The Liberating Power of the Second Finger

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http://www.fsfla.org/svn/fsfla/site/blogs/lxo/pres/second-finger/
Summary

- Definition
- GNU General Public License
- Common doubts
- History
- Good for whom?
- Using the second finger
Software Freedoms

0: Execute
1: Study and Adapt
2: Copy and Redistribute
3: Improve and Distribute

Ethical issue!
GNU GPLv2

- Whoever gets the binaries is entitled to the sources
- Copyleft: for all, rights preserved
- No licensing fees
- No additional restrictions

Preserves software’s freedom
GPLv3.fsf.org

- Tivoization and DRM
- Software Patents
- Compatibility, Internationalization
- Restoration after infringement
- Sources and torrents

Upgrade is recommended
GNU/Linux

- Give credit
- Talk about freedom
- Avoid confusion
- Applications for Linux or for GNU libc?

Linux is a kernel!
Open Source?

- Free Software (1983)
- Libre Software
- Open Source (1998)
  - Avoids ambiguity?
  - Software Livre (2005)
- FOSS, FLOSS (2001)

Free Software!
Free Software Foundations

- FSF (USA, 1985)
- FSFE (Europe, 2000)
- FSF-I (India, 2001)
- FSFLA (Latin America, 2005)

Sister organizations
Why Free Software?

- Ethics
- Freedom

Good for:
- the software (2000)
- the author (2005)
- the user (2006)
### Free × Commercial?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gratis</th>
<th>Libre</th>
<th>Non-Free</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>LibreOffice.org</td>
<td>Google Doc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LO + support</td>
<td>StarOffice</td>
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</tbody>
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**Misunderstanding!**
Privative traps

- Apparent advantages
- Unavoidable monopolies?
  - Software patents
  - Brazilian IRS
  - “PC para Todos”
- How to fight them?

How much is freedom worth?
Corporate user

- Needs support
  “Point at someone”
- Expects good service for a fair price
- Fears monopolies
Privative software support

- Multiple monopolies
- High migration costs
- Relaxed vendor
Free Software support

- Free market
  - Fair price
  - Multiple alternatives
    “Point at someone else”
- Optional migration
- Internal support

The second finger brings freedom!
Be Free!

http://www.softwarelivre.org
http://www.fsfla.org
http://www.fsf.org
http://www.gnu.org
mailto:lxoliva@fsfla.org
http://identi.ca/txoliva
http://www.fsfla.org/~lxoliva

Thanks!