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Respect for Fellow Programmers

9. I will respect my fellow programmers for their ethics, standards, disciplines, and skill. No other attribute or characteristic will be a factor in my regard for my fellow programmers.

We, software professionals, accept the weighty burden of our craft. We brave folks are men and women, straight and gay, black, brown, yellow, and white, republicans, democrats, religious believers, and atheists. We are humans, in all the many forms and varieties that humans come in. We are a community—a brotherhood—of mutual respect.

The only qualifications for entry into our brotherhood, and for receiving the acceptance and the respect of each and every member of that brotherhood, are the skills, disciplines, standards, and ethics of our profession. No other human attribute is worthy of consideration. No discrimination on any other basis can be tolerated.

Within our profession, we are programmers first.