

The Great GNU/Linux Division

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Created 22/04/2019 - 4:03pm

Submitted by Roy Schestowitz on Monday 22nd of April 2019 04:03:27 PM Filed under [GNU](#) [1] [Linux](#) [2]

I have not abandoned the language of the purists altogether. For instance, I still refer to my distribution of choice as ?Debian GNU/Linux,? because that is what project members prefer. Similarly, if an FSF employee asks that I use their preferred term, I will usually agree if I think the story I?m covering is one in which people should know the difference.

What has changed is my refusal to be overly-concerned about such matters of language. While language issues were worth discussing 20 years ago, the inability to move beyond them is obsessive and crankish today. If the purists really want to help free software, they would be more useful contributing to the project of their choice than clinging a cause that was lost years ago.

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