”

“things you don't want to see pop up [...] even when you have things blocked or muted”

“everything feels stale and plastic, everything feels slightly sinister”

“The Need To Be Wholesome And Normal.”

“I miss platforms for play, not  
for building a brand and  
business”

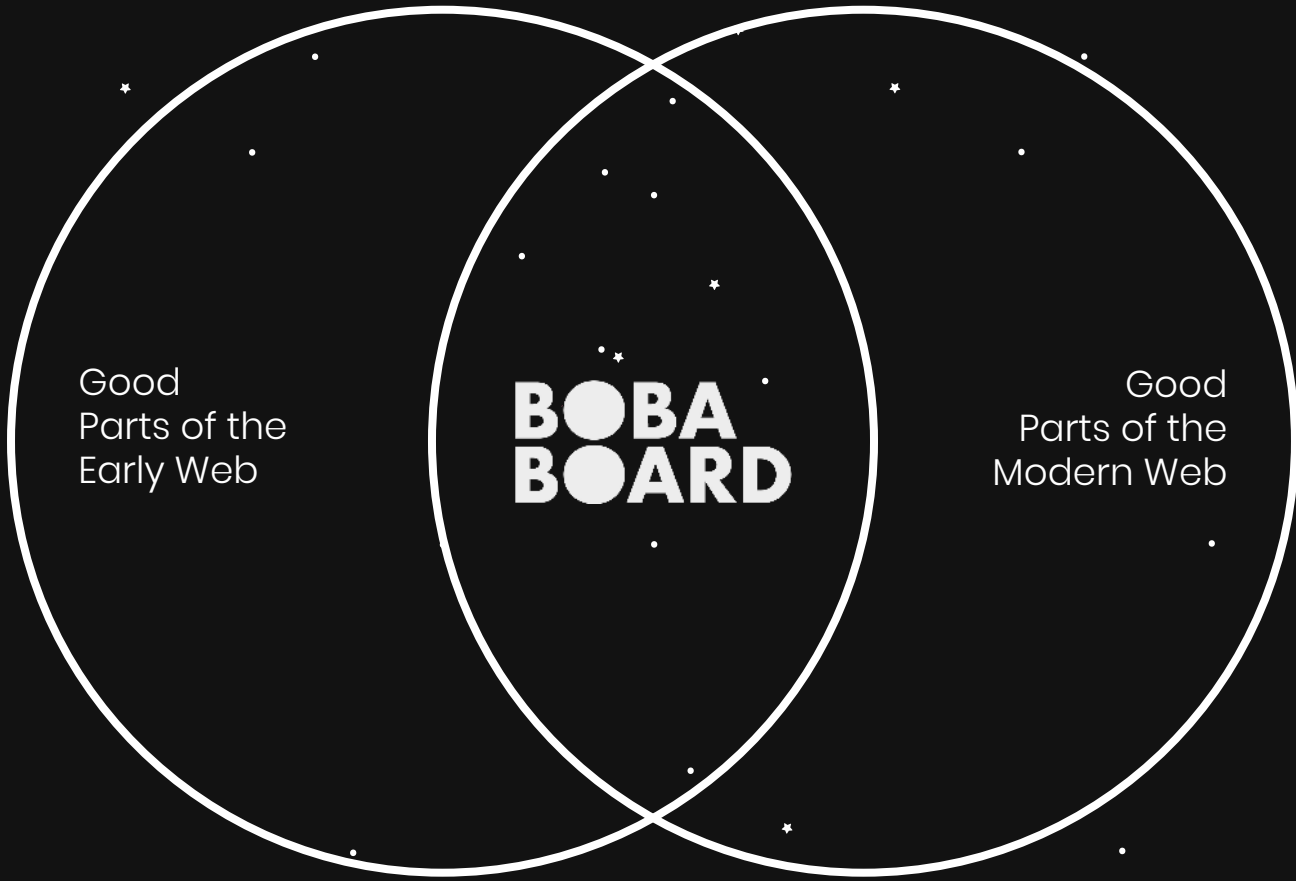
“The feeling [...] that it was  
a completely separate  
world from the physical.”

“The freedom to be  
unapologetically weird with  
other people.”

“The safety of being  
anonymous.”

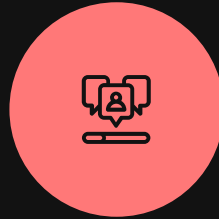
“In a pre-social media era, the internet didn’t keep receipts or screenshots, [...] part of the beauty and power of early 2000s queer internet was that it wasn’t meant to exist forever.”



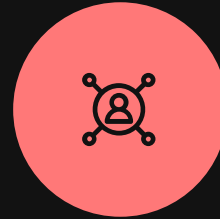




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**Small Niche  
Communities**



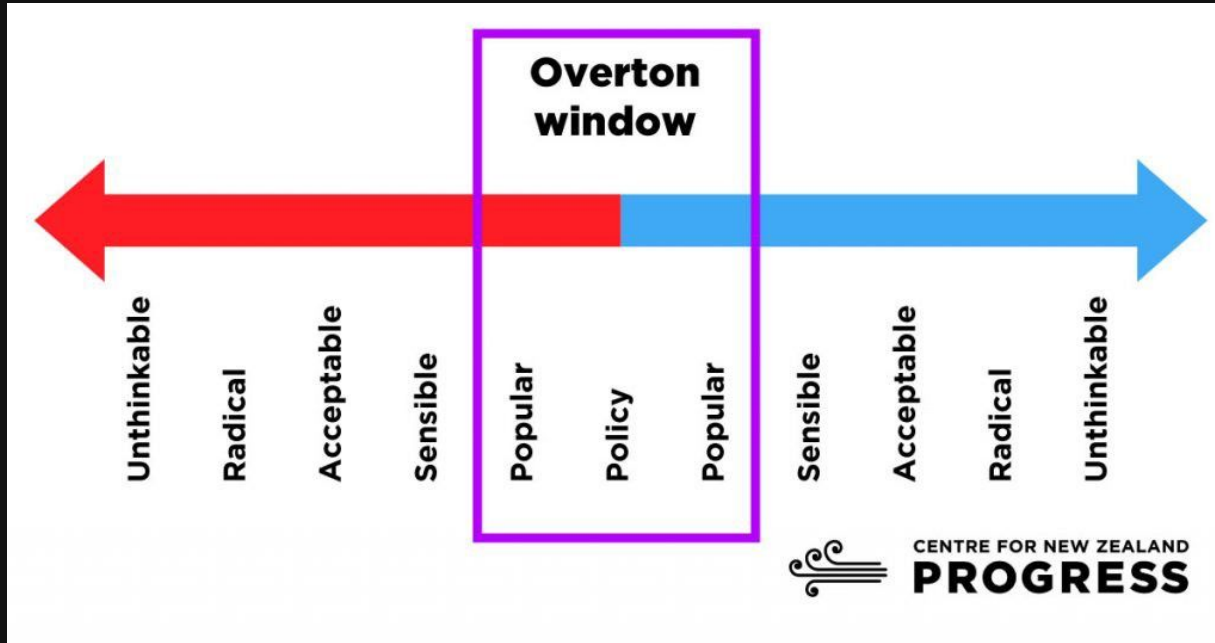
**Decentralized &  
Open Source**



**“Anonymity First”**

1. Culture above Growth
2. Opinionated Proactive Moderation
3. Enable User Mobility

1. Culture above Growth
2. Opinionated Proactive Moderation
3. Enable User Mobility





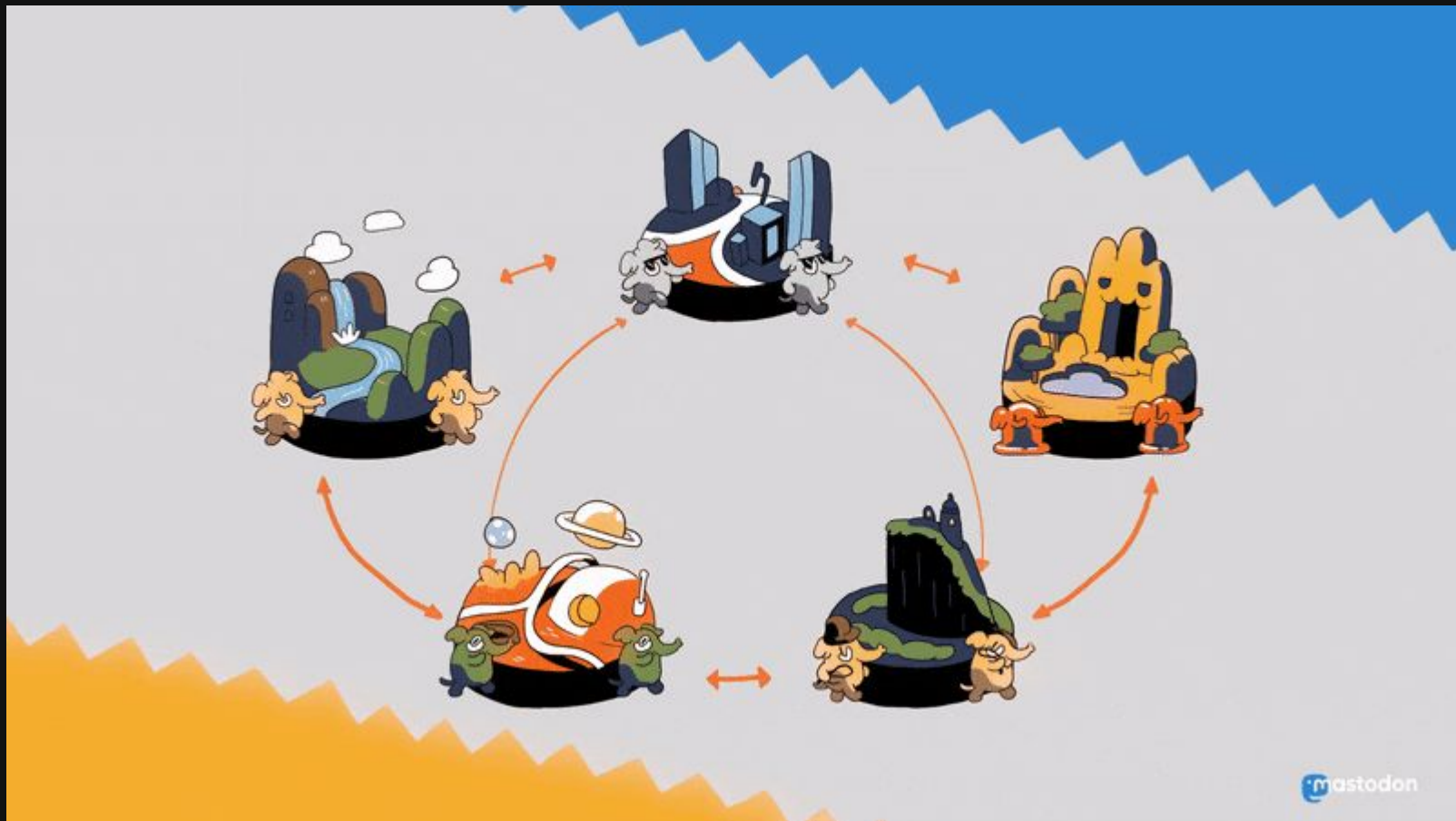
1. Culture above Growth
2. Opinionated Proactive Moderation
3. Enable User Mobility

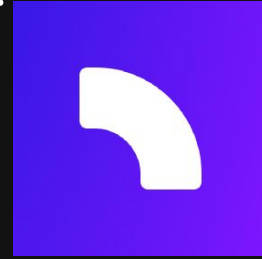
*Unbiased Moderation is a Myth*  
*Unbiased Moderation is a Myth*  
*Unbiased Moderation is a Myth*





1. Culture above Growth
2. Opinionated Proactive Moderation
3. Enable User Mobility





1. Culture above Growth
2. Opinionated Proactive Moderation
3. Enable Users' Mobility



# Thank you!

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