Open Source is Broken

Don Goodman-Wilson

@DEGoodmanWilson
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“Licences should not be political.”
— some rando on Reddit
“It’s not Open Source.”
— some rando on Reddit
Can I stop “evil people” from using my program?

No. The Open Source Definition specifies that Open Source licenses may not discriminate against persons or groups. Giving everyone freedom means giving evil people freedom, too.

— https://opensource.org/faq#evil
Whiskey.
Tango.
Foxtrot.
Why do we hold “Open” in such high esteem?
A Brief History of a Failed Libertarian Utopia
We are as gods and might as well get good at it. In response to [the power of government and big business]...a realm of intimate, personal power is developing—power of the individual to conduct his own education, find his own inspiration, shape his own environment, and share his adventure with whoever is interested.

— The Whole Earth Catalog
Bruce Sterling
Has Seen the Future of War
Information technologies...empower the individual, enhance personal freedom, and radically reduce the power of the nation-state. Existing social, political and legal power structures will wither away to be replaced by unfettered interactions between autonomous individuals and their software.

— “The Californian Ideology”
The Paradox of Openness
Unlimited tolerance must lead to the disappearance of tolerance. If we extend unlimited tolerance even to those who are intolerant, if we are not prepared to defend a tolerant society against the onslaught of the intolerant, then the tolerant will be destroyed, and tolerance with them.

...We should therefore claim, in the name of tolerance, the right not to tolerate the intolerant.

— Karl Popper
What do we tolerate in the name of “openness”?
Open Source exacerbates existing injustices
Open Source is the playground of the privileged
Open Source incentivizes exploiting a volunteer labor force.
I want us to denormalize this state of affairs
Stop asking the wrong questions
Is it...

...Open Source?

...politics-free?

...enforceable?
So what questions should we be asking?
What are the forces that have led us to this point?
What do we owe to each other as people?
How do we evolve as a community?