The Reasonable Developer

Paul Verbeek-Mast
Front-end Developer @ Werkspot

Content warnings

Detailed description of sexual assault

Image of raw meat

Image of Mark Zuckerberg

“I’m just an engineer.”

“Once the rockets are up, who cares where they come down?”

– Tom Lehrer (in ‘Wernher von Braun’)

The Reasonable Developer

Paul Verbeek-Mast
Front-end Developer @ Werkspot

Reasonable

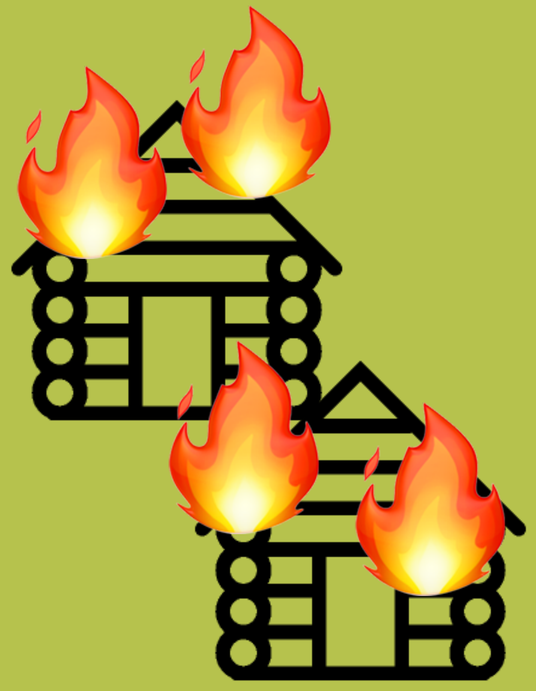
having sound judgement; fair and sensible

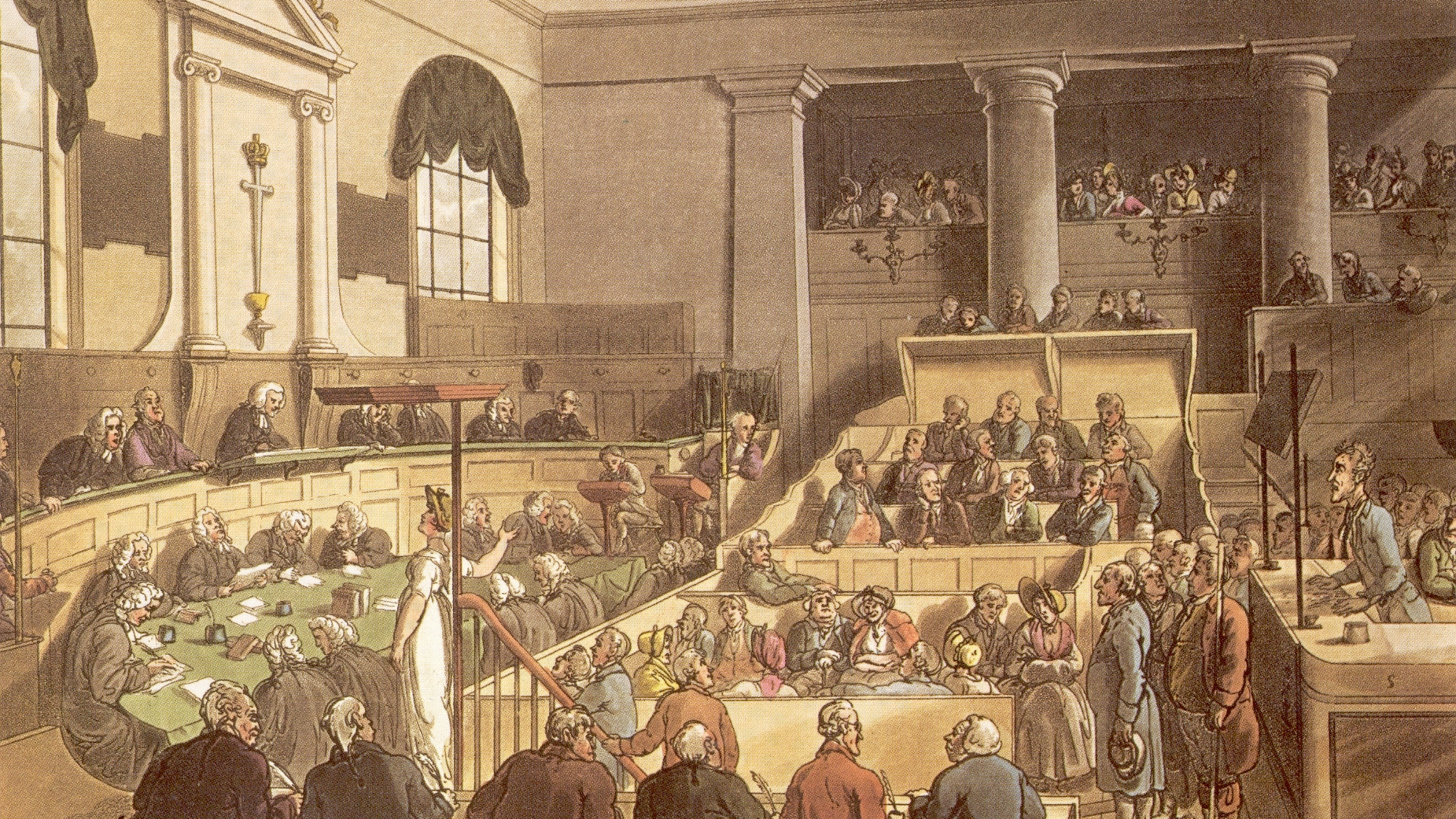
Normal distribution & standard deviation

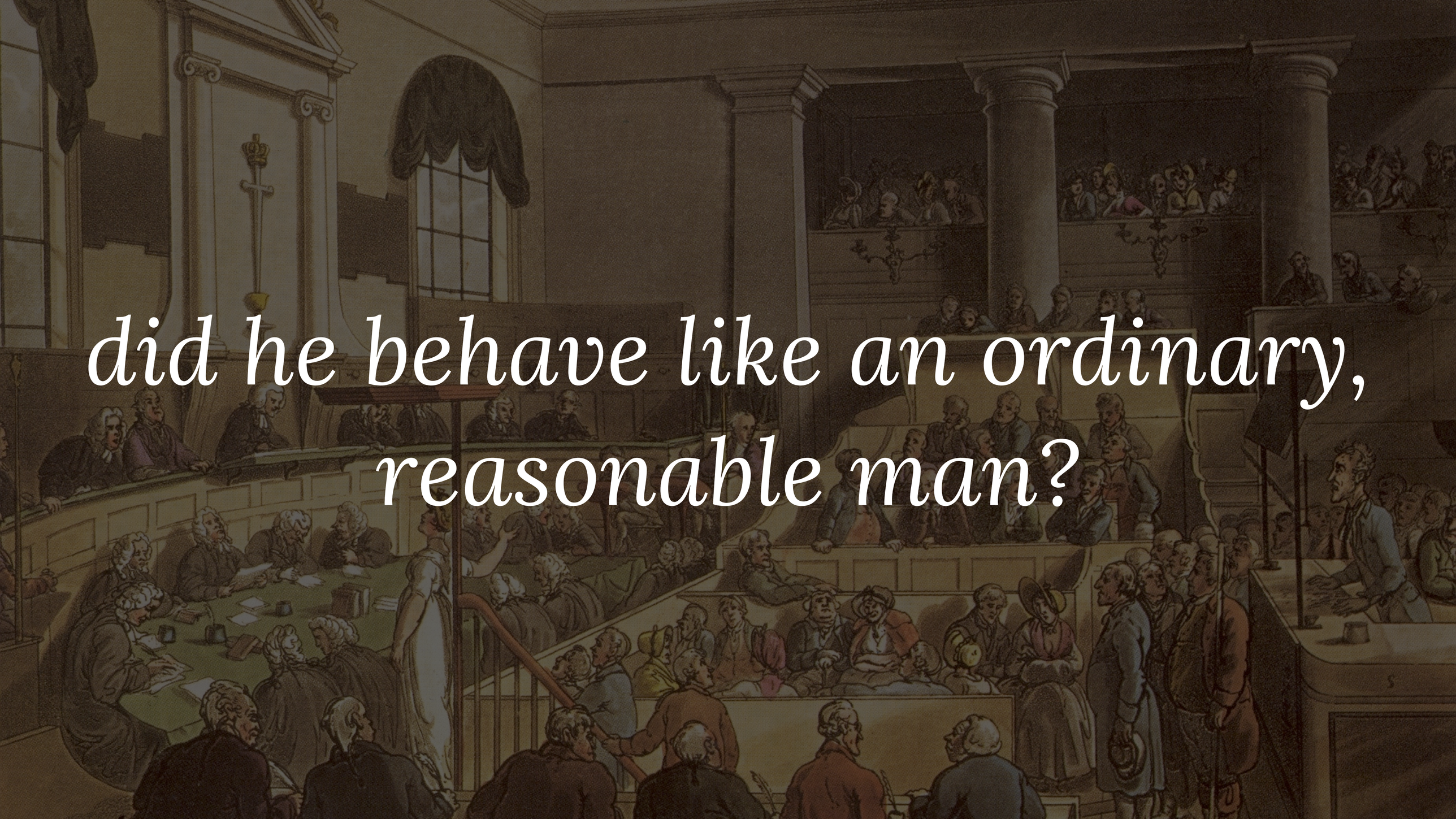
L’Homme Moyen (The Average Man)

Menlove

Vaughan

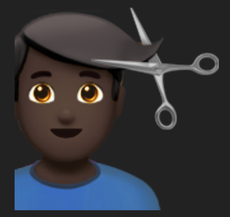






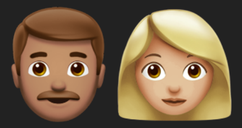
did he behave like an ordinary, reasonable man?

The Legal Village



reasonable hairdresser

reasonable officer



reasonable person

fair-minded and informed observer

ordinary prudent man of business

*“Fitbit helped expose woman's **false rape claim** in Lancaster County”*

http://www.pennlive.com/news/2016/04/watch_today_segment_on_how_fit.html

https://twitter.com/internetofshit/status/692004889380179968

facebook

“The ugly truth is that we believe in connecting people so deeply that ***anything that allows us to connect more people more often is *de facto* good****. It is perhaps the only area where the metrics do tell the true story as far as we are concerned”*

– Andrew Bosworth, VP @ Facebook
https://www.buzzfeed.com/ryanmac/growth-at-any-cost-top-facebook-executive-defended-data

Google Analytics

You just missed it! Our last room sold out a few days ago.
Your dates are popular – we've run out of rooms at this property! Check out more below.

Profile Strength: **Intermediate**

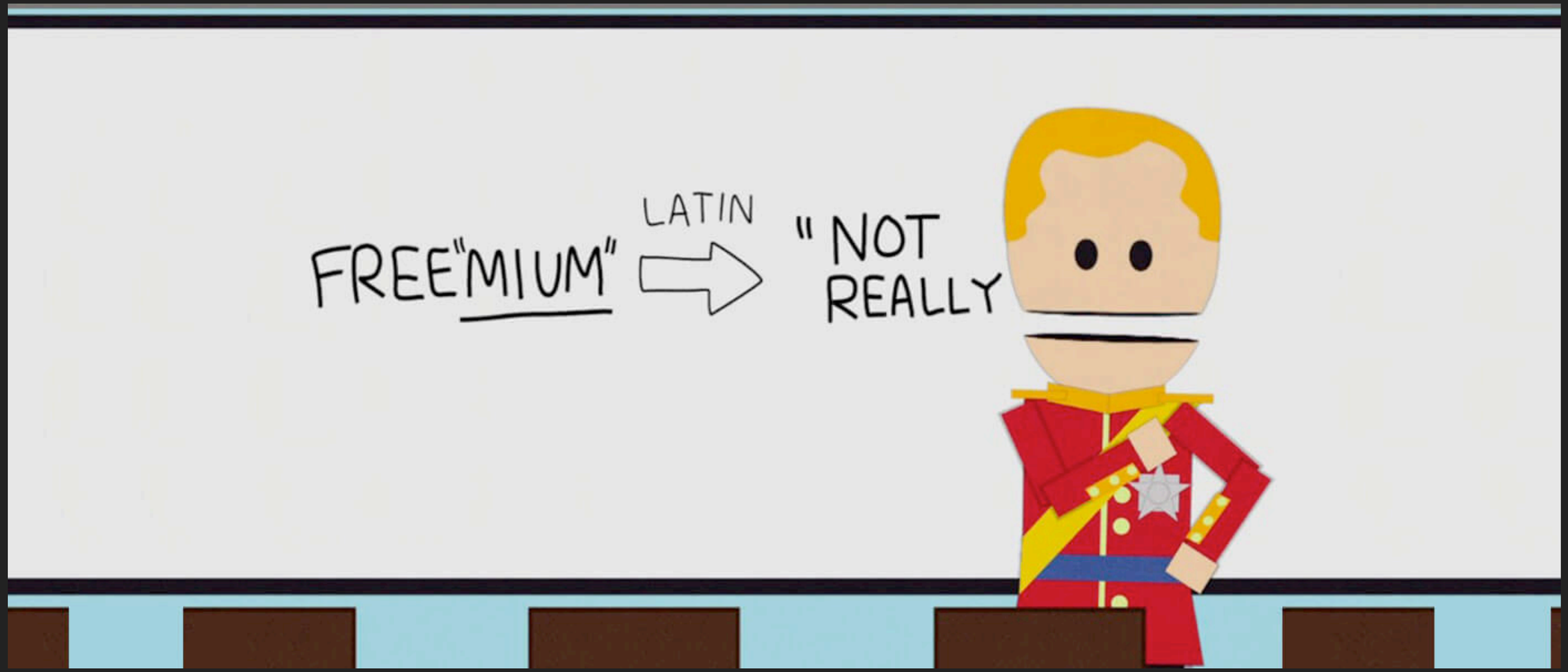
Add a profile photo to help others recognize you
Members with a photo get up to 21x more profile views

Date of Birth: * (eg. 05/21/1970)

FACEBOOK PIXEL

Ethical dilemmas are everywhere

What is your product when it’s “**free**” to use?


FREE"MIUM"
LATIN
" NOT
REALLY

What is “**safe enough**”?

Claudia Pellegrino @c_pellegrino · Apr 4

Does T-Mobile Austria in fact store customers' passwords in clear text @tmobileat? @PWTooStrong @Telekom_hilft

T-Mobile Austria

@tmobileat

Follow

Replying to @c_pellegrino @PWTooStrong @Telekom_hilft

Hello Claudia! The customer service agents see the first four characters of your password. We store the whole password, because you need it for the login for mein.t-mobile.at ^andrea

8:29 AM - 4 Apr 2018

546 Retweets **447** Likes

292 546 447

T-Mobile Austria @tmobileat · Apr 5

Hi @c_pellegrino, I really do not get why this is a problem. You have so many passwords for evey app, for every mail-account and so on. We secure all data very carefully, so there is not a thing to fear. ^Käthe

303 350 314

Eric™ @Korni22 · Apr 6

Well, what if your infrastructure gets breached and everyone's password is published in plaintext to the whole wide world?

3 80 1.6K

T-Mobile Austria @tmobileat · Apr 6

@Korni22 What if this doesn't happen because our security is amazingly good? ^Käthe

435 640 785

How much effort should we put into **preventing misuse**?

F2.8 AUTOFOCUS 50MM – ∞
5 ELEMENT LENS
54.2° VIEWING ANGLE
1/4 INCH CCD

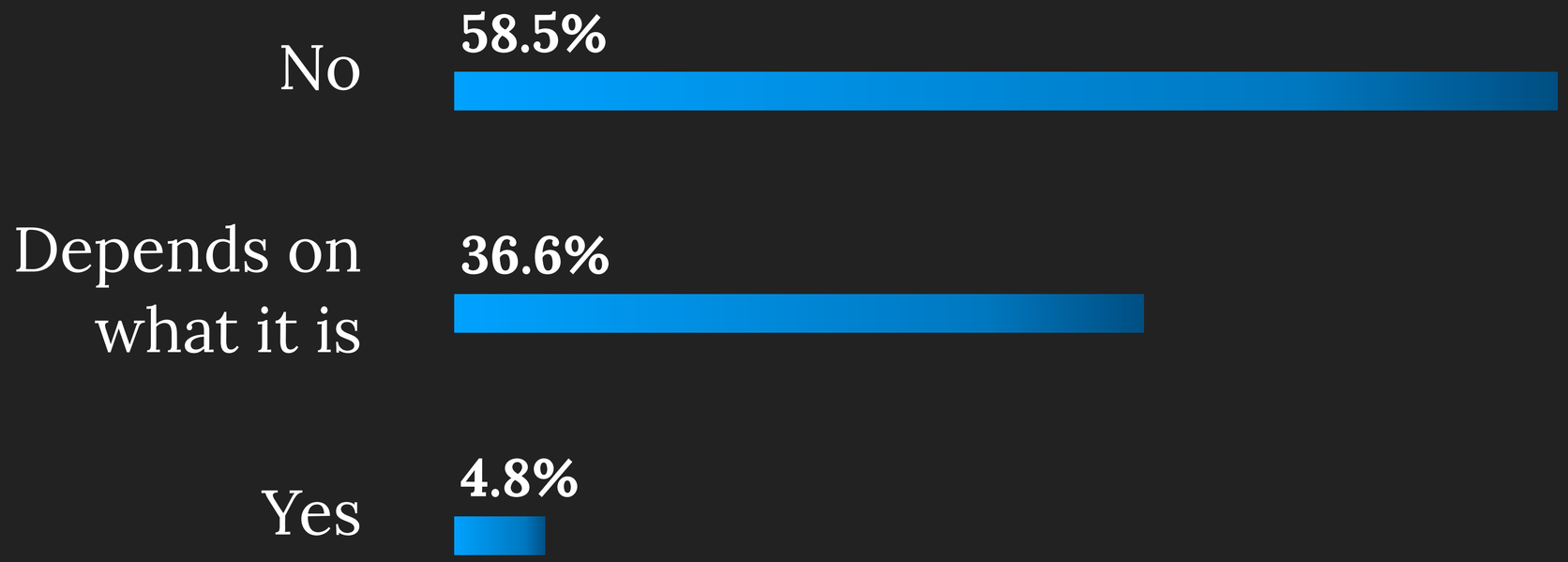
Settings
Audio
Experience
Gameplay
Advanced
Teleport Bubble
Small
Med
Large
Ignore Bubble
Small
Med
Large
Show watch
notifications
friends when
friends come online
open menu

Should I **fix** this bug?

How much **harm** can
this bug cause?

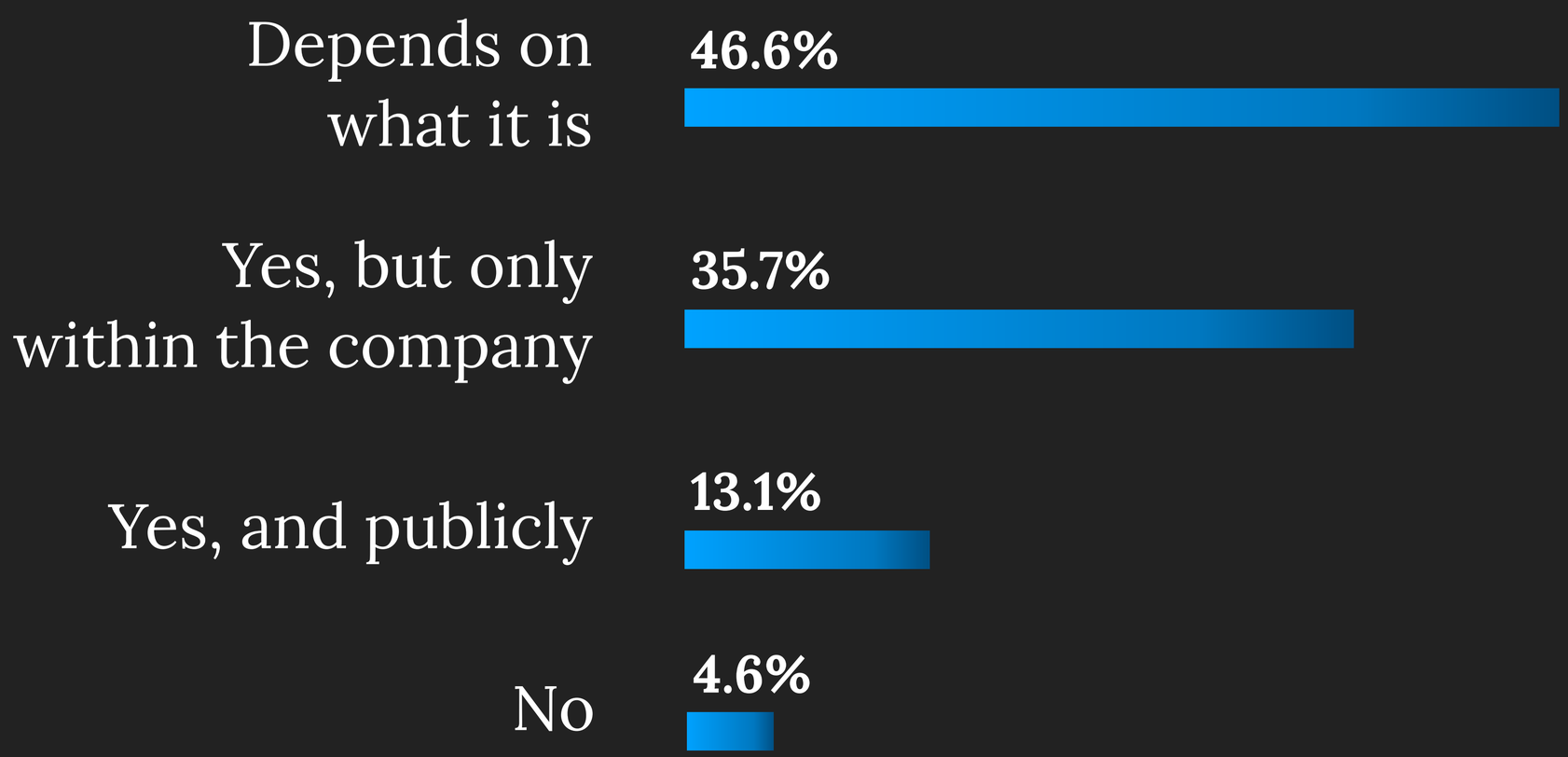
What are we **sharing** back to the community?

Would you write code that's **clearly unethical**?



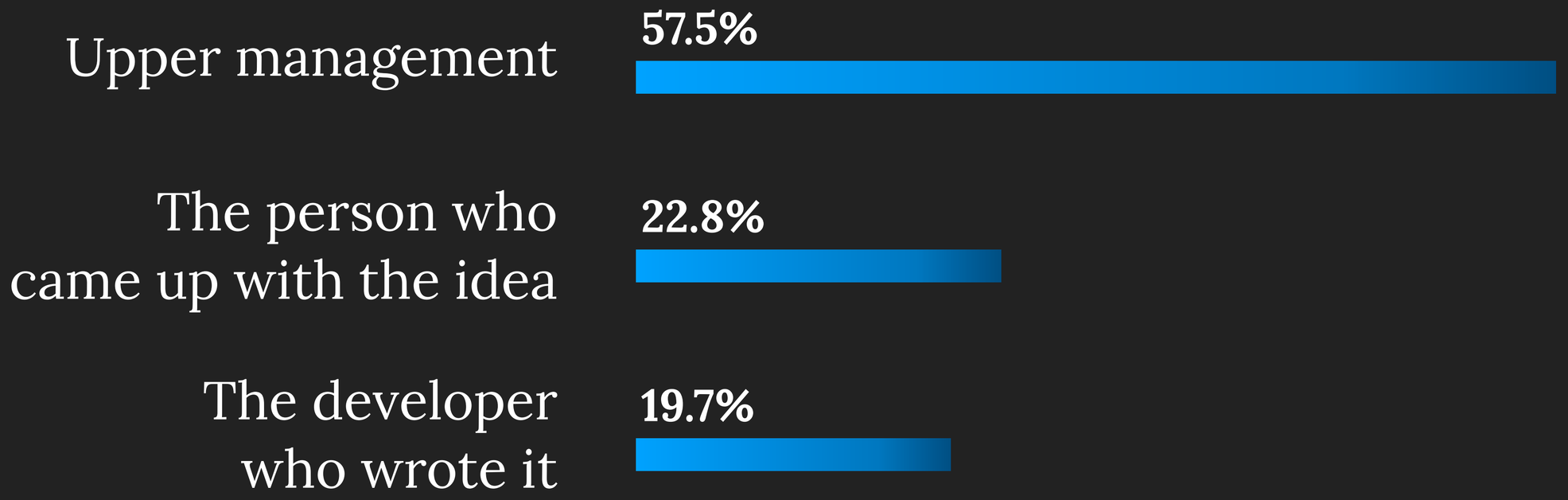
https://insights.stackoverflow.com/survey/2018/#ethics

Would you **report** unethical code?



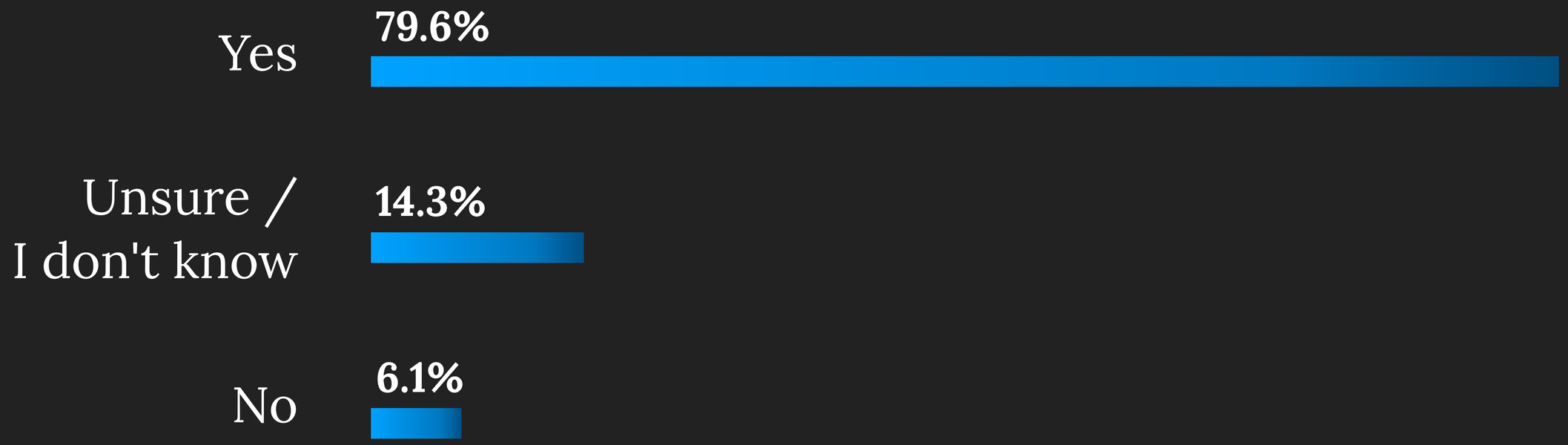
https://insights.stackoverflow.com/survey/2018/#ethics

Who is ultimately most **responsible**?



https://insights.stackoverflow.com/survey/2018/#ethics

Do developers have an obligation to consider the **ethical implications** of their code?



https://insights.stackoverflow.com/survey/2018/#ethics

Reasonable Developer

1. Does not write code that’s clearly unethical;
2. Reports any unethical code;
3. Holds upper management responsible for accomplishing something unethical;
4. Is obligated to consider ethical implications of their code.

Code of Ethics

Association for
Computing Machinery

IEEE

ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct

“An ACM member should”

1. Avoid harm;
2. Contribute to society and to human well-being, acknowledging that all people are stakeholders in computing;
3. Be fair and take action not to discriminate;
4. Design and implement systems that are robustly and usably secure.

ACM Software Engineering Code

"A software engineer should"

1. Accept full responsibility for their own work;
2. Be careful to use only accurate data derived by ethical and lawful means, and use it only in ways properly authorized;
3. Avoid associations with businesses and organizations which are in conflict with this code.

ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct

https://www.acm.org/about-acm/acm-code-of-ethics-and-professional-conduct

ACM Software Engineering Code (with IEEE)

https://ethics.acm.org/code-of-ethics/software-engineering-code/

IEEE Code of Ethics

https://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

What if you encounter ethical problems?

What is the problem exactly?

Who is affected?

What are the internal procedures?

What are the alternative actions?

ICAEW framework for resolving ethical problems

https://www.icaew.com/technical/ethics/framework-for-resolving-ethical-problems

Santa Clara University framework for ethical decision making

https://www.scu.edu/ethics/ethics-resources/ethical-decision-making/a-framework-for-ethical-decision-making/

Ethics is an integral part of software development

Don’t just act reasonable.
Act responsible.

Create your own code of ethics, and live by it

You are not
“just an engineer”

Thank you

Paul Verbeek-Mast
@paul_v_m

Front-end developer @ Werkspot