

TIMTOWTDI
A Manager's Nightmare

Slide 1

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1 Introduction

The Perl motto is “There’s more than one way to do it.” Divining how many more is left as an exercise to the reader.

```
perldoc perl
```

TAFTMWTDI

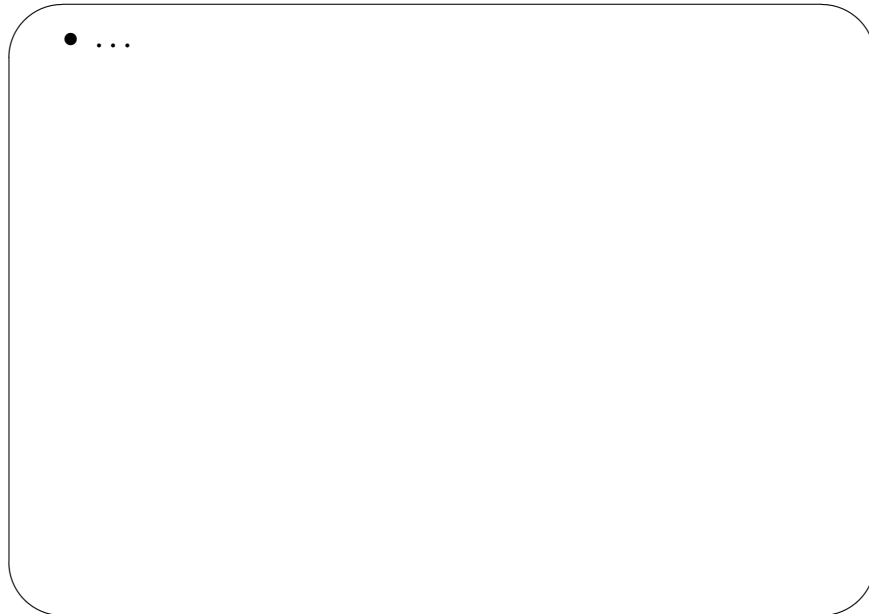
There are far too many ways to do it!

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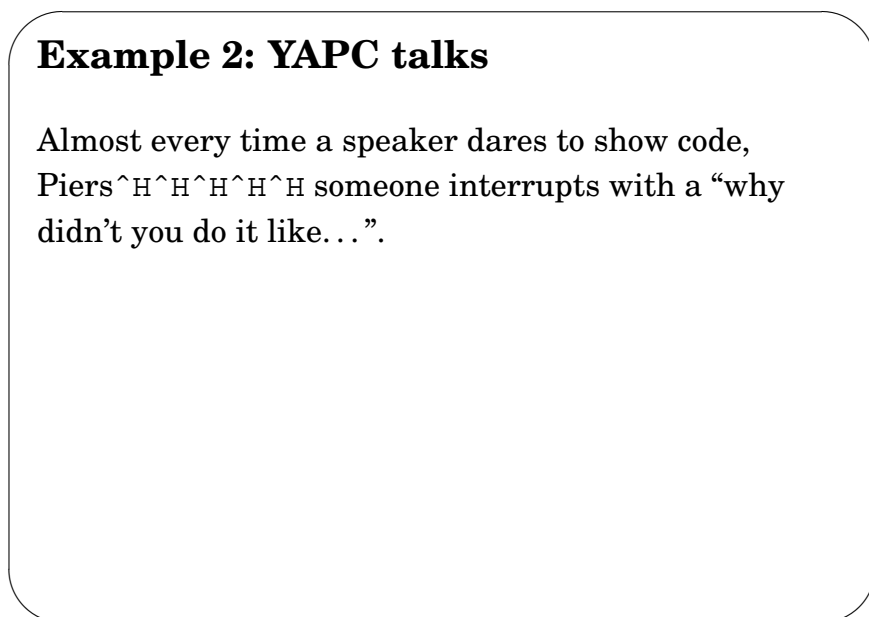
Example 1: templating modules

- `Template::Toolkit`
- `Text::Template`
- `Text::FastTemplate`
- `Text::Templar`
- `HTML::Template`
- `HTML::KTemplate`
- `HTML::Mason`
- `dTemplate`

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2 Why is it a nightmare?

Because it is simultaneously good and evil.

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2.1 Good TIMTOWTDI

- encourages creativity
- reduces the learning time
- easy to port from other languages
- solution fits the problem

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2.2 Evil TIMTOWTDI

- encourages creativity
- increases the learning time
- easy to write rubbish
- may not be the best solution for the problem

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3 Is TIMTOWTDI the problem?

TIOORWTDIM

There is only one right way to do it: mine!

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4 How do we fix it?

- coding standards
- collective code ownership
- peer review
- refactoring
- knowledge sharing
- encourage best practices

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4.1 Things to remember

- TIMTOWTDI should never be a justification to write bad code.
- Not unique to Perl.
- Perl isn't the problem: we are.

TIABWTDI

There is a better way to do it!