About these slides

These are the slides for a presentation given by Mary Gardiner at the Open Source Developers’ Conference in Sydney Australia in December 2008.

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Gender 2.0

The state of the Women in Open Source community

Mary Gardiner <mary@puzzling.org>
OSDC, 3rd December 2008
Outline

- Women in Open Source: problems
- Women in Open Source: solutions
- LinuxChix
- Project affiliated women's groups
- Events
- Failures
- Future
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Warning!
“Women are actively (if unconsciously) excluded rather than passively disinterested... [The] 'hacker' ethic... situates itself outside the ‘mainstream’ sociality, but equates women with that mainstream. Women are treated as either alien Other or (in online contexts) are assumed to be male and thus made invisible... they become carriers of sociality that is seen in a contrast to the 'technical' realm ascribed to men. Additionally F/LOSS women receive a high level of attention due to their gender which decreases their feeling of acceptance as community members.”
Because [any social] ‘conditioning’ is considered more or less arbitrary, in [participants'] view it is supposed to be easily cast aside by individuals choosing to ignore it. F/LOSS also has a deeply voluntarist ethos which values notions of individual autonomy and volition. As a result participants largely do not believe that gender has anything to do with their own individual actions.
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Ubuntu Code of Conduct

- Be considerate.
- Be respectful.
- Be collaborative.
- When you disagree, consult others.
- When you are unsure, ask for help.
- Step down considerately.
GNOME Code of Conduct

- Be respectful and considerate.
- Be patient and generous.
- Assume people mean well.
- Try to be concise.
2.2. The Top Ten Women In Linux!

Most 'top people in Linux' or 'top people in Open Source' lists don't seem to have any women in them. We've considered reasons for that, and determined that most such lists seem to be kernel-focused, or coder-focused. So here's a list of some (not the top ten, just a random selection) of the top women in Open Source - whether coders, artists, writers, bug-finders, advocates, organisers, or anything else. Contact the FAQ coordinator or mail to the list if you have suggestions for others.

- Laurel Fan
  - Worldforge
- Telsa Gwynne
  - advocate, Gnome bugfinder
- Deb Richardson
  - advocate, documenter, former Open Source Writer's Group organiser, LinuxChix founder
- Val Henson
  - kernel hacker, kernel hacking mentor for LinuxChix
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LinuxChix

http://www.linuxchix.org/
http://au.linuxchix.org/
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• Debian Women: http://women.debian.org/
• Fedora Women: http://fedoraproject.org/wiki/Women
• Ubuntu Women: http://ubuntu-women.org/
• PHP Women: http://www.phpwomen.org/
• DrupalChix: http://groups.drupal.org/drupalchix
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Events

- LinuxChix Brazil
- WIOS @ SCALE
- Linuxchix miniconf @ linux.conf.au
- GNOME Women's Summer Outreach
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• BSDChix
• GNOME Women
• Apache Women
• women@opensource.org
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