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The Boy Scout Rule

The Boy Scouts have a rule, which is based on Robert Stephenson’s thought about life that we have to leave this World a bit better than we found it. This rule says that every Boy Scout has to leave the camp place cleaner than he met it first time by thorough cleaning. Consequently, as Boy Scouts, programmers could adopt this rule in their domain. It means you have to find and fix some bugs in a code before releasing or sending this code to a next step of producing, despite the fact who made these bugs. When the rule will be in all programmers’ minds we’ll see total improvement of whole realizing software which was produced by the team which takes care of all/the whole project and its every small part. However, it doesn’t mean that you have to fix all the code, it could be just a little part of another little part, a name of variable or construction of function or loop. Nonetheless, you have to be sure your code is clean.

This rule could be the one of rules of decorum. If you wash your hands after restroom, or don’t leave your garbage on the street, you could also make your team’s code better, cleaning mess or bugs up without thoughts about a person who made it. Besides, if team takes care of the whole code it becomes like a family where everyone takes care of each other.

There is also another rule: clear place is not the place where somebody always cleans up, it is place where nobody litters. Therefore, don’t litter, teach others to do this and if you still findi bugs or mess in a code – clean it.

Very nice, I liked your thoughts presented, a lot of your own statement and well-rephrased points of the author.

Just work through mistakes and avoid them in future.