

# Conflation of issues?

## Licenses are not sufficient

So why is it a problem that the concepts of free software and open source are intrinsically tied to licenses? It's that the aims and goals of both of these movements are about *distribution* and therefore *consumption*, but what people care about most today is about the *production* of software. Software licences regulate *distribution*, but cannot regulate *production*. (technically they can, but practically, they can't. I get into this below.) This is also the main challenge of whatever comes after open source; they cannot rely on the legal tactics of the last generation. I don't have solutions here.

# Defining freedom

## So where do we go from here?

I'm still, ultimately, left with more questions than answers. But I do think I've properly identified the problem: many developers conceive of software freedom as something larger than purely a license that kinds in on redistribution. This is the new frontier for those who are thinking about furthering the goals of the free software and open source movements. Our old tools are inadequate, and I'm not sure that the needed replacements work, or even exist.