

# Coping With Verbal Abuse

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## *The Chronicle of Higher Education:*

The saying “Academic politics are so vicious precisely because the stakes are so small” has been attributed to many different people, including Henry Kissinger, Wallace Sayre, Jesse Unruh, Samuel Johnson, and Laurence J. Peter, among others. Whoever said it first had a point. When you choose a career in academe, you need to be prepared not only for rough-and-tumble politics, but also for the verbal abuse that goes with it.

That abuse comes in many different forms: book reviews, referee reports on journal submissions, evaluations of grant proposals, questions and comments during presentations, offhand comments by less-than-collegial colleagues, and on and on.

Read the whole story: [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#)