

Software Freedom

Pragmatic Idealism?

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diverse

chaotic

confusing

dreamy idealism

*“information wants
to be freeeee”*

economic pragmatism

*“it's the best way to
get things done”*

Australia:

The Clever Country

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The Clever Country

Really?

The 2002 National Report on Schooling in Australia states that compared to previous years:

"the student-computer ratio had improved considerably in most schools and was approaching 5:1"

2000

Exports \$7.7B, Imports \$15B

ICT Deficit: \$7.3B

2000

Exports \$7.7B, Imports \$15B

ICT Deficit: \$7.3B

2005

Exports \$5.3B, Imports \$25B

ICT Deficit: \$19.7B

who will save us
from ourselves?



NEW **commodore 64**

WORLD'S MOST POPULAR HOME COMPUTER
FLEXIBLE AND VERSATILE
AND THE CUSTOMER PROGRAMS AVAILABLE
INCLUDING WORDSTAR, GEM, BASIC
INCLUDES 400K DISK

SUPER FLOAT

We want to create smart
innovators

But Australia creates smart
well-trained *consumers*

K-12 ICT education
teaches which
buttons to click

*“We have to teach
kids how to use
the software they
will encounter
in the workforce”*

pure

pure

weapons grade

pure

weapons grade

balonium

True understanding does
not come from rote
memorisation of data

True understanding does
not come from rote
memorisation of data
with a use-by date



NEW **commodore 64**

WORLD'S MOST POPULAR HOME COMPUTER
FLEXIBLE AND WIDE TV RANGE
AND THE CUSTOMER PROGRAMS AVAILABLE
INCLUDING: BORDERS, GAMES, MUSIC
INCLUDES 400K 5.25"

SUPER FLOAT

Open Source

empowers us to
understand the *how*
and the *why* as well
as the *what*.

supply and demand:
the economics
of scarcity



Australia's trade and investment relationships (d):

Major Australian exports, 2006-07 (A\$m) (e):

Coal	21,896
Iron ore	15,502
Non-monetary gold	10,560
Crude petroleum	7,640
Aluminium ores (incl. alumina)	6,279

Australia's main export destinations, 2006-07 (e):

1	Japan	19.4%
2	China	13.6%
3	Republic of Korea	7.8%
4	India	6.0%
5	United States	5.8%

China



China

Educating their population
while learning from others by
being a cheap outsourcer

Local innovation

Local business

Local productivity

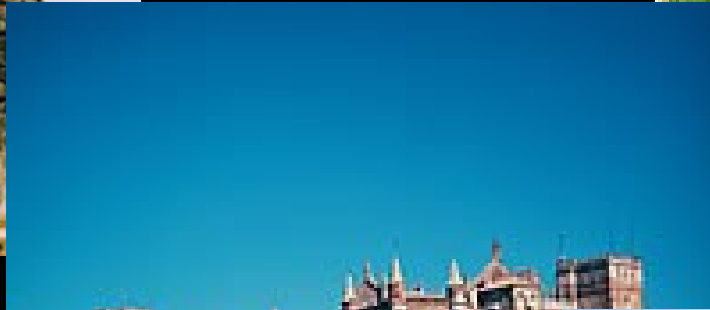
Local innovation

Local business

Local productivity

Global opportunity

Junta de Extremadura



22% unemployment

Shrinking population

Huge trade deficit



2002:

Regional Strategy on
Information Society

agricultural economy

agricultural economy

~~industrial economy~~

agricultural economy

~~industrial economy~~

information economy

To give every resident
access to all knowledge
gathered by society
throughout history

ubiquitous access to
computers in schools
and regional centers

Proprietary option:

Buy computers and
load them with

Microsoft Windows,
MS Office, etc

3 major problems

Not localised

Not localised

**Magic boxes, not
educational tools**

Not localised

**Magic boxes, not
educational tools**

Too expensive



gnuLinEx



Equipo



Carpeta personal de user



Papelera

Panel de control gnuLinEx

- Escritorio
- Teclado y Ratón
- Periféricos
- Conectividad
- Sistema
- Acceso
- Programas

Tipos de letra	Ventanas	Salvapantallas
Tema	Menús y barras de herramientas	Iconos originales
Tecnología de asistencia	Fondo del escritorio	Resolución de la pantalla

gnuLinEx

Panel de Control de gnuLinEx



Panel de control gnuLinEx

**Trained 15,000
teachers how
to use it**

**Distributed it
throughout
the region**

**student:computer
ratio of**

2:1

Built

33

**computing centers
in regional areas**

Junta de Extremadura

Better computer/student
ratio than Australia

Junta de Extremadura

Better computer/student
ratio than Australia

Converted trade deficit
into a trade surplus

Junta de Extremadura

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Whole-of-government
conversion to FOSS

Opportunity for Australia?



Computers at school for year
9-12 using Federal Govt grants
to offset school capital
expenses such as hardware.

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Rebates to parents who
purchase laptops for their kids.

**What can
we do?**

Local innovation

Local business

Local productivity

Global opportunity

Local innovation

+

Local business

+

Local productivity

=

Global opportunity

pragmatism

VS

idealism

pragmatism

+

idealism

pragmatism

+

idealism

=

the FOSS community



www.linux.org.au



**Open Source
Industry Australia**

www.osia.net.au