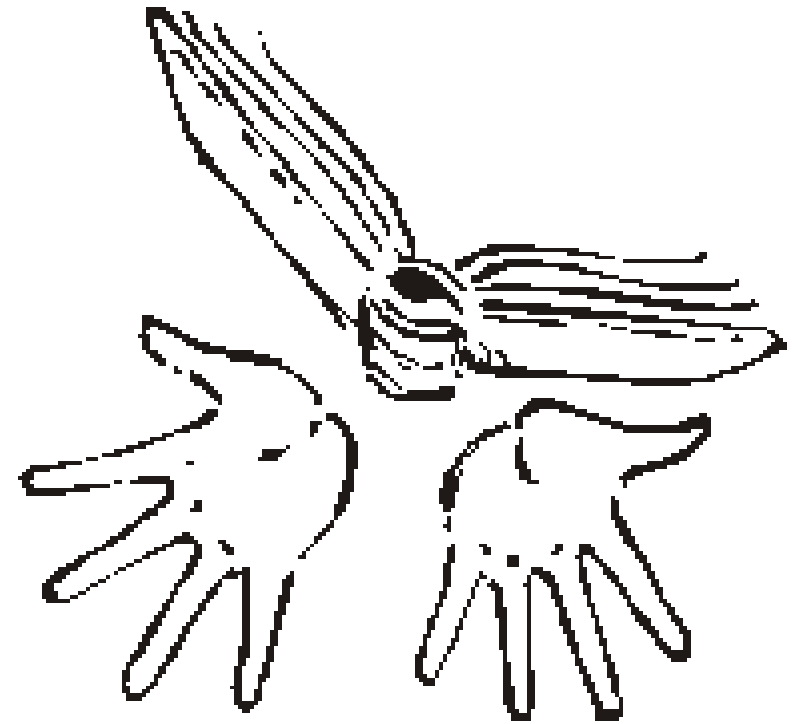


vrüschrift.org



Free Education



Wet Dream or Revolution

What are **free** Schoolbooks ?

This one is easy to understand for this smart audience.

**Compare Free Schoolbooks
to
Free Software:**



Free Documentation License instead of GPL

Same freedoms to copy, study, improve and distribute

**Current Free Schoolbooks:
quantity is low and often the quality too.**

**Free software was bound to fail, Wikipedia was bound to fail.
And now Free education too?**

No!

there are serious stakeholders involved:

Teachers

Students (ofcourse!)

Parents



What is the impact on society

The **power** of Free information is in the **license**.
Free Schoolbooks are no exception.



Free Education helps developing the third world.

(extra condition: we should allow them to take part in our economic monopoly game!)

Free information is **THE way** to **fight** ignorance,
extremism and discrimination of women and races.

Finally **Free Education** is the **only way** to **fight terrorism**.

Closing the cultural gap

Our culture vs educational culture:

Rapid changes and development vs. innovations caused by fair competition of publishers (ughugh)

Education leans against publishers

Free schoolbooks: KISS and KISS only

Same old story again:

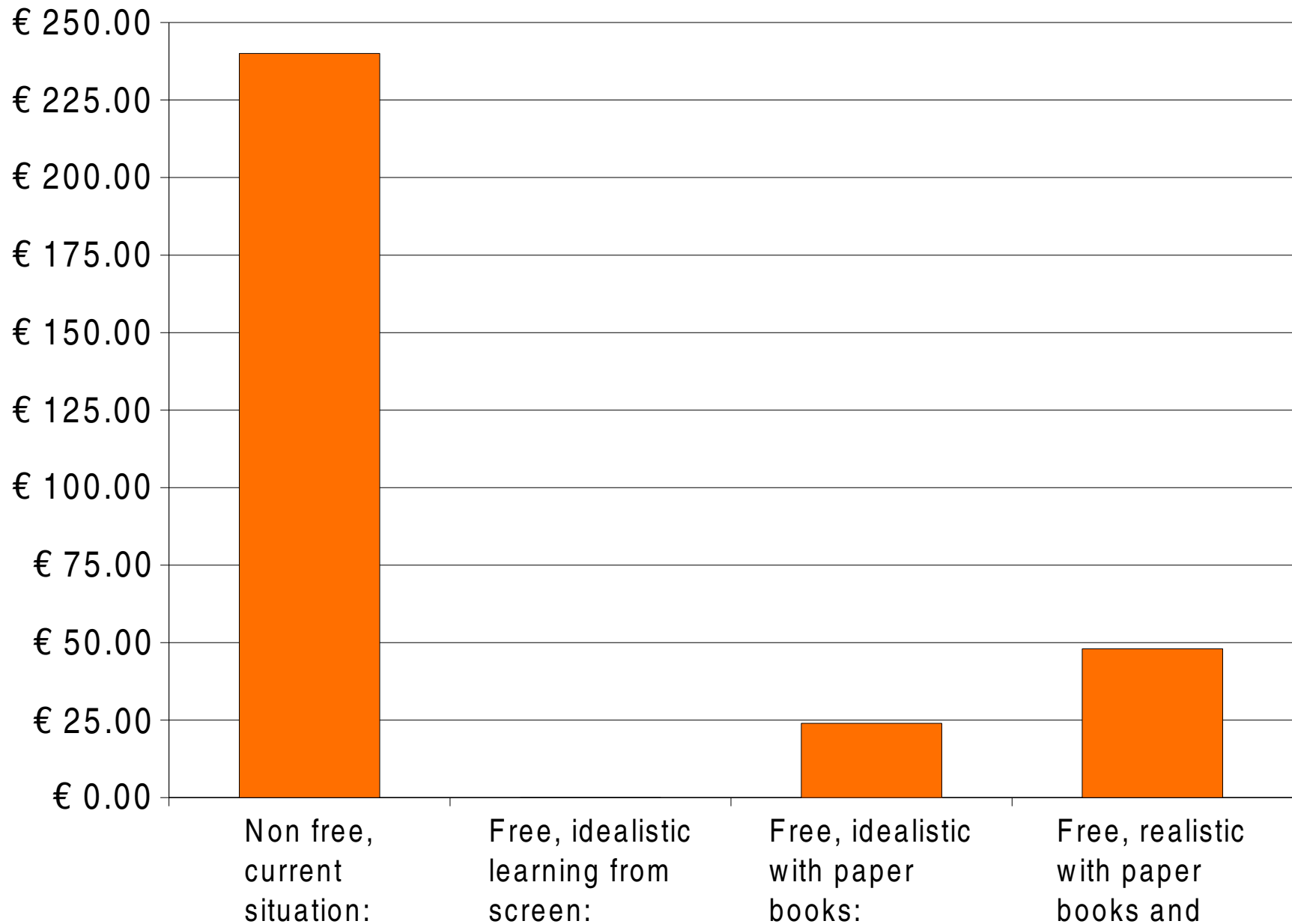
not mature, for geeks, bad commercial model, no support and finally FUD from publishers

Example

Third grade secondary education (VWO):
28,000 students in the Netherlands,
 price for math books for one year: **Eur 82.-**

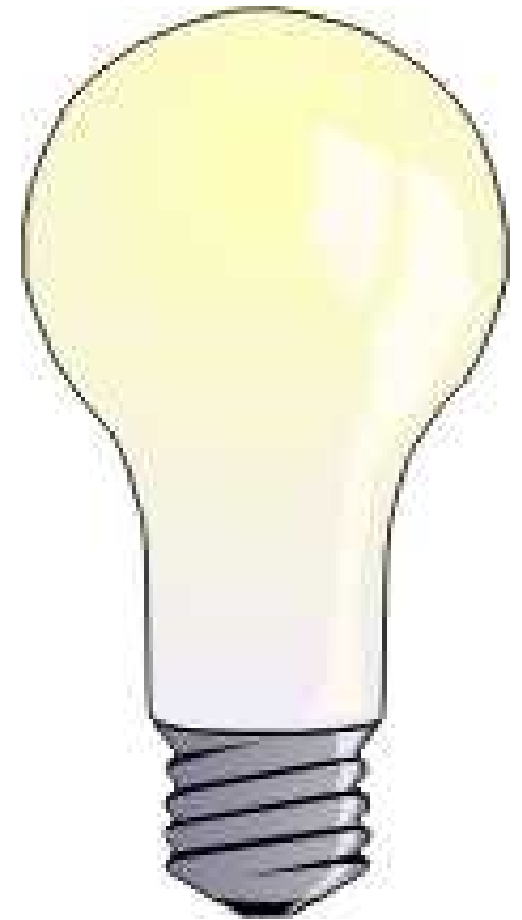
	Scenario			
	Non free, current situation:	Free, idealistic learning from screen:	Free, idealistic with paper books:	Free, realistic with paper books and professional help:
Yearly costs for math	€ 16,00	€ 0,00	€ 2,00	€ 4,00
Yearly costs for all books	€ 240,00	€ 0,00	€ 24,00	€ 48,00
Make publishers wealthy		Developers are 100% volunteers		Volunteers
Keep education away from those who cannot afford it		No directly paid people involved		And professionals, 2 year salaries initial plus regular support
Sometimes lack of improvement		Active version management		
Sometimes lock in by regular "improvements"		No lock in		

Non Free vs. Free books, Costs



Timeline

- 1998 Light bulb
- 2003 Nuked by European Commission
- 2004 Help from Nijs but Nijs was nuked
- 2005 Never got answers from the Ministry
- 2005 SP (Dutch political party) is close but ignores our input
- 2006 A letter to the Minister, unanswered yet



Some points

Governments can play catalyst role, society wins

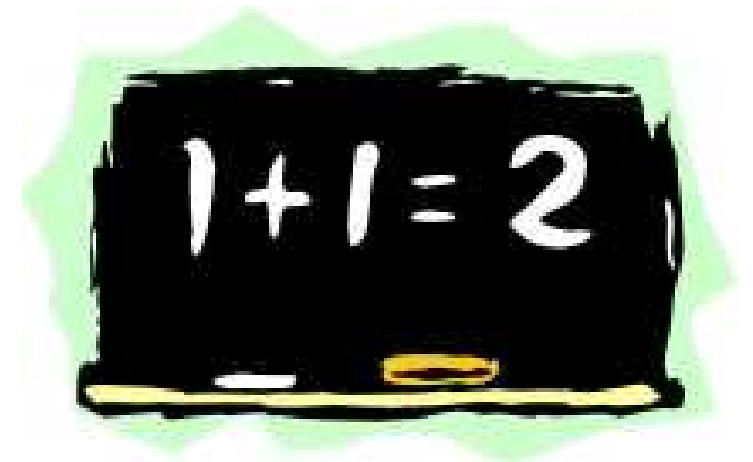
Need a complete pilot, free doesn't mean gratis

Publishers, look at O'Reilly, new game, new rules

International cooperation (so obvious for us)

A need for forges

non free standards: bye!



Situation NL
with 16Mcitizens,
4Mstudents spending
700MEuro on
schoolbooks **yearly.**

You pay an average
of **40Eur**
every year
of your life

Seed asap,
harvest asap

Don't give up
creating awareness,
keep asking
politician
for **help.**



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make a difference