CULTURAL DIVERSITY and OPEN SOURCE COMMUNITIES

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Calvin and Hobbes
by Bill Watterson for January 24, 1986

DO YOU KNOW WHERE BABIES COME FROM?

WELL, I WONDER HOW ONE FINDS OUT!

HERE, LET ME SEE THE BACK OF YOUR SHIRT.

YOU CAME FROM TAIWAN.
About me

- Made in Taiwan
- Lived more than a decade each in Singapore, USA (Texas), and Finland
- Worked for Nokia, Jolla, and now Red Hat
- Experiences in software engineering, i18n and l10n, marketing, and communications
- @cybette on the interwebz
What does it mean?
Last year at Red Hat Summit...

Mini session: “Opening doors: Women in FOSS”
- “According to a recent survey, only 11% of open source participants, developers, and ideators are women.”

Panel: “Women and open source”
- “A recent study found that only 3% of contributors in open source were women.”
#DEFINE Openness

- Accommodating attitude or opinion, as in receptivity to new ideas, behaviors, cultures, peoples, environments, experiences, etc.
- Lack of secrecy; candour, transparency.
- Degree of accessibility to view, use, and modify computer code in a shared environment.
- Source: https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/openness
Once upon a time...
Education in Asia
(a long long time ago)
Western influence

Source: http://www.educationviews.org/teachers-ban-students-raising-hands/ (but really Warner Bros.)
“Talkoot”
(and the cold Finnish weather)
At -23°C
(Jan 21, 2019 in Tampere, Finland)
Friendly countries?

Open Source

FOSSASIA 2017 group photo by @comprock

My first FOSDEM, 2013
On another note

MY SISTER TEACHES CELLO
SHE REPORTS THAT HER NEW STUDENTS CALL SHARPS “HASHTAGS”
CONCERTO IN F HASHTAG

8:37 PM - 6 Sep 2017
Communication tools

- Use what works best for your community
- Provide some alternative methods/channels
- Don’t focus (too much) on the tool, focus on the communication
- Listen, speak, repeat
- Use broken English with pride
BE AWARE OF DIFFERENCES
OPENNESS IS A TWO WAY STREET
SO, BE OPEN!

“Openness enables connectivity for cultural diversity”
Source: Carol’s dad
Thank YOU.