

Chapter 10: Ethical Interest in Free and Open Source Software

Amazon Link: http://www.amazon.com/Handbook-Information-ComputerEthics/dp/0471799599/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1269175801&sr=8-1

What I expect to learn: What I expect to learn from this chapter is the definition of Ethical Interest and its relation to free and open source software.

Quote: “free software stems from the close ties that early software developers had with academia”

Review: The chapter talks about the Ethical Interest in free and open source software. The chapter talks about the history of software and the history of software developers and how it is developed. It distinguished the difference between free software and open source software. Free software is software that can be downloaded through the internet which is free and no payment at all. While the open source software is software that is available through codes. There are many objections on the free software being free based on the test “Stallman deals with in the manifesto that a programmer has a right to control the results of his/her creative endeavor” which for me is the programmer or the developers program decision if he would like his software to be free or not maybe he has other motives on this program or software to be free maybe he has some other plans. A smart developer will do these like when we will download a limewire software a limewire software that is for free has few features while the limewire pro has all the features that we are looking for but you have to pay first and purchase it. Many users will choose the free even though it does have few features because it is free after and all and this is the exact software that we are looking for. If a developer will do these he will not lost any client and profit because he made many options for his clients and has the rate or level for those who wants to buy and doesn't want to buy giving users an option will give many user downloads and if a developer wants to gain many downloads from users then he should do this.

What I have learned:

1. I learned that being a developer is good because you can make a lot of money.
2. Before being a developer you have to work hard to develop software that will attract many users.
3. A developer has the right to control on what he wants to do to his software because he is the one who made it.
4. A developer should be innovative and creative in his own ways in developing software.
5. A developer must also be aware of the threats and viruses that his competitors will do to destroy his creations.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is the relation of the chapter in ethics?
2. Is being a developer a good and nice job?
3. What is the importance in being a developer?
4. Why is the free software more applicable than open source software?
5. Why do people understand the definition of what free software is than the open source software?