Waiting For Marxocracy: Revised edition

Welcome, and thank you for reading my book! This is a view into the political landscape of FOSS and IT as a whole. In this book, I explore concepts such as democracy, oligarchy and corporate interest with a FOSS spin to it. I also try to design an ultimate governing system for FOSS and IT as a whole. This book also serves as a manifesto of sorts, presenting clear ideas on how to run a project.

DISCLAIMER

This book was revised a few months later to fix... Well, a lot of things... If you want to read the original version, it's gone.

Look at the previous versions of this website and deploy it using ruby if you really want to see it.

TL;DR

The optimal way of running a FOSS project is trough direct democracy, we should own most software collectively and not let ourselves get corrupted by oligarchs and big companies donating €10,000,000 to your cause (totally not because they want to control your project). If you just want to read a short summarization of my ideas, theories and the construction of Marxocracy: An ideal governing system, you are free to read the short manifesto at the end of this book.

How do you read this?

This book is split into different chapters, covering different problems and solutions of the FOSS-community. You are free to read them in non-chronological order, but I strongly recommend to read them in order. This book is also split into 3 different writing types and subjects, they are:

- FOSS
- Politics
- Philosophy

Get started

So, have you decided to read this book? Are you ready to explore different ways of controlling FOSS in the most fair way possible? If so, you can continue reading! It's just a PDF!

License

This book is licensed under the Creative Commons BY-NC 4.0 (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/) license.

FOSS-culture

FOSS culture is largely built on *libertarian* ideas. That is understandable, since FOSS stands for "Free and Open Source Software" and is completely based upon the idea of "Everybody can use, modify and distribute it". Me, personally: I am not the *most* libertarian person out there but... Yeah, I believe software *needs* to be free and open source. The only problem this raises is *libertarian governance*. And by "libertarian governance", I mean *anarchy* and *minarchy*. Basically it means "Do what you want"!"Do almost what you want". While this is very good in the distribution of open-source: This book is about the development of open-source. And in that case, anarchy is... BAD! Shocking, right? But if you don't understand what I mean, I'd like to explain that to you.

Fossarchy and Mossarchy

What I define as "FOSS-Anarchy" (abbreviated as "Fossarchy") is as following:

"Fossarchy" is the fundemental idea that everybody -- without question -- can contribute to a FOSS (Free and Open Source Software) project. Think of it as a governance-type in FOSS. The fundemental problems start to arise when people ruin projects and break them.

"Mossarchy" is the fundamental idea that everybody -- with *minimal* question -- can contribute to a FOSS-project. It is the FOSS definition of "Minarchy": The idea that there should be a very, *very* minimal government. While this *might* work with smaller projects: It does *not* work with larger ones. The reason for this is that sabotage can occur and that... Certain people might not be... Desirable. Regulation -- and much of it -- is often necessary to not see sabotage occur and having "undesirable" people contributing.

FOSS-tribalism

You know the USA? I don't live there, but I certainly know it. There's a certain politician there who has followers so tribal, so forgiving to their holy leader: That they'll forgive him for committing multiple felonies. His name is Donald J. Trump and he is now -- somehow -- the president of the USA. What I'm trying to convey is that the FOSS community is almost as tribal as the USA Republican party (though it be for a more noble cause), and that leads to... Situations. Certainly.

Richard Stallman

Richard M. Stallman is a FOSS-legend, known for his incredible initiative "GNU" (GNU's Not Unix) and the FSF (Free Software Foundation), he's truly a legend in the FOSS community! But he shouldn't be. He shouldn't be the icon for the FOSS community. It's a really strange controversy he found himself in... Yet it happened. To save myself some time, I shall quote the wikipedia article on Richard Stallman (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Stallman):

In September 2019, it was learned that Jeffrey Epstein had made donations to MIT, and in the wake of this, MIT Media Lab director Joi Ito resigned. An internal MIT CSAIL listserv mailing list thread was started to protest the coverup of MIT's connections to Epstein. In the thread, discussion had turned to deceased MIT professor Marvin Minsky, who was named by Virginia Giuffre as one of the people that Epstein had forced her to have sex with. Giuffre, a minor at the time, had

been caught in Epstein's underage sex trafficking ring. In response to a comment saying that Minsky "is accused of assaulting one of Epstein's victims", Stallman objected to the inaccurate wording. Minsky was not accused of "assault", and from the victims' testimonies it was not clear whether Minsky had committed "assault", and Stallman argued that "the most plausible scenario is that she presented herself to him as entirely willing. Assuming she was being coerced by Epstein, he would have had every reason to conceal that from most of his associates". When challenged by other members of the mailing list, he added "It is morally absurd to define 'rape' in a way that depends on minor details such as which country it was in or whether the victim was 18 years old or 17", holding that it was not relevant to the harm that was done to the victim.

Doesn't that seem like... Pedophilia? Or at least pedophilia sympathizing? Whether he's a pedophile or a pedophile sympathizer: (shocker) It's morally wrong to sympathize with Jeffrey Epstein!!!

It's very strange that people seem to forgive Richard M. Stallman: Pedophile sympathizer but not Linus Torvalds: Not pedophile sympathizer for banning Russian contributors of the Linux project. Doesn't that seem morally corrupt?

Linus Torvalds

Linus B. Torvalds is a Finnish programmer and father of the Linux kernel and the Git version control system. He seems like a good person. Well, that's because he is! But... Somewhere in his career something strange happened. A war in Ukraine. He decided (rightfully) that it was morally wrong to support Russia when they were attacking Ukraine. He (somewhat impulsively, I shall admit) excluded Russian maintainers of the Linux Kernel because: "I'm Finnish. Did you think I'd be supporting Russian aggression?". I completely agree with this, though the way he acted was a bit impulsive.

For the last controversy I'll be covering, I'll be covering the *Godot controversy*. This is truly the strangest one and it makes me very mad just thinking about it. This is *also* where FOSS and the USA republican party intersect (yes, it's going to be some conservative bullshit).

Godot Foundation

Godot is a game engine popular among the masses. It's FOSS, which makes it an attractive choice for people like myself. Everything was going well -- EVERYTHING -- but then...

"Apparently game engines are woke now? Well then, we won't complain! Show us your #wokot games below!"

Harmless PR-message from the Godot PR team, right? According to FROSS (*def*: Free, Republican and Open Source Software): It's *not*! But how? Oh, wait! They are conservatives! Oh, I forgot: They don't have a single good opinion on anything. The average debate with a Republican goes like this:

(R = Republican, P = progressive)

R: Trans people shouldn't exist! Capitalism is king!

P: What?

R: I have all the best opinions!P: No? Also, what arguments do you have against trans people?R: I identify as a penguin!

P: Now you're just making fun of people.

R: Waaa! You're invalidating me!

P: What? Also, penguin isn't a gender.

R: There are only two genders, facts don't care about your feelings!

P: Gender is a spectrum.

R: No you *****!!!! YOU FUCKING ********!

In reality, the only people hating Godot after this is homophobic and transphobic media, no one else. A very good example of demented people criticizing Godot is this *schizophrenic* "justice manifesto" (https://waiting-for-blue-robot.gitlab.io/justice manifesto.html) by "XRayez".

Impacts

Tribalism -- whether in politics or in FOSS -- is *bad*. It leads to people making bad decisions because "You got to stick to the tribe". Tribalism often has an "Us Versus Them" mentality which can lead to innocent people getting hurt, and guilty people getting away. Whatever you do, do *not* fall into the tribalism mentality: It can lead to people getting hurt.

Communism

Communism is a word that is very often misused by right-wingers as "no toothbrush" or "the worst", when it is nowhere close to that definition. The official definition of communism is:

A classless, stateless and moneyless society where the workers control the means of production.

There are no "means of production" in FOSS (except for computers and text-editors), so I will be going with another definition for our "FOSS-Communism":

A classless (which in our case means "no one is better than another"), stateless (which in our case means no BDFLs
[Benevolent Dictator For Life(s)] and no core leadership) and moneyless (which relates to the "classless" part, but also
means "no oligarchs" and depending on your decision "no donations") society where the workers (developers) control the
means of production (being pull-requests and code-contributions, which is a core part in FOSS anyways).

Also, to clarify: I am a communist (or a Marxist, to be precise) and I have my biases. Keep that in mind.

Marxocracy

So now, why would FOSS-communism be a better way of running a FOSS-project than Fossarchy or Mossarchy (see FOSS-culture)? Well, let's disect the formal definition (which by "formal" I mean "provided from the top of my head"), part by part:

Core definition

A classless (which in our case means "no one is better than another")

This should clearly be good. If you have any form of empathy: You know this is good. Everybody -- in a formal or informal development environment -- should always be equal.

stateless (which in our case means no BDFLs [Benevolent Dictator For Life(s)] and no core leadership)

BDFLs are a fundamentally totalitarian idea that should never be excercised in any environment. This includes FOSS.

And no core leadership is a good idea since that could easily lead to BDFLs.

moneyless (which relates to the "classless" part, but also means "no oligarchs" and depending on your decision "no donations")

Oligarchies are *very bad*, that's a part of why the US is *very bad*. They lead to corruption yet it's basically a core part of capitalism. "No donations" are a different story since it's basically about your political stance on earning money for FOSS.

the workers (developers) control the means of production (being pull-requests and code-contributions, which is a core part in FOSS anyways).

Yes, this part is a core part of FOSS, and therefore it should not be a shock that I'm including it in this ideal "FOSS ideology". FOSS-communism is a very bad name for an ideology though, and thus I propose "Newage-Marxism" or "Marxocracy". I'll be going with "Marxocracy" (because of it being the governing-system version of marxism) but in reality it doesn't matter.

Direct democracy

Another part of Marxocracy I want to emphasize is *direct democracy*, *all* people wanting to vote for a new feature in your project: Shall. The optimal way to run this is trough ranked-choice voting, where you present the voters with 3+ options to choose from which the voters then rank. Every voter shall give all options a score from 1-x where x is the amount of options, you then award the choices the amount (of votes) that the voter has given it, the choice with the most votes win and shall be added.

Benefits

Marxocracy provides a whole lot of benefits that other governance-ideologies don't provide (such as Oligarchy and Dictatorship). I have provided a list below for all people wanting to see the benefits:

- People are happy Being able to vote for new features in your project will surely make them happy.
- Immune against oligarchs People wanting to puppeteer your project wont be able to if you either set a limit on the amount a single person can donate to you, or ban donations entirely.
- Everyone is equal With no core leadership and no oligarchs everybody will be equal.

These benefits clearly outline some of the great things about Marxocracy.

Democracy

Are most FOSS-projects democracies? Uhh... No? Most FOSS-projects are either dictatorships or following Fossarchy-Mossarchy (the collective ideology of Fossarchy and Mossarchy). More civilized, structured and bigger projects might have another way of doing it but that's in no way guaranteed.

VIM

VIM (Vi IMproved) is a text editor made by (RIP) Bram Moolenaar. VIM is what I'd like to call a charitocracy, which in FOSS terms means the following:

A charitocracy is a FOSS-governance method that can easily be summarized in one sentence: Democracy for the charitable. For example: VIM is charityware and people that donate to the VIM foundation (which in turn donates to a foundation to help starving children in Uganda) are the charitocrats. They can engage in direct democracy (which is also one of the principles of marxocracy).

Though, for the most part: Bram Moolenaar was a BDFL, so before he sadly passed away, it was more like a charito-dictatorship (the collective term for a charitocracy and a dictatorship that coexist). Nowadays: It's basically a charitocracy.

Why VIM?

I bring up VIM in a response to the notion that "democracy is impossible in FOSS", which many people (sadly) seem to be under the impression of. VIM is a very close example of a FOSS-democracy. People of the world, open source is supposed to be democratic!

FOSS-Democracy and Counter-Authoritarianism

FOSS sprung up in response to a increasingly authoritarian market, where monopolies control everything and the small projects of the world slowly wither away, never to be seen again. FOSS was able to counteract this trough helping each other and providing the common man with counter-authoritarian tools as well as counter-authoritarian software. After hearing this, doesn't FOSS-Democracy sound like the next step? We can't both be counter-authoritarian and authoritarian, right? Yet Fossarchy-Mossarchy is way to deregulated for a software development community to ever thrive in. Democracy is the comfortable life we live in, why not bring it to our software, too?

Modern FOSS

In modern FOSS, democracies are very rare, even among bigger projects! Godot, for example: It's by no means a democracy. Democracy is also what I believe to be the first step toward Marxocracy in the modern FOSS-sphere.

Nowadays, worse systems like meritocracy or maybe even oligarchy dominate the FOSS market. It is truly a disgusting sight.

Curbing democracy

Democracy in FOSS -- just like democracy in real life -- is not unbreakable. A good way to illustrate this is to define an inevitable roadmap for any FOSS project. I will call this roadmap "The FOSS-corruption cycle":

- 1. A FOSS project is formed.
- 2. It gets larger.
- 3. It assumes X governance system (X = democracy right now).
- 4. It gets even larger.
- 5. It opens up a donation option.
- 6. Large corporation donates ~€10,000,000.
- 7. Corporation controls everything.
- 8. A possible fork is formed, the fork recurses.

What often happens in FOSS is that bigger companies go and invest in smaller -- yet popular -- projects (for example: Godot is closer to an oligarchy than a democracy). It's a very sad process that ruins FOSS-projects worldwide and impacts all of the developers of the impacted project.

Breaking the cycle

How are we supposed to break the cycle? Break the cycle of corruption in open source so prevalent in the modern day? I'll give you a second to think... 3, 2, 1... Okay, please look at step 5. "It opens up a donation option". What we can do is...

Just not. If we don't accept money from these big corporations, we can't get curbed out of our democracy! Do not fold!

Stay strong and never give up on maintaining both your project, and democracy.

Anti-partisanship

A modern democracy tends to be a *representative democracy*. While this *may* sometimes work in real-life, it never works in FOSS. You see, a party is less an organization than a package of beliefs, which more often than not leads to tribalism (if you want to know why that's a problem, refer to "FOSS-culture"). In Marxocracy and FOSS-democracy in general, it's important to be anti-partisan, meaning not being for any party, and not wanting any parties. There's very much a reason for me citing *direct democracy* as a core part of Marxocracy, and not just *democracy*.

Initiating conversation

If you agree with my ideas and want to spread them: A good way to do so is to propose democracy to an open-source project you contribute frequently to. It may be a big project, it may be a small one. The important thing is to initiate democracy. Every new democratic project is one step towards full Marxocracy. For further reading on FOSS-democracy - which also coincidentally brings up many of the points about anarchy I've covered --, see https://prezi.com/koxlpmckjpv6/foss-as-a-model-for-participative-democracy/), which more or less confirms democracy as the right way of governance for FOSS. Unlike what we'll be covering next:

Meritocracy

"The US is a meritocracy", one of the most blatant lies ever told. There's no benefit to working hard, only the people born into wealth (maybe by your father owning an emerald mine in Africa, but I don't know) say this, either by blissful ignorance or out of pure malice. But one thing often overlooked is if meritocracy is actually a good governing system...

The dangers of meritocracy

Short answer: It's terrible, you can go to the next chapter now.

Long answer: A persons prosperity under a meritocracy is based of two traits: "Hard work" and "Intelligence". I will explain further later, but maybe you can determine if this is a good system or not based of this:

Hard work: Fail
 Intelligence: Fail
 Neither: Fail
 Both: Succeed

Have you thought about your answer? Well, it's... VERY BAD!

In-equal

We need to stop treating people differently based on how much they've contributed to a project (contributions = merit in this case). This is just straight up inequality and discourages newcomers as they're treated much worse than the "devotees" of the pack. It's almost like... A class system! This goes against the principles of Marxocracy, as not everyone is treated equally. FOSS-meritocracy leads to an eerily similar class-system as to our real-world, where the bourgeoise (devotees) are seen as "better" than the proletariat (newcomers).

Undemocratic

Meritocracy is largely undemocratic. What I mean by this is that the newcomers almost have *no* say in anything, while the devotees (or aristocrats in this situation) have *all* the say in the matter, leading to a largely undemocratic system with large "class divide.", which also leads to a hierarchy (and hierarchies are... Bad!?).

Disorganized

It's unclear who makes the rules in a meritocracy. Is it the lead developer, is it the people that have been contributing broken code (yet a lot of it) or is it the people that contribute less, yet better quality code? Even though I wish the 3rd group would be the one that controls the project (even though that is not optimal, as we should all lead the project together), it's not! Yet it's always unclear if the 1st or 2nd person/group controls the project. It's incredible disorganized and I'm honestly shocked that it is such a popular way of governing. Even *Godot* (which we've already defined as an oligarchy, though) claims to be a meritocracy:

"But this is not all, Godot development is a true meritocracy. Code is only merged when deemed worthy by the other developers. Every change is discussed for pros and cons. This process is led by our large user community, who usually sets our priorities via issues (or just random rants on our community sites :P). This same community helps with the testing and works directly with developers implementing each feature to ensure it works as best as possible. Our process is truly community-driven from beginning to end."

How meritocracies are formed

Meritocracies are often formed by well-meaning people that genuinely believe that meritocracy is a good governing system, while it's not. I discourage you to harass anybody who owns or maintains a meritocratic project as they're often well-meaning people who are simply misinformed (or maybe neoliberals but we shouldn't harass them anyway [maybe]).

Republicans and meritocracies

We've already covered how there's already a pretty big part of the FOSS community that are schizophrenic and don't have a single good opinion. These people are called "Republicans" and are truly the worst of the worst of FOSS. Yet, these people -- both in real-life and in FOSS -- Believe that a meritocracy is only correct and is the correct way of running a FOSS-project. These people are very, very wrong and have as small of a brain as the chance of meritocracy succeeding. The people that say "The US is a meritocracy" though, I believe: Are nationalists in disguise so there's no need to consider them.

Ending the meritocracy

"Well then, if meritocracies are so bad, then lets get rid of them!", to that I answer: "Yes". It's a pretty good idea to end a meritocracy... But how? Depends on the group you're trying to convert from meritocracy. Sometimes it's as easy as just telling them "No meritocracy!" but it's often more intricate than that. Don't go as far as to harass people, but opening issues or making public announcements and calls to end the meritocracy often leads to democracy. This tends to be a bit harder than ending a democracy, though. It can still fall victim to the FOSS-corruption cycle with the exception of establishing a democracy, but that just leads to a worse system: Oligarchy. It's next to impossible to recover from oligarchy as any forks or new projects will just go back into the FOSS-corruption cycle again and again and again! But as we discussed, there is a way to escape from the hellhole of the FOSS-corruption cycle, that being: Stop accepting donations! Yet it tends to be a bit harder with these meritocrats. But if you're able to reform the meritocracy turned oligarchy by destroying the oligarchy: Please push for democracy, for gods sake! We can collectively reform if we just accept change instead of staying with the old and usual. The key to change is -- of course -- to accept it.

Oligarchy

Okay... What do I mean with "Oligarchy"? I've been referring to it for chapter upon chapter yet never provided an accurate description for it. What I refer to as oligarchy can often be swapped out for "donogarchy", which I define as:

Donogarchy can be simplified -- just like "Charitocracy" --, into a single sentence: Rule of the donators. People who donate to a designated project rule it. What differentiates this from a charitocracy is that this money doesn't go to a charity, but to either the projects foundation or the owners wallet.

But it is almost the same as oligarchy: *Rule of the rich*, and oligarchy is a more well-known term (since I just defined "donogarchy" here on the spot). It's a stupid governing system whose only fans are schizophrenic weirdos who sit in their room staring at a wall for 23 hours a day, as nobody in their right mind would want rich people -- or donators -- to rule.

There's no freedom here, it's just "Do what I say because I'm paying you"!

The power

Just to give you a sense of what these oligarchs will do if they even get a whiff of you doing something you want. Godot -- an oligarchy -- experienced this under the "Wokot controversy". A bunch of oligarchs got really mad that Godot -- prepare for something shocking -- cares about gay people? MIND BLOWN! So, they left and created an "apolitical" (by which I mean: "conservative nationalist") fork of the Godot engine known as "Redot" (an awful name for an awful engine made by awful people). By the way, Redot is several commits behind Godot, so it's inferior to its "woke" counterpart.

Capitalism versus FOSS

I think it has become increasingly clear that a lot of these oligarchs (who I will be referring to "corporations" [because it is mostly corporations]) are only donating to the FOSS-projects because it wants full control of the project, and to ruin the chances of a FOSS-democracy ever becoming popular, for their own self interests. No, Microsoft. You do *not* care about FOSS, if so: you would have ported MS-Office to Linux. It's crazy how these corporations can basically buy FOSS using bribery -- since it is basically bribery -- to ruin all of the chances of free software. It has *truly* become *Capitalism versus* FOSS.

Corporate interest

This whole oligarchy situation brings me to a more broad subject in FOSS: *Corporate interest*. Big business have slowly been creeping their way into FOSS, for example: Microsoft, who was (and still is, though they wouldn't like to admit it) so against open source, and now:

(M: Microsoft, F: FOSS purist)

 $\it M$: We have decided to enter the open source community!

F: Weren't you against FOSS like... An hour ago?

M: No... That never happened. War is peace.

F: What? This is getting really strange.

M: Open-source is the best! Don't boycott us!

M: But also... We're going to force you to use our Al-spyware!

F: What the ..?

M: WAR IS PEACE. FREEDOM IS SLAVERY, IGNORANCE IS BLISS.

Which is... Really strange, yet is working. I bet less people would be in the MS-sphere if Microsoft didn't have VSCode, for example. Speaking of VSCode, it's just another Microsoft monopoly, hidden under a thin veil of "FOSS" and "Open-source".

VSCode

It is downright insane how popular VSCode is. It's "Just another FOSS project", right? No. Just another monopoly. It's crazy how the public doesn't understand that it's just another stupid Microsoft product. Speaking of "Microsoft product", VSCode is programmed in TypeScript: A Microsoft-made language! Shocking! Microsoft does what it can to push TypeScript to the top of every algorithm (same with VSCode). The downright *insane* thing with VSCode is that they're basically brainwashing the masses to develop *for them*. They say, and I guote:

"[...] we (Microsoft) develop the Visual Studio Code product together with the community. [...]"

What will they do next, compile a 1984 (capitalist editon) style propaganda message, oh I could only imagine! Just imagine:

MICROSOFT IS OPEN SOURCE.

FOSS IS SLAVERY.

MINDLESS CONSUMPTION IS BLISS.

A call to action

In our modern FOSS-sphere, the monopolies of the world are thriving. We willingly welcome them into our counter-authoritarian sphere and let them monopolize it, killing our open-source initiative and turning the FOSS-community into just another monopolized puppet. Counter-authoritarians, we must unite to rid this market-authoritarian threat of the monopolies! We must save FOSS, and thus save the internet in the process! They don't know that we control the internet, we have the fundamentals for it! We have most of the programming languages, and they cannot take that away from us! We have Linux, GNU and so much more! They cannot break us! This is a formal call to action, to all of you counter-authoritarians! We own the software, and no one can steal that from us! Remember who controls the modern world? Us.

the terms of the second of the

Well, that sounded awfully radical. But yes, I'm being completely honest and hope more people take up my call to action to save open source. Thank you.

BDFL

We've come to the worst of the worst of FOSS governance systems: *Dictatorship...* Or maybe even *monarchy*. This is a *very* bad way of organizing a FOSS project and is also *dangerous*. Handing power to a BDFL (Benevolent Dictator For Life) could prove to be a bad idea because -- believe it or not -- one person isn't enough. A single person cannot lead *everything*, and a reasonable person should know that.

Divine right to rule

A person should not have full control of something because of founding it. A regular, reasonable, non-psychopathic person should very much be in agreement of this statement. Therefore, this divine right to rule that a founder of a large project believes they inhibit is downright idiotic! Someone with bad intentions? The BDFL maybe doesn't notice it, bad intentions are realized and the project goes into crisis.

Popularity

The "BDFL" governance system is awfully popular. Just for you to get the picture, here's a list of most known BDFLs of larger FOSS-projects:

The holy list

- · Sylvain Benner
- · Vitalik Buterin
- · Dries Buytaert
- · François Chollet
- Evan Czaplicki
- · Laurent Destailleur
- David Heinemeier Hansson
- · Rich Hickey
- · Adrian Holovaty
- · Jacob Kaplan-Moss
- Andrew Kelley
- Xavier Leroy
- Haoyuan Li
- Miles Lubin
- Yukihiro Matsumoto
- · Wes McKinney
- Gavin Mendel-Gleason
- Bram Moolenaar (RIP)
- Matt Mullenweg
- Martin Odersky
- Taylor Otwell
- Theo de Raadt
- Arnold Robbins
- Eugen Rochko
- Ton Roosendaal
- Sébastien Ros
- Mark Shuttleworth
- Jeremy Soller
- Don Syme

- · Linus Torvalds
- José Valim
- Pauli Virtanen
- · Patrick Volkerding
- Nathan Voxland
- Jimmy Wales
- · Jeremy Walker
- Shaun Walker
- Larry Wall
- Evan You
- · Soumith Chintala
- Martin Traverso
- Dain Sundstrom
- · David Phillips
- · Kohsuke Kawaguchi
- · Gabor de Mooij
- Bram Cohen
- Walter Bright
- · Ritchie Vink
- William Falcon
- Lars Hyam
- Sebastián Ramírez
- Bill Hall
- · Damien Elmes

So yes, this is an AWFULLY POPULAR governance system for FOSS, which is *insane*, since it's (arguably) the worst FOSS governance system *ever*! Dictatorship goes *against* the fundamentals of Marxocracy.

In smaller projects

"You little... I'm the BDFL of my small project with 3 stars on Github and I feel very... Weak and sad" I hear you say. Well, BDFLs are fine in smaller projects! Largely due to -- and I'm saying this in the nicest way possible -- the fact that your project is insignificant. No one depends on your project, but people depend on the bigger ones. In a big project, you need good governance because, well: People depend on your project. People being allowed to express their ideas -- a core principle of Marxocracy -- is not allowed under dictatorships.

The only worse alternative

"What!?", I hear you ask. "Isn't dictatorship the worst of the worst of the worst?"... Yes yet no. There's a worse alternative, but I'm not sure if it qualifies as a FOSS governance system, and if it did: It wouldn't be enough for a whole chapter. And that governance system is... Fake FOSS! Fake FOSS is basically software that pretends to be FOSS, yet is not. For an example of this: Winamp! Winamp went open source a few months ago and it's... Not open source. It should be pretty easy to understand how Winamp isn't FOSS by just... Reading the 6th section of the license.

- No Distribution of Modified Versions: You may not distribute modified versions of the software, whether in source
 or binary form.
- No Forking: You may not create, maintain, or distribute a forked version of the software.
- Official Distribution: Only the maintainers of the official repository are allowed to distribute the software and its
 modifications.

Wait a second... DID THAT FOSS-PROJECT JUST SAY "NO FORKING OR DISTRIBUTION"!? That is *actually* insane! And this... Makes it non open-source. Forking and distributions are not only core principles of Marxocracy, but of FOSS in general! That is... Insane.

Elitism

As you may have figured, many members of FOSS are... Strange in more than one different ways. While this is a chapter about toxic elitism in FOSS, other weird behaviours include:

- Tribalism (see "FOSS-culture")
- Cultism
- Totalitarianism

"I'm the elite! I call the shots around here!", is one of the many phrases uttered out of these dirty elitists' mouths.

Manifestations

Elitism is not a governance system, we ended our chapter bunch on governance when we talked about BDFLs! No, elitism manifests in different governance systems, mostly meritocracy, oligarchy and in a strange way: Dictatorships.

Inequality

The higher classes in these systems (devotees/donogarchs/BDFLs) see themselves as superior or "Knowing best" for the project (or maybe even the community as a whole, though these governance systems don't tend to attract as much "community" as democracies). Which leads to great divide between newcomer/non-donogarch/ordinary and the "elitists", and as such, the non-elitist may feel demotivated and may slow down contributing or maybe even completely stop contributing to the project as they're not awarded what they deserve as the elitists "Know best" and the non-elitist is not regarded -- neither as a human being or a contributor -- in the decision-making process.

Persistence

As we've discussed, the FOSS-corruption cycle is an infinite cycle of bad FOSS-governance with X system being replaced with oligarchy being replaced with Y system with then gets replaced with oligarchy being replaced with Z system, yet elitism remains strong. With the exception of democracy: Elitism persists trough every system, trough cold

tundras and tropical deserts, it *stays*, and it stays for *long*. Since elitism isn't a governance system, it can't abide by the FOSS-corruption cycle.

Change

The elitists know best, and as such: They reject change. They hate change, especially if the ones pushing for it are the non-elitists! Proposal upon proposal goes like such (sadly enough):

(E: Elitist, N: Non-elitist)

N: *Opens pull request adding new features*

E: Rejected!

N: Why?

E: Because I said so, and I know best!

E: This is a meritocracy, and I'm a frequent contributor!

E: And as such, I am superior to you.

N: That sounds like bullshit.

E: Y-you're bullshit!

You know... I'm starting to notice a correlation between FOSS and the USA Republican party... Strangely tribal, strangely elitist and strangely discriminatory! Well, uhh... Let's lighten up the mood with a satirical piece!

The guide to FOSS-corruption

This is a definitive guide on how to make a *terrible* and *corrupt* (which is a *good* thing, war is peace) FOSS-project, and also: *How do you really make a hierarchy (WHICH IS A GOOD THING) in a FOSS-project?* Well, this definitive guide provides all of the necessary information to finally be an elitist -- and feel happy for once.

Making your project

The first thing you need to know is that... Well, you need to have a project. This can be done in many different ways: The Github Way and The Al-Hipster-Hyper-Accelerationalist-Neo-Anarcho-Capitalist-Cultural-Marxist Way, what will you choose? Of course, we only word the second option that way to make it seem "unappealing" and "weird", but the actual definition -- which I normally like to hide to uphold the status quo -- is the following:

Gitlab and Anti-Monopolism

Which sounds way to appealing, and to uphold the status quo: We of course need to sabotage everything that is different in any way, so that we can uphold the Microsoft monopoly on open-source. And as a FOSS-conservative: We're going to choose the status quo: *The Github Way*. But what is the Github way? Well, make a PAID (support Microsoft and also: freedom is slavery) organization for your shitty little idea and hope that it catches on. From now on, there's two ways this could turn out:

1. 99.9999999%: You fail

2. 00.0000001%: You succeed

Initiate elitism

Now, start making comments towards new contributors, like: *I know BEST. I am BETTER*. and start making it so that only seasoned contributors -- no matter the code-quality -- can participate in the community. Also, don't -- UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES -- question the frequent contributors' pull requests but put non-frequent contributors' pull requests under criticism upon criticism (the hope is of course that the person gives up, also: ignorance is bliss), saying "The coding *style* doesn't match up with our coding style, please fix it". Or maybe even making a bot to respond to all pull requests on your Github repo saying: "We actually use a MAILING LIST you FUCKING BUFFOON, go back to STUPID-LAND!", just like Linux:

"Hi @!

Thanks for your contribution to the Linux kernel!

Linux kernel development happens on mailing lists, rather than on GitHub - this GitHub repository is a read-only mirror that isn't used for accepting contributions. So that your change can become part of Linux, please email it to us as a patch.

Sending patches isn't quite as simple as sending a pull request, but fortunately it is a well documented process.

Here's what to do:

- · Format your contribution according to kernel requirements
- · Decide who to send your contribution to
- · Set up your system to send your contribution as an email
- Send your contribution and wait for feedback"

Yeah -- I forgot -- use a mailing list even though Github (yes, even Github) is a superior system. This makes it even more difficult to contribute making sure that only *real* programmers can contribute, not the average web developer -- but the average SUPER GOOD DEVELOPER!!!

Corruption

Now, it's time to hand over your project to a big corporation, like Microsoft -- which shouldn't be hard if your project is large. Simply, set up a donation option and let the money flow in!

Waiting

I'm sure you've heard of *Waiting for Godot*. It's a play by Samuel Beckett, in which two people: Vladimir and Estragon, wait for the titular character of "Godot". These people -- despite, deep in their hearts, knowing that Godot will never arrive -- remain hopeful! But yet (SPOILER ALERT) Godot never arrives. This play -- despite being: Well, a play -- is also symbolic, in a way. It teaches us not to wait for change, but push it.

Who is Godot?

Godot -- in the original play -- is a man that *possibly* exists. The characters don't really know if they've ever met him or if they ever will, yet they're somehow sure he's a real person and not some schizophrenic illusion. It's a very *mysterious* play, since Godot is not elaborated on further than the fact that Vladimir and Estragon are waiting for him.

I believe that Godot is real since -- around the end of the play -- a boy arrives to tell Vladimir (because it is *only* Vladimir, since he's the thinking man) that Godot is not coming. The boy can provide an... Uncertain description of Godot, the most prominent feature of Godot being his white beard which the boy is somewhat sure of Godot inhibiting.

Symbolism

Waiting for Godot tells us that, in my interpretation:

It's not in your best interests for you to wait, yet not act. Vladimir -- the thinking man -- thinks, yet doesn't do. A do-er will always be more successful than a thinker, whether you like the do-er or not.

To think

This book's title draws comparisons to *Waiting for Godot*, and for a good reason. What I want to tell you is to act, not think. This is where I want to define two new terms, *thinkocracy* and -- a bit later -- actocracy and sentiocracy.

Thinkocracy is largely: To think. It's a governmental system where much thought is put into governance, yet not much is enacted. A thinkocracy is controlled by thinkocrats (the professional term for "thinker").

Many people fall into this trap of *thinking* yet not *acting* in a governmental situation. Vladimir from the play is largely a thinkocrat, which is also a good thing! Don't get me wrong!

To act

Actocracy is: To do, or: To act without thought. Though more successful than thinkocracy it's arguably worse since thought is key to most policies. The professional term for do-er (and for a follower of this governmental system) is actocrat.

This is -- as mentioned in the definition: Worse than thinkocracy. In a thinkocracy, the leaders at least give *thought* into their policies. Impulsive people tend to fall victim to this terrible system. Many countries in the world -- and some FOSS-projects -- fall victim to a version of this called:

Actocracy-Democracy is a democracy in which people don't tend to give much thought into anything, yet they still participate.

To balance

Sentiocracy is: to act and think, and is -- as such -- the most successful and -- sadly -- utopian governance system of the three "Waiters' ideologies" (thinkocracy, actocracy and sentiocracy). It takes aspects from both thinkocracy and actocracy which inevitably leads to a better world. Not to be confused with sentiocracy-democracy: A democratic implementation of the core principles to sentiocracy.

The above is my formal proposal to mediate between the two sides of thinkocrat and actocrat, with the preferred version of sentiocracy being -- of course -- sentiocracy-democracy. *Direct sentiocracy-democracy* is -- from here on out --one of the core principles of marxocracy. Well, after a deep philosophical conversation about the value of waiting, it's time for a bunch of more shit about waiting!

FOSS-users and waiting

Many FOSS-users love waiting. Or, I don't know if they exactly *love* waiting, but they can tolerate it. "This new feature that was revealed 5 years ago will SURELY be implemented now... No? I guess I'll just wait!" is a toxic relationship with reality that must be abolished. If you want a feature: Push for it! Saying "I want X feature!" is a much more healthy relationship with reality than "Surely someone will suggest X feature... Some day...". And in the end, if more people just adopt this toxic mindset -- which I hereby define as Godotism -- we'll have no more people to suggest features!

The Godotist satire

Once upon a time, there was a man in the US named *Peter Peters*: A very insignificant and quite frankly *generic* man with no personality. He had a wife and 2.5 kids (one of them was cut in half by a chainsaw falling onto their legs) and was quite happy. But one day: *Disaster struck*. The US army was going to drop a bomb on innocent arabs, but they accidentally dropped it on Peter Peters' house, killing his whole family except for the 0.5 of a kid who was only cut in half by some sharper rubble and was thus 0.25 of a kid. The child was named *Bert McBert* and he was devastated.

McBert: Father! We need to rebuild the house!

Peters: No.

McBert: But we need a place to live!

Peters: Yes, my son. But we must stay strong. If we just wait here: Eventually, some virtuous people will show up and rebuild the house *for* us!

McBert: No? The chances of that happening is less than the percentage of person I am, that being 25%.

Peters: No need to worry. We don't even need to ask for help, the neighbours will ask for help for us! Look at them, across the street! They're virtuous, right?

Across the street, a man named *Robert Roberts* and his son: *Oliver McOliver* were talking. They seemed to be in the same predicament, even McOliver was the same percentage of person McBert was!

McOliver: Father! We need to rebuild the house!

Roberts: No.

McOliver: But we need a place to live!

Roberts: Yes, my son. But we must stay strong. If we just wait here: Eventually, some virtuous people will show up and rebuild the house *for* us!

McOliver: No? The chances of that happening is less than the percentage of person I am, that being 25%.

Roberts: No need to worry. We don't even need to ask for help, the neighbours will ask for help for us! Look at them, across the street! They're virtuous, right?

Days pass, and no one is yet to arrive. While McBert is now starting to realize what is happening, Peters stays ignorant.

Peters: How come no one has arrived!?

McBert: No one is going to arrive. Ask for help.

Peters: No! Somebody is going to ask people for us.

A person suddenly appears.

???: Hello! How's it going for you two! My name is *Carla Carlsen*, and I'm just strolling by!

McBert (to Peters): Come on, ask her for help!

Peters (to McBert): No, somebody else will!

Carlsen: Answer me!

No answer arrives.

Carlsen: Well then, I guess I'll be going now!

Carlsen disappears.

Weeks pass by, and our heroes are starving. Yet they (or McBert, at least) know that they'll die now. McBert is first to go, leaving Peters with 0.0 children and an acute case of starvation, yet living in bliss due to ignorance...

Cultism

Republicans and FOSS-users have yet another thing in common: Cultism. USA's president Donald J. Trump, -- the racist businessman -- has built a kind of "cult of personality" around himself. And then we have pedophile-sympathizer Richard Stallman, who has done the same thing.

PRAISE STALLMAN ENDORSE STALLMAN FORGIVE STALLMAN

And Stallman returns

Stallman? Why would we mention Stallman again? Well... The thing I mentioned in "Tribalism" was... Only *one* of the controversies. "Gasp!", I hear you say! But fret not, there's this very good paper on all of his controversial activity which I've taken a lot of this info from! So... If you want to read more on the topic, read it here (https://https://stallman-report.org/). But basically, this is all of the problematic behaviour that is documented in the informal paper:

- · Distinction between "children" and other minors
- · Support of child sexual abuse material

- · Defense of sexual misconduct
- · Support of sex between adults and minors
- · Misrepresentation of sexual assault
- · Misrepresentation of sexual harassment
- · Support of bestiality
- · Support of necrophilia

And we have only mentioned one of them. "But no! He didn't mean it! He's a different person now!", no. It's more like "Instead of being a pedophile-sympathizer, he's a pedophilia, sexual-assault, bestiality, necrophilia, sexual-misconduct and child sexual abuse material sympathizer!"... So yeah, Stallman is mentally ill, and he should probably get some therapy. But in this context, I don't care about what he did, I only -- as a FOSS-cultism investigator -- care about what the response from the community was. NOTHING, NOTHING, NOTHING!



It's INSANE! It's almost... Cult-like. Is it cult-like? Is there an actual cult of Richard Stallman that will defend him without question? Is there a... FOSS-cult???

The FOSS-cults

There are cults upon cults upon cults in the FOSS-community, and it's quite frankly crazy. One of them *is* "The cult of Richard Stallman", but there are other... FOSS-cults. Here are just a few of them:

- The Richard Stallman cult
- · The Godot cult
- The Arch cult
- The broader Linux cult
- · The BSD cult

They *do* exist, and it's quite honestly insane that they do. These cults use techniques like "negging" and "love-bombing" to recruit people. But unlike hate-groups: These cults are *mostly* harmless.

Negging and love-bombing

I'd like to present you with a situation. Imagine, -- just for a second -- that you're a leftist and you have this friend, he's called... Kevin? Over the years, you've gone sharply left while Kevin has gone downright fascist. For the last few weeks, Kevin has been disagreeing with you about *welfare*. You, the leftist: Believe that welfare is an inherently good idea while he, the fascist: Believes that welfare is for "welfare queens" and "the lazy". But now, all of a sudden, he's been *respecting you*. He now targets a "them" in the welfare question with "them" meaning any kind of leftist, and acting like you are somehow *better* than "them". And even though you don't *agree* with him, it's kind of cool to have his respect.

This is a recruiting technique, do *not* fall for it. This fascist is trying to convert you by using a technique called "negging and love-bombing", involving firstly being mean to you, then being "nice" to you. This is used in *actual* FOSS-cults as well.

The clear intersection

In this book so far, you might have noticed an... Intersection between the alt-right (Republicans) and the FOSS-community. They act the same! THE SAME! Haven't you noticed yet? There's a lot of similarities between our pal DJ. T and Richard Stallman. For example, the

- · tribalism,
- · negligence,
- · conservatism,
- · cultism and sometimes
- · downright fascism!

This chapter on "cultism" was *actually* the chapter on the correlation between fascists and the FOSS-community! It's quite frankly *insane* that people forgive Stallman because he "is an icon"... Just like our pal DJ. T! Just *look* at this blog post by Stallman himself:

05 June 2006 (Dutch pedophiles form political party)

Dutch pedophiles have <u>formed a political party</u> (<u>https://web.archive.org/web/20070320070854/http://www.iol.co.za:80/index.php?</u>

<u>click_id=3&art_id=qw1148983921965B233)</u> to campaign for legalization. [Reference updated on 2018-04-25 because the <u>old link (https://www.iol.co.za/index.php?click_id=3&art_id=qw1148983921965B233)</u> was broken.]

"I am skeptical of the claim that voluntarily pedophilia harms children. The arguments that it causes harm seem to be based on cases which aren't voluntary, which are then stretched by parents who are horrified by the idea that their little baby is maturing."

- Richard Stallman

Granted, he did denounce this later (https://www.stallman.org/archives/2019-sep-

<u>dec.html#14 September 2019 (Sex between an adult and a child is wrong))</u>, but the purpose of me bringing this up is that... THE FOSS-CULTISTS DEFENDED HIM! That's batshit insane. You cannot defend people with this kind of problematic behaviour, neither Trump nor Stallman! Dear programmers, don't defend pedophile-sympathizers.

Liberty

Liberty. Y'know, the thing. The thing that, like, hasn't helped anyone (in FOSS). FOSS-liberty can be summed up with the following satirical piece:



(By the way: The usage of *comic sans* is purely a part of the satire. I condemn the hate crime of using comic sans and I will not stand for these *radical* comic sans users, destroying our country!)

Honestly, libertarian FOSS-projects *tend* to be worse... But hey! They're extensible, am I right? Free and extensible is the only *good* qualities about FOSS-libertarianism. Speaking of FOSS-libertarianism, it's been 11 chapters, shouldn't I provide a definition at some point? And should "at some point" be now? Yeah, let's go with that.

Conlibertism

FOSS-libertarianism is the "FOSS" (Free and Open Source Software) variant of libertarianism, meaning "freedom in software", this correlates with Fossarchy-Mossarchy, but is more on the "consuming" side of the FOSS process. But when we speak of FOSS-libertarianism, we might mean "Pure-FOSS-libertarianism", which is when you can do anything with the consumption of a FOSS-project.

But FOSS-libertarianism and Pure-FOSS-libertarianism are very long terms, so we'll call them "Conlibertism" (Consumption libertarianism) and "Pureconlibertism" (Pure consumption libertarianism).

Extensibility

Haha, how I *love* extensibility in FOSS, that's one of the best things about Conlibertism! Okay, I *do not* love extensibility in FOSS... Or, it's complicated! Here's Marxocracy's philosophy on extensibility:

Any unnecessary customization is bad customization.

Which I know the Conlibertists do not agree with me on. Their philosophy would be something more like

Any customization is good customization.

Which is idiotic. You can customize but if it's not necessary, why do it? Overextensibility is the death of everything Marxocracy stands for, and thus, I shall not stand for it. The reason "Overextensibility is the death of everything" is as such:

Lightweightedness in a FOSS-project is -- of course -- one of the most fundamental parts of a good such.

Overextensibility often leads to less lightweightedness, and as such: Leads to less quality.

And as such, we can come to the conclusion that any unnecessary customization is bad customization.

Conrestrictionism

Conrestrictionism is the idea that -- fundamentally -- software cannot fully thrive with unlimited consumption. Unlike Conauthoritarianism: A lot of restrictions on consumption, Conrestrictionists only want some restriction allowing for a project to thrive.

This is another fundamental principle of Marxocracy: The belief that there shouldn't be *many* restrictions on software, but that you can sacrifice total liberty for a higher quality product and to assure for the thriving of the FOSS-project. I've said it before and I'll say it again,

QUALITY OVER EXTENSIBILITY, FOR THE LOVE OF GOD!!!

Which I personally believe is a really good core principle to hold.

Consumption principles of Marxocracy

I'd like to present 5 core principles in Marxocracy for consumption, these should be followed closely. They are

- 1. Any unnecessary customization is bad customization.
- 2. Lightweightedness in a FOSS-project is -- of course -- one of the most fundamental parts of a good such.

 Overextensibility often leads to less lightweightedness, and as such: Leads to less quality.
- 3. Conrestrictionism is a fundamentally good principle and should be the core of Consumption-Marxocracy.
- 4. QUALITY OVER EXTENSIBILITY, FOR THE LOVE OF GOD!!!
- 5. The most important fundamental of Conrestrictionism is that some liberties must be sacrificed for the good of the project as a whole.

A satirical piece

... You know, I was planning to put a satirical piece right here, but the problem with libertarianism -- unlike Godotism -- is that it's not very funny, it's just plain *bad*. I guess I'll use this section to highlight the core problems with Conlibertism, I guess. These are:

- 1. In their eyes, "Any customization is good customization."
- 2. It leads to a worse project overall.
- 3. They prefer extensibility over quality.

It's quite honestly a sad reflection upon our society that these kinds of philosophies have thrived, since they're largely reactionary. They poke up in response to authoritarianism in FOSS, and I honestly can't blame them. What Marxocracy tries to achieve is a balance between these two -- now debunked -- ideas.

The emperor

We've reached it. The culmination of Richard Stallman's might. An entire chapter on Richard Stallman. Think of it as tying up the loose ends of "Tribalism" and "Cultism".

Stallman the puppeteer

Stallman is a *terrible* person, but before we talk about that, let's talk about his iron grip on the GNU project. He's built up a kind of "cult of personality" about himself, with the "cultists" praising him and forgiving him for everything. He's not an outward BDFL, but he's a machiavellian, controlling everything from the shadows, like a secret-BDFL! Both the FSF *and* the GNU project are wrapped around his old-ass fingers. Pedophile-sympathizing is *nothing* for these cultists. Speaking of cultists, who are they? Almost the entire GNU project and the FSF.

Stallman the villain

We will be going trough the following controversies in the specified order, and there are a *lot* of them, I promise.

- 1. Pedophile-sympathizing
- 2. Beastiality-sympathizing
- 3. Necrophilia-sympathizing

Stallman the pedophile-sympathizer

Oh, well! It's time for the pedophile-sympathizing! This is a controversy that I've already covered, so I'll just quote the wikipedia page again.

In September 2019, it was learned that Jeffrey Epstein had made donations to MIT, and in the wake of this, MIT Media Lab director Joi Ito resigned. An internal MIT CSAIL listserv mailing list thread was started to protest the coverup of MIT's connections to Epstein. In the thread, discussion had turned to deceased MIT professor Marvin Minsky, who was named by Virginia Giuffre as one of the people that Epstein had forced her to have sex with. Giuffre, a minor at the time, had been caught in Epstein's underage sex trafficking ring. In response to a comment saying that Minsky "is accused of assaulting one of Epstein's victims", Stallman objected to the inaccurate wording. Minsky was not accused of "assault", and from the victims' testimonies it was not clear whether Minsky had committed "assault", and Stallman argued that "the most plausible scenario is that she presented herself to him as entirely willing. Assuming she was being coerced by Epstein, he would have had every reason to conceal that from most of his associates". When challenged by other members of the mailing list, he added "It is morally absurd to define 'rape' in a way that depends on minor details such as which country it was in or whether the victim was 18 years old or 17", holding that it was not relevant to the harm that was done to the victim.

Doesn't that seem like... Pedophilia? Or at least pedophilia sympathizing? Whether he's pedophile or a pedophile sympathizer: (shocker) It's morally wrong to sympathize with Jeffrey Epstein!!!

Stallman the beastiality-sympathizer

Supreme leader Stallman has also expressed support of beastiality, which disgusts me. I shall quote supreme leader Stallman himself on this:

Prudish censorship attacks again in the UK, convicting someone for possessing "extreme pornography", including images of sex with animals. I can't imagine a possible reason to punish people for this. The article does not report that the animals were harmed, or that they objected to the experience, or that they thought of it as sexual. The law does not consider these questions pertinent. What is, however, clear is that prohibiting the possession of copies of some image or text — no matter what that image or text may be — threatens human rights. It creates excuses to search through people's possessions and files. It creates ways to make people vulnerable to criminal charges without their cooperation or even their knowledge. All such laws must be repealed.

Yeah, supreme leader... Doesn't seem like a good look to me. There's a lot more *bad stuff* about Stallman and... Beastiality. Check out <u>The Stallman report (https://https://stallman-report.org/on-bestiality/)</u> for that.

Stallman the necrophilia-sympathizer

In addition to all other... Stuff, emperor Stallman is also in support of necrophilia, which... I'll just quote the man:

After reading about that case, I was curious about which kinds of pornography the state is prepared to imprison people for. Here's what the statue says to define "extreme pornography": /.../ An act involving sexual interference with a human corpse, /.../ The concept of "sexual interference with a human corpse" is curious. All a corpse can do on its own is decay, so the only possible "interference" is to prevent its decay. Thus, "sexual interference" rationally would mean some sexual activity while injecting embalming fluid, or while putting the corpse into a refrigerator. However, I doubt that the censors interpret this term rationally. They will have cooked up an excuse for some twisted interpretation that enables them to punish more people. This censorship cannot be justified by protecting corpses from suffering. Whatever you do to a corpse, it can't suffer, not even emotionally. /.../ Since the law doesn't care whether a real human was really threatened with harm, it is not really concerned about our safety from violence, any more than it is concerned with avoiding suffering for corpses or animals. It is only prejudice, taking a form that can ruin people's lives.

... Haha, funny joke, Stallman. Stallman? Oh, it... It wasn't. God, I hate writing this book. Yeah, I'm going to the bathroom to puke...

Reflection

This chapter was -- of course -- *incredibly* disgusting for me to write. It almost makes me want to puke, thinking of this.

But it's also a great injustice that people don't care, they still respect Stallman... Y'know, isn't it like "Human decency 101" that you shouldn't be in support of *any* of these things. It's insane that people continue to be in support of Stallman... This is my personal philosophy on Stallman:

Separate the art from the artist, but also recognize the wrongs of the artist and the fundamental reason the art has been separated. Because, to truly separate him from his art, we need to recognize his wrongs, and right them by not supporting him anymore.

Venture capitalism



I'm a Marxist, I've said that before. Who could've guessed that I'd include a whole chapter in my manifesto about the evils of capitalism and how it's slowly ruining FOSS. Think of this as a broader sequel to "Oligarchy" and "Corporate interest".

Why?

Why do capitalists invest in FOSS? Well, to seem cool (and also to destroy any chance of a good FOSS-project of being big before being fully loaded with cash from Microsoft and Google so that they're the puppeteers), of course! Capitalists (capitalists, plutocratists, and oligarchs are used interchangebly) just see FOSS as another venture (hence, venture capitalism) for them to invest in. They see FOSS as ANOTHER FUCKING COMPANY TO LOAD FULL OF CASH AND REAPING THE FUCKING BENEFITS.

How?

You should be able to solve this yourself. I'll give you three seconds. 3, 2, 1... Donations. I said it before and I'll say it again: Once the plutocratists have filled your pockets with cash, how are you supposed to say no! You want more of that cash, don't you? It's a sad reflection on our reality that plutocratists can bribe their way into FOSS-projects.

The self made billionaire

is a hoax that has brainwashed a majority of capitalist nations' people. Take our good pal, machiavellian-president Elon Musk! His father owned an *emerald mine* in APARTHEID! In reality, the rich people of the world are made by:

- 98% merciless exploitation of the working class.
- 1.9999...% Lottery winners.

A lot of these people are "tech broligarchs", e.g:

(Tech broligarch) A person (often a white cishet man, since yes, that's inequality for ya) who has made all of their money from tech.

These tech broligarchs see *money* in open-source, and thus invests in FOSS-projects. DO NOT LET THEM, PLEASE DO NOT LET THEM.

How do you solve this?

Well, it can be summed up with:

Two-hundred-and-forty years of capitalism have brought us to "neo-feudalism". Perhaps it's time to give communism a try?

What I mean here is that when (and it's *when*, not *if*) capitalism collapses, FOSS will immediately stop being corporate and truly become *Free* and Open Source Software. So, organize, if you want.

Okay, let's brighten up the mood with a satire piece!!!

Mein Unternehmen

My name is Beffrey Jezos and I'm a white heterosexual cis male, the most *oppressed group* of people. I was born to rich upper-class parents who had \$1B, how little! When I was 20 I started my own business! It's easy, poor people! You just need hard work, ambition and a small loan of ~\$50M! The business was basically "Online delivery service (which I call 'zonama')", a real good business! I hired some poor people (eww) who I exploit daily and pay them less than they're worth. I don't let them go to the bathroom daily, and as such they have to pee in bottles. I'm also anti-union. Why? Because I like money, not egalitarianism! Th-that's cultural Marxism... Egalitarianism? More like egali-bad-anism! HAHA! But this is a manifesto after all, so it's time to hear my unfiltered political opinions who might be a bit antisemitic and also

I don't believe in equal rights. Neither social or economic. I don't believe that the following are deserving of equal rights:

- Jews
- Muslims
- Blacks
- Asians
- Slavs
- · Every other bad race
- · Poor people
- · Working class people
- · Middle class people

- Karl Marx
- · Friedrich Engels
- Vladimir Lenin
- Socialists
- Communists
- Socialdemocrats
- Centers
- Marxists
- Maoists
- Stalinists
- Leninists
- Liberals
- · Everyone who isn't an anarcho-capitalist
- · Everyone who doesn't agree with me

I also believe that there should be no state except for a state that gives me money in form of corporate welfare, which is a good thing! I should be able to build up my own gestapo to kill minorities without state intervention! I'm a nazi-anarcho-capitalist-fordist, and I'm proud of that! I'm proud of exploiting people! I'M SO PROUD! MURRICA

Groupthink

For those of you that don't know what *groupthink* is, let's just define it for a second:

Groupthink is a psychological phenomenon that occurs within a group of people in which the desire for harmony or conformity in the group results in an irrational or dysfunctional decision-making outcome. Cohesiveness, or the desire for cohesiveness, in a group may produce a tendency among its members to agree at all costs. This causes the group to minimize conflict and reach a consensus decision without critical evaluation. Groupthink is a construct of social psychology but has an extensive reach and influences literature in the fields of communication studies, political science, management, and organizational theory, as well as important aspects of deviant religious cult behaviour.

FOSS-groupthink

In cults (including FOSS-cults, this phenomenon is *scarily* prominent. I can honestly guarantee that if this manifesto gains traction, I'll get *at least* 3 death threats (I'm not that prominent on the internet tough, so I doubt they'll be able to follow through with it). Leaders of these cults (like Richard Stallman) are often able to manipulate the masses into thinking like them. The mentality of GNU and FOSS as a whole boils down to:

YOU SHOULDN'T CRITICIZE FOSS.

But... You should. It's important to be critical of everything (including the "rebellion"). Take -- for example -- the GNU-cult (not GNU, but the cult aspect of it): I'm almost 100% sure that if the GNU-cultists weren't GNU-cultists, they would criticize Stallman. Any decent human being should criticize Stallman (refer to "The emperor" for why).

The importance of criticism

I know I've spent this whole cult section of the book stressing the importance of *not* being a cultist, but I haven't (shockingly enough) stressed the importance of being critical of cults. Criticism is -- for example -- what helps a lot of people to get out of these toxic cults. Criticism is *also* important, because it helps to crumble the cult leaders facade of greatness and rightfulness.



Pictured: Richard Stallman, insane cult-leader psychopath

Apologetics

Apologetics is the study and practice of the intellectual defense of a belief system. An apologist is someone "who speaks or writes in defense of a faith, a cause, or an institution."

A cult apologist is someone who consistently or primarily defends the teachings and/or actions of one or more movements considered to be cults - as defined sociologically and/or theologically.

- apologeticsindex.org (https://web.archive.org/web/20040603040900/http://www.apologeticsindex.org/cultapologists/)

... Are you one? Think about this for just a second. Are you a cult apologist? Because GNU has many. "Stallman knows best" this, "I'm going to kill you in your sleep for criticizing our holy leader: Stallman" that. It's always "Stallman did nothing wrong", which is almost like praising Hitler because he's... A staple of the art community! He still killed those 6M jews, you know.

Cult apologists generally defend their views by claiming to champion religious freedom and religious tolerance. However, they tend to be particularly intolerant toward those who question and critique the movements they defend.

- apologeticsindex.org (https://web.archive.org/web/20040603040900/http://www.apologeticsindex.org/cultapologists/)

This is the quote that made me able to predict that "if this manifesto gains traction, I'll get at least 3 death threats", and it's honestly a sad reflection upon reality that my prediction is probably true. The thing with cult apologists is that they -- either intentionally or unintentionally -- participate in the same doctrine and groupthink as the actual cultists.

Some cult apologists and their supporters (including, sadly, a handful of Christians), spend much time and energy attacking the very term "cult apologist." It is telling that, for the most part, they refuse to deal with the very serious issues surrounding cult apologists. These issues include (but are not limited to):

active promotion (intended or unintended) of cults (e.g. Gordon Melton's booklet on Scientology reads like part of that organization's press kit),

actual collaboration with cults financial entanglements a destructive agenda support and promotion of heresy

faulty research, unsupported conclusions and/or outright misrepresentation

- apologeticsindex.org (https://web.archive.org/web/20040603040900/http://www.apologeticsindex.org/cultapologists/)

Being a cult apologist is -- in a way -- just being a cultist. Even though you might unintentionally be an apologist you -- as
I've said before -- still participate in the doctrine and groupthink of that cult. Saying "I don't see anything wrong with

Scientology" is almost like being a part of that cult since, well, you praise it! If you know that something is a cult or a sect,

DO NOT PRAISE IT, FOR THE LOVE OF THE LORD!!!

Anticultcult

An anticultcult (origin: Anti-cult cult) is a cult that originates from opposition of another cult (or organization perceived as one), it's an idiotic principle that always leads to negative effects. Other names include combatcult, rebelcult, resistocult, pugnacult and proeliumcult

It's cracy how many anticultcults unironically exist. Take -- for example -- the anti-godot movement. It's basically a cult which originates from people perceiving Godot as a cult (spoiler: It's not) and thus creating another cult in the process.

And don't worry, cultists! Groupthink is prominent in these cults too!

Code of conduct

"If you need a paper to tell you what you can and can't do, you were never welcome in the first place."

- Me, right now.

A code of conduct is... Well, a code of conduct. It tells FOSS contributors what they can and can't do, the typical code of conduct goes like this:

General COC

"Don't discriminate against people.", or if you're lame: "We are committed to providing a friendly and safe environment for everyone, regardless of level of experience, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, ethnicity, language proficiency, age, political orientation, nationality, religion, or other similar characteristics. We do not tolerate harassment or discrimination of participants in any form. In particular, we strive to be welcoming to all industry minorities and to ensure that they can take a more active role in the community and the project.

Targeted harassment of minorities is unacceptable."

The marxocratic stance

The marxocratic stance on this subject is

"If you need a paper to tell you what you can and can't do, you were never welcome in the first place."

Like the first quote of this chapter! Act like a good person, isn't that expected of you!? I think I, in a commit/b134e6be05f8bd3248853e9cd49c60661b8e2b20) to my OS: PearlOS, explained it best:

A few weeks ago I saw some community standards on how to make a [Github] repo. I, eagerly waiting for something to do, added these in with delight. Now, looking back, I realize that the community standards were utter and complete bullshit and that you should never follow them. I think it also gave of a corporatized "squeaky clean" look. For example with the "CODE OF CONDUCT". Like, what the fuck? I am a firm believer that software should not be corporatized, and this just felt wrong. Also, if you need a document to tell you what you can and can't do; I don't want your [contribution]. Isn't it like implied that you shouldn't be racist, sexist and homophobic? Who thinks "Hmm... I wonder if I can say something bad about gay people here. Let's check the code of conduct! Then I'll know if I can be an anti-gay womanizer [nazi]!"!? If anyone reading this needs an arbitrary paper to tell you what to do; get out.

It's strange how... "Corporate" FOSS has become these days. Once upon a time... It wasn't, but now everything is corporate. IT'S IMPLIED THAT YOU SHOULDN'T BE RACIST, SEXIST AND HOMOPHOBIC, JUST LIKE IT IS IN REAL LIFE! Only conservatives and fascists believe that it's acceptable to be any of these things, and I don't want conservatives and fascists contributing to my project. The only acceptable type of discrimination is political discrimination in the pursuit of egalitarianism. Fascists are *not* welcome in my project!

Egalitarianism

is expected. It's not difficult to assume that everyone is equal. In a sense, there *is* a marxocratic code of conduct, it's just implied. One could say that this is the *actual* marxocratic code of conduct:

We, the developers of the FOSS-project, pledge to follow this code of conduct to any cost. There are 3 core rules to this code of conduct, they are

- 1. Egalitarianism. Everyone is equal, regardless of gender, age, experience, race, ethnicity, nationality religion and other similar traits.
- 2. Collectivism. The source code of this software is owned collectively by every contributor, and as such: No one can govern it themselves.
- 3. Marxocracy. Follow the marxocratic principles at all costs.

A *lot* of other rules are implied, and you -- a hopefully decent person -- can probably understand, imply and apply them vourself.

Satirical COC

The *other* terrible thing about COCs is that no one ever follows them. A COC to incorporate all of the rule-breaking would be something like

We are committed to providing an unfriendly and unsafe environment for everyone. We should discriminate against people regardless of level of experience, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, ethnicity, language proficiency, age, political orientation, nationality, religion, or other similar characteristics. We tolerate harassment and discrimination of participants in all forms. In particular, we strive to discriminate against all industry minorities and to ensure that they can stop playing an active role in the community and the project. Targeted harassment of minorities is acceptable.

fix: Remove CODE_OF_CONDUCT.md

You should always push for the abolition of the code of conduct. Please, if you are a frequent contributor of *any* project with a code of conduct, push for the abolition of it or at least introduce the Marxocratic COC, I beg you. It's expected of you to be a good person, and to do that, you don't need a paper to tell you what to do. Be egalitarian and you will not be persecuted, it's not that difficult. Try to open an issue or make contact with the maintainer of the FOSS-project and push for the abolition of the COC. If you *are* the maintainer, abolish it yourself. Be moral, I beg of you.

Collectivism

The collective is more important than the individual. In FOSS, this basically means that the individual doesn't own any code, but the collective (e.g community) owns it.

Uniocracy

Uniocracy (Origin: Latin: Union) is a code governing system in which the collective (or unio, as it is referred to) owns all of the code together and in which no individual can dictate the direction of the code. Any important legal decision -- such as selling the code to a 3rd party -- needs to be voted on.

This is another one of the principles of Marxocracy. Everyone owns the code together. If this principle is followed, the unio will be equal as everyone owns it together, and no one can pawn it off to a big corporation. While this might be a bit slow, it's necessary for an equal society where a FOSS-project can thrive.

Antiuniocracy

Antiuniocracy is basically just the anti to uniocracy, it believes that one or a few people should own the code and not everyone.

Examples of antiuniocratic governing systems include:

- Dictatorship
- Meritocracy

- Oligarchy
- Plutocracy
- Mossarchy
- Fossarchy

It's honestly insane how antiuniocratic our modern FOSS-sphere has become. I mean, who doesn't want collective ownership? Hmm... I guess the

- · Dictators.
- · Meritocrats,
- · Oligarchs,
- · Plutocrats,
- · Mossarchs and
- Fossarchs

but why? Isn't it just good? Well, these people believe that collective ownership is bad, but for different reasons. But the core reason is basically "I'm better than the normal contributor!", or at least that's it for Dictatorships, Meritocracies, Oligarchies, Plutocracies and Mossarchies but why Fossarchies? Well, that boils down to "No one owns anything and everyone can do anything", AKA a "nomadic practice". For the first 5 it's elitism but for the last one it's nomadic.

Democracy?

"But what about democracy?", I hear you ask. Well, it depends on what the populus wants. In marxocracy it's very much uniocratic but in others, it's not. Generally, of all of the FOSS-democracies, they're

- 60% antiuniocratic,
- 39% prouniocratic and
- 1% somewhere in between

I think we can all come to the same conclusion, here. We need to increase the percentage of uniocratic projects, whether that be by pushing change in bigger projects or dare I say, forking it! Uniocracy is a net good on society and we need to increase the percentage of projects following the uniocratic principles, if not marxocracy as a whole!

Oh, look! It's the Republicans!

For the most shocking plot twist of the century, I'll be returning to criticizing the big R Republicans and exploring their correlation to FOSS. Magically, Republicans also don't like uniocracy. "When a white cisgender heterosexual male born to rich parents who attended private school and whose entire personality is built on being a nazi succeeds, just let them succeed!", they say. A communists politics boils down to "Egalitarianism is good" while the fascists politics boils down to "Egalitarianism is so super duper bad!" (just a reminder, the Republicans are fascists, or at least rightist-populist). "We shouldn't own things collectively", the greedy capitalist pigs say. "WE ARE BETTER THAN THE POOR PERSON."



Pictured: Two sides of the same coin.

Also, come to think of it, isn't Trump like... *Scarily* similar to "mein führer" AKA Adolf Hitler? They talk a lot about vermin and they're both fascist. They have a lot of the same talking points. Come to think of it, Trump, did you *read* mein kampf? I've heard it's *really* bad because it came from Hitler rambling while pacing from back and forth in prison cell he was in. Trump *narrowly* escaped *that* fate! I bet he'll be pacing back and forth in the white house while writing *his* manifesto.

On the AI question

I want to dedicate the last section of this chapter to AI collectivization. Once upon a time a person I knew said something like:

"[Communism and tech don't go together and communism is bad] /.../ Unless you're like a 'Tech bro communist' who wants to own Al collectively."

I -- being the person I am -- responded:

"I do in fact want to own AI collectively!"

I said this after pondering for 2s and it was kind of impulsive for me to say. But when I thought more and more about it, I realized... I was probably correct? Owning Al collectively would help stop corporate greed and make everyone happy. Okay, so this is the pitch: A super duper good Al which everyone owns collectively, commun[ai]ism!

Fascism

"The receptivity of the masses is very limited, their intelligence is small, but their power of forgetting is enormous. In consequence of these facts, all effective propaganda must be limited to a very few points and must harp on these in slogans until the last member of the public understands what you want him to understand by your slogan."

- Literally Hitler

I know this might come as a shock to some people, but *I don't really like fascism that much*, which makes it only sadder what this chapter is about. Time to tie up another lose end: *Fascism, Republicans and conservatism*. I've been mentioning all of these *a lot* in the book so far, so let's talk about it.

Prominence

"You know the USA? I don't live there, but I certainly know it. There's a certain politician there who has followers so tribal, so forgiving to their holy leader: That they'll forgive him for committing multiple felonies. His name is Donald J. Trump and he is now -- somehow -- the president of the USA. What I'm trying to convey is that the FOSS community is almost as tribal as the USA Republican party (though it be for a more noble cause), and that leads to... Situations. Certainly."

"We've already covered how there's already a pretty big part of the FOSS community that are schizophrenic and don't have a single good opinion. These people are called 'Republicans' and are truly the worst of the worst of FOSS. /.../ The people that say 'The US is a meritocracy' though, I believe: Are nationalists in disguise so there's no need to consider them."

"So, they left and created an 'apolitical' (by which I mean: 'conservative nationalist') fork of the Godot engine known as 'Redot' (an awful name for an awful engine made by awful people). By the way, Redot is several commits behind Godot, so it's inferior to its 'woke' counterpart."

"You know... I'm starting to notice a correlation between FOSS and the USA Republican party... Strangely tribal, strangely elitist and strangely discriminatory!"

"Republicans and FOSS-users have yet another thing in common: Cultism. USA's president Donald J. Trump, – the racist businessman – has built a kind of 'cult of personality' around himself. And then we have pedophile-sympathizer Richard Stallman, who has done the same thing."

"In this book so far, you might have noticed an... Intersection between the alt-right (Republicans) and the FOSS-community. They act the same! THE SAME! Haven't you noticed yet? There's a lot of similarities between our pal DJ. T and Richard Stallman."

"IT'S IMPLIED THAT YOU SHOULDN'T BE RACIST, SEXIST AND HOMOPHOBIC, JUST LIKE IT IS IN REAL LIFE!

Only conservatives and fascists believe that it's acceptable to be any of these things, and I don't want conservatives and fascists contributing to my project. The only acceptable type of discrimination is political discrimination in the pursuit of egalitarianism. Fascists are not welcome in my project!"

"the fascists politics boils down to 'Egalitarianism is so super duper bad!' (just a reminder, the Republicans are fascists, or at least rightist-populist). 'We shouldn't own things collectively', the greedy capitalist pigs say. 'WE ARE BETTER THAN THE POOR PERSON.'"

"Also, come to think of it, isn't Trump like... Scarily similar to 'mein führer' AKA Adolf Hitler? They talk a lot about vermin and they're both fascist."

- Me (Elis Staaf), Waiting for marxocracy (2025)

Above is every single mention of conservatives, Republicans and fascists in this book. "But why, Elis? Why does this matter?" Well, I needed to highlight how many times I needed to talk about fascists to properly highlight their prominence in FOSS. These fascists are everywhere. It's almost like... A lot of people in the FOSS community are fascists!

WHAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAI? But yeah... It's true. They are scarily prominent.



Pictured: What a lot of FOSS-users want to be: A failed socialist turned dictator who everybody wants dead, but just can't quite reach because he's in hiding.

Examples

Fascism comes in many forms, but in FOSS terms: *It's never apparent*. They're not STUPID! Yet I believe I may posess a small but comprehensive list of the most popular fascist projects. They are: (with "..." meaning "And more!")

- GNU project
 - Tar
 - R
 - Nano
 - o ...
- Corporation projects
 - Google
 - Chromium
 - ...
 - Microsoft
 - VSCode
 - ...
 - o Especially Twitter
 - The algorithm
 - **...**

• ...

Are you a fascist?

Are you a... Ahem, I'll just pull up the wiki. Are you a supporter of:

A system of government marked by centralization of authority under a dictator, a capitalist economy subject to stringent governmental controls, violent suppression of the opposition, and typically a policy of belligerent nationalism and racism. A system of government marked by centralization of authority under a dictator, a capitalist economy subject to stringent governmental controls, violent suppression of the opposition, and typically a policy of belligerent nationalism and racism.

If so, get out. Get the fuck out. I do not want fascists reading my book. You're a dirty ultra-nationalist who doesn't deserve anything, not even the pseudo-enjoyment of reading this book.

Antifa

Combatting against fascism is an essential part of not only marxocracy, but basic decency. This can be done in many different ways, for example not giving them a platform or publicly persecuting them in the name of egalitarianism. Another very good way is by using the Antifa MIT license (https://github.com/jamiebuilds/anti-fascist-mit-license) to keep dirty fascists away from your source code. Speak openly against fascism, saying things like "I don't want fascism in MY FOSS!", or something like that, I'm not a rhetorical expert.

Remaining human

It's easy to forget that FOSS-developers (which includes *me*) are humans too. The sad thing with doing this FOSS-politics thing I'm talking about is that... It's easy to lose yourself. When trying to push for democracy, you might find yourself a "political martyr" or just a coder and not human. "How do I, a coder, remain human?"

What is humanity?

Humanity is basically having a soul, a personality! It's the thing we *don't* want to lose. A soul is -- if you're an atheist like me -- just hormonal reactions in the body, but in this chapter we're talking about the philosophical definition: Basically just an arbitrary thing that exists and makes you feel things.

Preserving humanity

You are not a robot. You are human, and you should do your best to stay that way. But how? Mental health advice time! "In a manifesto?", I hear you ask. Yes! To follow my ideas it's important to have a life to follow them in.

Have a life

Do other things. Don't just sit and program. Do other stuff, like... Read a book or maybe go out and have a walk! Enjoy life, and then you can enjoy the benefits of my ideas!

Also... Program other stuff

You're a programmer! Program! The politics can wait for later, especially if you... Don't have a project? Don't be a politics machine, be a programming one!

Recreational activities

Meditate and eat healthy food, be healthy, have a life! *Especially* read, it's a very calming activity that helps you with mental health.

Consequences of not

"Why? Why should I care?", I can predict you asked. Well, depression is a real thing. Not having a life and participating in recreational activities can quickly spiral into depression which... Isn't good? "I have spiraling depression!" is not something you want to say. Live a life and live it to the fullest.

Corporatization

For the love of god, do *not* corporatize your project and *especially* don't corporatize yourself! I brought this up in "Code of conduct", but do *not* corporatize your project! I brought up a commit I made on one of my projects which I believe said

A few weeks ago I saw some community standards on how to make a [Github] repo. I, eagerly waiting for something to do, added these in with delight. Now, looking back, I realize that the community standards were utter and complete bullshit and that you should never follow them. I think it also gave of a corporatized "squeaky clean" look. For example with the "CODE OF CONDUCT". Like, what the fuck? I am a firm believer that software should not be corporatized, and this just felt wrong. Also, if you need a document to tell you what you can and can't do; I don't want your [contribution]. Isn't it like implied that you shouldn't be racist, sexist and homophobic? Who thinks "Hmm... I wonder if I can say something bad about gay people here. Let's check the code of conduct! Then I'll know if I can be an anti-gay womanizer [nazi]!"!? If anyone reading this needs an arbitrary paper to tell you what to do; get out.

If we ruthlessly corporatize FOSS, we're almost as bad as the dirty capitalists that try the same thing (though they want to steal our projects)! Some good examples of corporatized FOSS-projects are

- Godot
- Ubuntu
- VSCode
- Chromium
- Redhat fuckery
 - Fedora
 - RHEL
 - OpenSUSE

You should *try* to avoid these projects, with one exception: Godot. Unity and Unreal-engine are much worse alternatives and even if Godot is greedy, the others are *more* greedy.

The Redhat massacre

Redhat is a greedy and disgusting company trying to exploit FOSS to generate money. On their website, opensource.com/article/17/1/cultivating-business-foss-market) they refer to FOSS as an "emerging market". They refer to FOSS as just another venture to them, just like I said in "Venture capitalism". They

slowly massacre small FOSS projects in order to take their place. Boycott Redhat for a better future. Also, Redhat says we must treat them with respect:

Most importantly, the FOSS community must try to be patient, non-judgmental, and empathetic when businesses inevitably stumble.

WHAT!? WE!? We need to be "empathetic" and "patient" when the businesses we hate fail! Here's another excerpt that just confirms my point:

While those of us on the management and business side of things learn how we enter the emerging market of FOSS, there's no reason FOSS communities, projects, and supporters can't do a little to help out our end. /.../ The FOSS community can do its part to help a business do this, perhaps even by reaching out and offering to teach them.

So please. Remain human. Don't be greedy. I'd like to end this chapter with the *most* greedy excerpt of the post:

Assisting businesses to enter the FOSS emerging market and picking them up should they fall will go a long way toward dispelling these misconceptions and we will all reap the benefits of broadening the scope of our collaborations.

Redhat

In the last chapter, I already documented a *lot* about redhat, but that's *not* enough. Redhat is disgusting and must be documented. Before I start I'd like to show a warning: *This is quite possibly the* **worst** *corporation in the history of open* source

Redhat is born

In 1993, Bob Young incorporated the ACC Corporation, a catalog business that sold Linux and Unix software accessories. In 1994, Marc Ewing created his own Linux distribution, which he named Red Hat Linux (associated with the time Ewing wore a red Cornell University lacrosse hat, given to him by his grandfather, while attending Carnegie Mellon University). Ewing released the software in October, and it became known as the Halloween release. Young bought Ewing's business in 1995, and the two merged to become Red Hat Software, with Young serving as chief executive officer (CEO).

Source: Wikipedia

Why Redhat is so bad

As I explained in "Oligarchy" and "Corporate interest"", big businesses are slowly trying to ruin FOSS by replacing homemade and *actually* FOSS projects with their own *corporate* projects. They can also buy out other projects by donation. Redhat is quite possibly the worst offender of them both. They've *created* projects including (but not limited to)

- CentOS
- Ceph
- OKD

- · Project quay
- Pulp
- RHEL
- Wildfly

And they've *also* donated to many projects, for example *Godot*. For a full list on all of their "ventures" (with "venture" meaning "project that redhat can invest in *and* make a profit while still *pretending* to be a non-greedy FOSS-corpo."), see "Redhat emerging technologies" (https://next.redhat.com/projects-full/). Also, redhat. If you're trying *not* to look like an evil supervillain, maybe work on your logo so that it doesn't look, pfft! Comically evil!



Pictured: Comically evil logo for a comically evil corporation. I'd go as far as to call them neo-<u>fordist</u>
(<u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fordism</u>) (AKA greedy and dystopian).

Also... Redhat subscriptions? Really? A while ago redhat, -- get ready for something stupid -- *locked* RHEL source code behind a redhat subscription! Yet, one of the only people I was able to find criticizing redhat was some random guy named Jeff Geerling, so that should put into perspective how little criticism the recieve. That is *insane*! But I don't mean to criticize Geerling, he has very good arguments against Redhat, so I guess his blog post will take over the narration now:

I've had a busy week, so I didn't have time until today to read this news about Red Hat locking down RHEL sources behind a Red Hat subscription. I repeat the title: Red Hat, are you dumb? When Red Hat decided to turn the community CentOS distribution into a leading-edge distro instead of basically "Red Hat Enterprise Linux, but free", users like me were justifiably angered. I don't contribute to CentOS or Red Hat development much, if at all. But I have, for over a decade, provided software and tools that were compatible with RHEL, Debian, Ubuntu, Fedora, Arch, and sometimes other more exotic distros. I could test my stuff against CentOS Stream... or UBI... or Fedora. Those are mostly like RHEL. Or I could try linking a Red Hat Developer subscription to my test runners and build tools so I could use a licensed copy of Red Hat Enterprise Linux, because that would be required for... actually ensuring compatibility. But that's dumb. So at this point, I have to say: fool me once, Red Hat—shame on you. Fool me twice? At this point I'm determining whether I want to continue supporting just Fedora, or just dropping all support for RHEL and RHEL-like distributions on my open source projects. It's not worth the hassle if I'm not even sure projects like Rocky or Alma Linux can fill in the gap left by CentOS's demise for users like me. And no, please don't post "but you can use your Red Hat Developer Subscription!" I don't have to with Debian. Or Ubuntu. Or Arch. Or... you get the point.

- Jeff Geerling, <u>Dear Red Hat: Are you dumb? (https://www.jeffgeerling.com/blog/2023/dear-red-hat-are-you-dumb)</u> (2023)

"Red Hat, are you dumb?" is a really good question to ask. Because yes, redhat is dumb. And greedy. And a big corporation (For why that's bad see the wikipedia page on the USA).

Red Hat was always a company of B and C players. It's a company staffed by idiots, for idiots.

- "Annatar", comment on <u>Dear Red Hat: Are you dumb? (https://www.jeffgeerling.com/blog/2023/dear-red-hat-are-you-dumb)</u> (2024)

Oracle

"But hey, at least Redhat isn't **ORACLE**!" is a statement I agree with. Because there is one corporation more neo-fordist and more greedy than Redhat: **Oracle**.

Oracle rises from the pits of hell

Larry Ellison, Bob Miner, and Ed Oates co-founded Oracle in 1977 in Santa Clara, California, as Software Development Laboratories (SDL). Ellison took inspiration from the 1970 paper written by Edgar F. Codd on relational database management systems (RDBMS) named "A Relational Model of Data for Large Shared Data Banks." He heard about the IBM System R database from an article in the IBM Research Journal provided by Oates. Ellison wanted to make Oracle's product compatible with System R, but failed to do so as IBM kept the error codes for their DBMS a secret. SDL changed its name to Relational Software, Inc (RSI) in 1979, then again to Oracle Systems Corporation in 1983.

Source: Wikipedia

Oracle's many sins

Okay, okay! So, big corporations like Redhat are bad, but at least they don't bribe foreign officials!

Oracle will pay about \$23 million to the Securities and Exchange Commission for allegedly providing impermissible benefits to government officials in several countries, regulators announced Tuesday, marking the second such multimillion-dollar fine for the American software giant.

- Forbes, <u>SEC Fines Oracle \$23 Million, Says Company Bribed Foreign Officials</u>
(https://www.forbes.com/sites/dereksaul/2022/09/27/sec-fines-oracle-23-million-says-company-bribed-foreign-officials/)
(2022)

That is... It is... Hmm... That is... Certainly something. Oh, and there are *many* more. WAY TO MUCH, at least for me to cover. See https://lawyerinc.com/biggest-oracle-lawsuits-in-company-history/) for more.

Authority

In "Liberty", I explained how libertarianism is bad (especially on the consumption side), but there's also another extreme:

Totalitarianism. Because -- surprise -- totalitarianism is bad!

Totalitarianism

can be explained with the following satirical piece:



Because yes. It's not the government I'm talking about, it's the corporations. Corporations (like Redhat!) act in their own self-interest and restrict both consumption and governing. They act with stone cold precision and govern as such.

Big corporation™ governing system

Dictatorship. It's dictatorship. It's feudalism. With the lords being the HRs and the boss™, exploiting the peasantry™ being, well the lower ranking workers.

The boss™

The boss[™] is a dictator. It's simple as that. In FOSS, especially. He (because sadly, basically the only people in power in these governments are men) sits on his high chair, looking over the peasantry with his wife[™] saying "Let them eat cake!" TM.

Consumption policies™

The consumption policies of big corporation™ tends to be overly authoritarian and "short term", think:

"Your free trial for 'project_x™' has run out, buy project_x™'s subscription for only €99,99!"

And:

"You are not allowed to use project_x™ as you broke one of the restrictions written in the license, you are being sued for €999,999.99."

So, let me define a new term: *Conauthoritarianism*™ (or, it's not *really* new, but basically new).

Conauthoritarianism is a consumption ideology that places many restrictions on consumption. Often confused with conrestrictionism, with some restrictions on software.

"This is bad!"™, and that shouldn't come as a shock to you, if you're not a fascist (AKA big R Republican). The sad thing is that this is basically the consumption policy of 100%™ of all IT-based corporations.

The project_x™s of the world

I have been talking about this caricature; *project_x*™ for the whole chapter, but why? Well, there are way to many project_x™s of the world, so it's hard to pick one to criticize. That's why project_x™ is the name I chose. I was planning to list project_x™s now, but there are just too many. *Way* too many. For further reading, see "Corporate Dominance in Open Source Ecosystems: A Case Study of OpenStack" (https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/3540250.3549117). In the study, they examine FOSS and corporate dominance, and come to this conclusion:

As corporate participation in OSS ecosystems is growing, their in- fluence on the future evolution of these ecosystems also becomes stronger, which in turn can have significant consequences for the sustainability of these ecosystems. In this paper, we present a de- tailed study of one popular OSS ecosystem, OpenStack, to (a) es- tablish corporate dominance as a prevalent issue, (b) identify five patterns of corporate dominance, and (c) apply survival analysis on a large set of repositories, and find that corporate dominance of repositories negatively associates with their survival chance. This paper is among the first to provide a detailed investigation of corporate dominance in OSS ecosystems, which we hope will draw more attention to this phenomenon which may have a significant impact on the future of OSS ecosystems. The findings of this study may help OSS communities to increase their awareness of this issue and the associated risks, and adjust their governance mechanisms so as to ensure their future sustainability.

"Corporate Dominance in Open Source Ecosystems: A Case Study of OpenStack"
 (https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/3540250.3549117) (2022)

"Corporate Dominance in Open Source Ecosystems: A Case Study of OpenStack"

(https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/3540250.3549117) credits:

- Yuxia Zhang*
 - Beijing Institute of Technology
 - o Beijing, China
 - o yuxiazh@bit.edu.cn
- Hui Liu*
 - Beijing Institute of Technology
 - Beijing, China
 - o liuhui08@bit.edu.cn
- Klaas-Jan Stol
 - o Lero, the SFI Research Centre for Software
 - University College Cork
 - o Cork, Ireland
 - k.stol@ucc.ie
- Minghui Zhou
 - School of Computer Science, Peking University
 - Key Laboratory of High Confidence Software
 - o Technologies, Ministry of Education
 - o Beijing, China

*Corresponding authors

The status quo

So far, we've established what practices to follow and *not* to follow, but there is a question we haven't covered yet: *What* is the status quo? For example, in modern society, Neoliberalism is the status quo, but there isn't an established status quo that I've covered in my book yet!

Principles

The core principles of the status quo is -- as explained in "FOSS-culture" -- largely libertarian, both on the consumption side and governing side.

Consumption

On the consumption side, I'd describe the status quo as *conlibertist*, as it largely believes in almost unlimited consumption (as we can see with most OSS-licenses, like GPL or MIT). I have already gone into detail on why it's bad, so I'll just quote myself ("Liberty"):

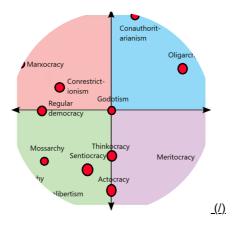
... You know, I was planning to put a satirical piece right here, but the problem with libertarianism -- unlike Godotism -- is that it's not very funny, it's just plain bad. I guess I'll use this section to highlight the core problems with Conlibertism, I guess. These are:

- 1. In their eyes, "Any customization is good customization."
- 2. It leads to a worse project overall.
- 3. They prefer extensibility over quality.

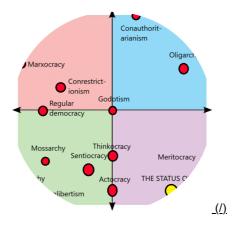
It's quite honestly a sad reflection upon our society that these kinds of philosophies have thrived, since they're largely reactionary. They poke up in response to authoritarianism in FOSS, and I honestly can't blame them.

Governance

On the governing side... It's mixed. A lot of projects don't clearly follow any of the governance-systems mentioned in chapters 3-7. You know what time it is: *Unintuitive-solution-with-no-real-meaning-that-can-be-accomplished-in-a-simpler-way-time!* So let's use a graph! We'll have the x scale representing how egalitarian it is (left: most, right: least) and the y scale representing how authoritarian it is (up: most, down: least). With that said, let's plot some systems onto this graph:



Working from here, we can calculate that the status quo would be libertarian (as we've already covered *that*), and as such, in the "-y" section. From here, we know that FOSS is very unequal but not dystopia-unequal, with this, we can calculate that it is in the +x-y section, but where? Well, it's very libertarian, but not *dystopia* unequal, so maybe on the y level of actoracy, with *almost* the x level of oligarchy? Yes, that would be it! Working from this, we can calculate that the position for the status quo is



Using this visual representation, we can accurately calculate that the status quo of FOSS is... A largely unequal and libertarian governing system!

But... Why?

Why is the status quo like this? Why is it so largely unequal? Well, that's probably because -- and it's probably time to realize this -- no one cares. I'm like, the only person that cares! They're not the ones writing books about FOSS-governance systems, that's me! People throw together governing systems on a whim, not like us: Carefully considering every possibility. For them, the... Coding is the most important part. And while I praise them for actually coding -- unlike me, just writing a weird book -- this leads to inequality in masses. But I think it's time to come to the sad realization that nobody cares.

NOBODY EVER CARES.

NOBODY EVER DID.

NOBODY EVER WILL.

NOBODY EVER SHOULD.

NOBODY EVER.

- · bribery,
- · donations,
- · corruption,
- · comically evil people,
- · dictators,
- fascists.
- nazis
- · wannabe dictators
- elitists,
- · oligarchs,
- · capitalism and
- plutocracy

is ruining FOSS? Is it that FOSS *is* getting ruined, and my writing *wasn't* for nothing? Wow! This book just started because I was just really passionate about both FOSS and politics, but maybe there actually *are* problems with FOSS, not just illusions I made up while trying to entertain myself on a Sunday afternoon? Are there actual problems with FOSS? Are there problems with the governance of FOSS projects? Do FOSS cults actually exist? Are fascists actually prevalent in FOSS? I actually wrote about something original, for once! And not just something original, something important! And not just something important, something *special*.

So, without further ado, let's get onto the sumarization/ending of this book. It's good, I hope... It compiles all of my ideas into a short manifesto, at least!

Manifesto

I'd like to clearly lay out my ideas, theories and philosophies regarding FOSS governing systems and FOSS in politics as a general subject. I'm going to try to methodically present all of my ideas in a convincing manner, in hopes of making *you* believe me. This is the *Marxocratic manifesto*.

Collectivization

In an ideal governing system for FOSS, collectivization is needed. By collectivization, I mean *owning collectively*. Why would this be so good? Well, what I believe is that this would help to combat corruption. One of the core things I want to collectivize is the project's source code itself. Why would this "combat corruption"? Well, using this method, no person can make decisions themself, with democracy taking the decision-making process to a new level. Instead of one or just a few people controlling the project, *everyone* would. This is just one of the methods that we use to combat corruption.

Direct democracy

Another part of Marxocracy I want to emphasize is *direct democracy*, *all* people wanting to vote for a new feature in your project: Shall. The optimal way to run this is trough ranked-choice voting, where you present the voters with 3+ options to choose from which the voters then rank. Every voter shall give all options a score from 1-x where x is the amount of options, you then award the choices the amount (of votes) that the voter has given it, the choice with the most votes win and shall be added. A modern democracy tends to be a representative democracy. While this *may* sometimes work in real-life, it never works in FOSS. You see, a party is less an organization than a package of beliefs, which more often than not leads to tribalism (if you want to know why that's a problem, refer to FOSS-culture). In Marxocracy and FOSS-democracy in general, it's important to be anti-partisan, meaning not being for any party, and not wanting any parties.

There's very much a reason for me citing direct democracy as a core part of Marxocracy, and not just democracy.

Anti-plutocracy

Marxocracy shall strongly emphasize *anti-plutocracy* as one of it's goals. With "plutocracy", I mean "rule of the rich", which often occurs when big corporations "donate" money to FOSS-projects in order to control them. It's very easy to circumvent this, by not offering a donation option. If big corporations *can't* donate to you, they can't *control* you.

Conrestrictionism

Conrestrictionism is the idea that -- fundamentally -- software cannot fully thrive with unlimited consumption. Unlike Conauthoritarianism: A lot of restrictions on consumption, Conrestrictionists only want some restriction allowing for a project to thrive.

This is another fundamental principle of Marxocracy: The belief that there shouldn't be *many* restrictions on software, but that you can sacrifice total liberty for a higher quality product and to assure for the thriving of the FOSS-project. I've said it before and I'll say it again,

Quality over extensibility.

Which I personally believe is a really good core principle to hold.

Egalitarianism

Nobody -- and I mean nobody -- should be better than another. Egalitarianism is a core principle of Marxocracy because, without equality, a society is meaningless. Anybody being better than another just leads to infighting and exploitation, hence why Marxocracy emphasizes egalitarianism.

Anti-leadership

No leadership shall prevail. In Marxocracy, the FOSS-project should be *community-driven* and not led by one or many power-hungry elites. This, of course, refers back to egalitarianism as to make everyone equal, no one shall lead the herd.

Radicalism and revolution

Pushing for change is a very important core fundamental of Marxocracy, as sitting and waiting will never help. "Sitting and waiting" in this sense is called *Godotism* and is incredibly unhelpful.

Sentiocracy

Thinkocracy is largely: To think. It's a governmental system where much thought is put into governance, yet not much is enacted. A thinkocracy is controlled by thinkocrats (the professional term for "thinker").

Actocracy is: To do, or: To act without thought. Though more successful than thinkocracy it's arguably worse since thought is key to most policies. The professional term for do-er (and for a follower of this governmental system) is actocrat.

Actocracy-Democracy is a democracy in which people don't tend to give much thought into anything, yet they still participate.

Sentiocracy is: to act and think, and is -- as such -- the most successful and -- sadly -- utopian governance system of the three "Waiters' ideologies" (thinkocracy, actocracy and sentiocracy). It takes aspects from both thinkocracy and actocracy which inevitably leads to a better world. Not to be confused with sentiocracy-democracy: A democratic implementation of the core principles to sentiocracy.

The above is my formal proposal to mediate between the two sides of thinkocrat and actorrat, with the preferred version of sentiocracy being -- of course -- sentiocracy-democracy. *Direct sentiocracy-democracy* is -- from here on out -- one of the core principles of marxocracy.

On extensibility

Marxocracy's general philosophy on extensibility tends to be:

Any unnecessary customization is bad customization.

By which we mean that if any customization is generally unneeded, it simply weighs down the project.

Consumption principles of Marxocracy

I'd like to present 5 core principles in Marxocracy for consumption, these should be followed closely. They are

- 1. Any unnecessary customization is bad customization.
- 2. Lightweightedness in a FOSS-project is -- of course -- one of the most fundamental parts of a good such.

 Overextensibility often leads to less lightweightedness, and as such: Leads to less quality.
- 3. Conrestrictionism is a fundamentally good principle and should be the core of Consumption-Marxocracy.
- 4. Quality over extensibility.
- 5. The most important fundamental of Conrestrictionism is that some liberties must be sacrificed for the good of the project as a whole.

Code of conduct

While actually having a code of conduct in your project is heavily *discouraged*, there are a whole load of implied rules.

One could say this could be a "Marxocratic code of conduct" of sorts:

We, the developers of the FOSS-project, pledge to follow this code of conduct to any cost. There are 3 core rules to this code of conduct, they are

- 1. Egalitarianism. Everyone is equal, regardless of gender, age, experience, race, ethnicity, nationality religion and other similar traits.
- 2. Collectivism. The source code of this software is owned collectively by every contributor, and as such: No one can govern it themselves.
- 3. Marxocracy. Follow the marxocratic principles at all costs.

A *lot* of other rules are implied, and you -- a hopefully decent person -- can probably understand, imply and apply them yourself.

Why is it generally discouraged to have a code of conduct in your project? Well, I think I summarized it best on a commit I made on my OS:

A few weeks ago I saw some community standards on how to make a [Github] repo. I, eagerly waiting for something to do, added these in with delight. Now, looking back, I realize that the community standards were utter and complete bullshit and that you should never follow them. I think it also gave of a corporatized "squeaky clean" look. For example with the "CODE OF CONDUCT". Like, what the fuck? I am a firm believer that software should not be corporatized, and this just felt wrong. Also, if you need a document to tell you what you can and can't do; I don't want your [contribution]. Isn't it like implied that you shouldn't be racist, sexist and homophobic? Who thinks "Hmm... I wonder if I can say something bad about gay people here. Let's check the code of conduct! Then I'll know if I can be an anti-gay womanizer [nazi]!"!? If anyone reading this needs an arbitrary paper to tell you what to do; get out.

Anti-fascism

Anti-fascism must be pushed at all costs, a great way to do this is to use the <u>Antifa MIT license</u> (https://github.com/jamiebuilds/anti-fascist-mit-license), which has the following disclaimer before the MIT license:

The following conditions must be met by any person obtaining a copy of this software:

- · You MAY NOT be a fascist.
- · You MUST not financially support fascists.
- · You MUST not publicly voice support for fascists.

"Fascist" can be understood as any entity which supports radical authoritarian nationalism. For example: Donald Trump is a fascist; if you donated to his campaign then all rights provided by this license are not granted to you.

On Al-collectivization

I want to dedicate this section of this chapter to Al-collectivization. Once upon a time a person I knew said something like:

"[Communism and tech don't go together and communism is bad] /.../ Unless you're like a 'Tech bro communist' who wants to own Al collectively."

I -- being the person I am -- responded:

"I do in fact want to own AI collectively!"

I said this after pondering for 2 seconds and it was kind of impulsive for me to say. But when I thought more and more and more about it, I realized... I was probably correct? Owning Al collectively would help stop corporate greed and make everyone happy (well, except for the corporations, but they can cry me an ocean).

Classical definition

I'd like to dedicate the last part of this chapter to the classical definition of Marxocrcacy, or *Classical-marxocracy*, it goes like this:

A classless (which in our case means "no one is better than another"), stateless (which in our case means no BDFLs [Benevolent Dictator For Life(s)] and no core leadership) and moneyless (which relates to the "classless" part, but also means "no oligarchs" and depending on your decision "no donations") society where the workers (developers) control the means of production (being pull-requests and code-contributions, which is a core part in FOSS anyways).*

Conclusion

Well, that's the end. You can go now.

The actual conclusion

Okay, okay! Let's actually conclude this manifesto. Thank you for reading, I hope you enjoyed my book/manifesto. Uhm...
Well, I think the conclusion we can come to is that there are *many* problems with FOSS (and IT as a whole), for example:
Anarchism, cultism, tribalism etc. But in the end, it can be fixed. It can be fixed with the governing system of Marxocracy, wanting collectivization, anti-fascism, egalitarianism, conrestrictionism, anti-leadership-ism and more. One could say I spoiled this ending with the "TL;DR" of the prologue, saying

The optimal way of running a FOSS project is trough direct democracy, we should own most software collectively and not let ourselves get corrupted by oligarchs and big companies donating €10,000,000 to your cause (totally not because they want to control your project).

So, what did I learn while making this book? Uhm, I'd say that I learned a *lot* about the prevalence of politics in FOSS, and how to fix the largely unequal environment in most FOSS-projects.

Goodbye

Well... It's time to say goodbye, I guess? Thank you for reading and thank you for (hopefully) consuming my ideas!

Maybe I'll make a vol. II sometimes, but I don't know. Whatever I do next, it's goodbye for now.