



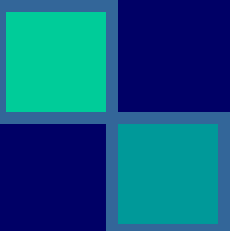

# Fear and Loathing in Community Wireless Networks



Ken Caruso – Co-Founder [Seattlewireless.net](http://Seattlewireless.net),  
[Freenetworks.org](http://Freenetworks.org)




# Notice to CD Users

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- If you are reading this off of the CD, please note that I have a lot of info in the speakers notes, I like to keep the slides terse, and put most of what I will discuss in the speakers notes of the PowerPoint. Also check to see if a newer revision of the slide deck has been released
- 




# Freenetworks?

- Open peering/free transit
  - Put up a node start routing packets
  - Community Wireless Networks
  - Free as in speech
- 






# Different Approaches

- For some the current mission is free public Internet Access
  - For some the mission is to build Infrastructure that is completely community owned, does not rely on existing Telco lines, and may not necessarily provide Internet access
- 





# Why is this happening?

- Standards based technology is finally available
  - Extremely inexpensive gear
  - Growing desire for connectivity anywhere
  - Techies/Hackers feel like they are being screwed over by ISPs
  - Think BBS, Fidonet etc... (Geeks like to connect computers together)
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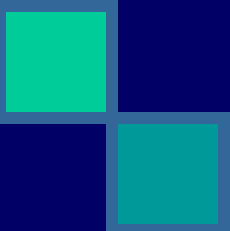



The Third World  
PAYS LESS with...!  
**LINUX**





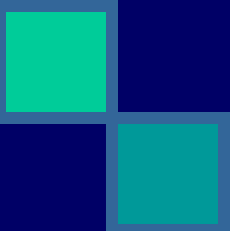

# Foe?

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- ISP's providing all you can eat have already been feeling the burn
  - Where is 3g?
  - WISPs are possibly concerned about crowded bands
  - Pringles Can-tennas are not FCC certified
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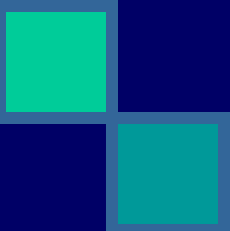

# Friend?

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- Yet another thing for ISPs to complain about
  - Geek community is always pissed off at the Telco
  - Media loves the “controversy”
- 






# Confusion

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- Why would anyone do anything for free?
  - Venture Capitalists want to know the secret plan?
  - Who pays for it?
  - Will this hurt or hinder other models
- 





# Privacy


- Decentralization of network ownership
    - Harder to get aggregate inspection point
    - Do not need to give private information to join/use the network
- 







# Community or Independently Owned Infrastructure

- Different from existing way of thinking
  - Breaking down the local loop monopoly
  - Faster deployment of new technology
  - Promoting R&D
- 



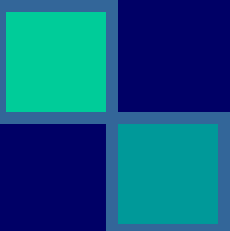

RESTORATION HARDWARE

SALE

DAD SOARS



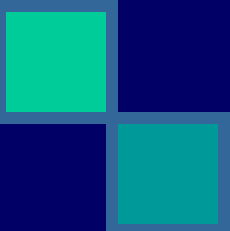

# Peer to Peer

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- Location based apps
  - Increased efficiency in p2p apps such as file sharing
  - Why go get it from the Internet when my next door neighbor has it on our wireless link
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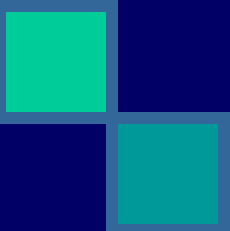



# How do I start

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- Check to see if a group exists in your area
  - Start a mailing list and website to organize meetings and events
  - Read existing groups mailing lists and websites
- 



# Links

- 
- <http://freenetworks.org>
  - <http://seattlewireless.net>
  - <http://personaltelco.net>
  - <http://nycwireless.net>
  - <http://bawug.org>
  - <http://consume.net>
  - <http://nocat.net>
  - <http://novawireless.org>
- 



# Links

- <http://www.houstonwireless.org/>
  - <http://www.elektrosmog.nu/>
  - <http://bcwireless.net/>
  - <http://www.austinwireless.net/>
- 