
Subject: Re: A Plea for Fair Behavior

Posted by [Gray](#) on Mon, 07 Feb 2011 22:07:38 GMT

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On Feb 7, 5:04 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Folks,

>

> I was all excited today to get a mock-up of my new book,

> and I was looking forward to publishing it soon, when

> I got a bucket of cold water poured on my head. No, not

> a Super Bowl celebration. A report that my old book, in

> PDF form, could be downloaded for free on a public web

> page. Indeed, I just downloaded it.

>

> Here's the thing. I'm not out to cheat anyone. Or take

> money out of anyone's pocket. No one pays me to write

> books, maintain my web page, or provide free advice to

> anyone who e-mails me. I do that all at no charge to

> anyone. In fact, what limited advertising I do on my web page

> doesn't even cover the cost, so I *pay* to do that, too.

> I'm sure if I withheld all the information I give

> away for free on this newsgroup and in my web page and put

> it instead into books, I would probably be writing 4-5 books

> a year.

>

> I'm probably a sucker to give so much away, but I like

> the feeling of being in a community, and I enjoy very much

> being a part of this one.

>

> So, don't rip me off. If you can't afford a book, let me

> know. I'm always able to work something out. I'm not getting

> rich doing this. In fact, just the opposite. I'm practically

> driving myself into bankruptcy. I'd like to write 3-4 more books

> because I think I have something valuable to offer the IDL

> community. But this kind of news really makes me question

> whether it's worth it at all.

>

> I don't know. I don't feel like working much today.

> I guess I'll go get a beer. Maybe that will help.

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

> --

> David Fanning, Ph.D.

> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

I'll buy a book!
