

# A Rose By Any Other Name...

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# The Nomenclature of Non-Proprietary Software

## The Chronology:

1. At first, software was “free” . . . .,

Yep, that’s right, “free as in speech, not as in beer” . . .



# Nomenclature Continued...

- 2. And then there was “open source”...

Coined by Christine Peterson, 1998...

Why???



# What's in a Name?

- As between “free” and “open source”, what difference does it make?
  - (a) A philosophical difference;
  - (b) A licensing difference (though some crossover);



# The “Ms.” Factor

3. Libre software – compromise or yet a new classification - just a bit “dodgy”?

(from Fraulein to Frau;  
from Mrs. and Miss to Ms.....)



# Acronyms

4. OSS

5. FOSS/F/OSS

6. FLOSS – A DENTAL DILEMMA?  
(or free/libre/open source software)

Continued – PTO...



# Acronyms Continued...

## 7. LOSS

(There's No "F..." in LOSS)



# A Case of Terminological Inexactitudes?

The dangers inherent in these terms  
(from the speaker's experience):

- Free software...less free???
- Open source software...sell out?
- FLOSS – the most traitorous of all?

A need for some consensus?



# The End (well, for now)

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