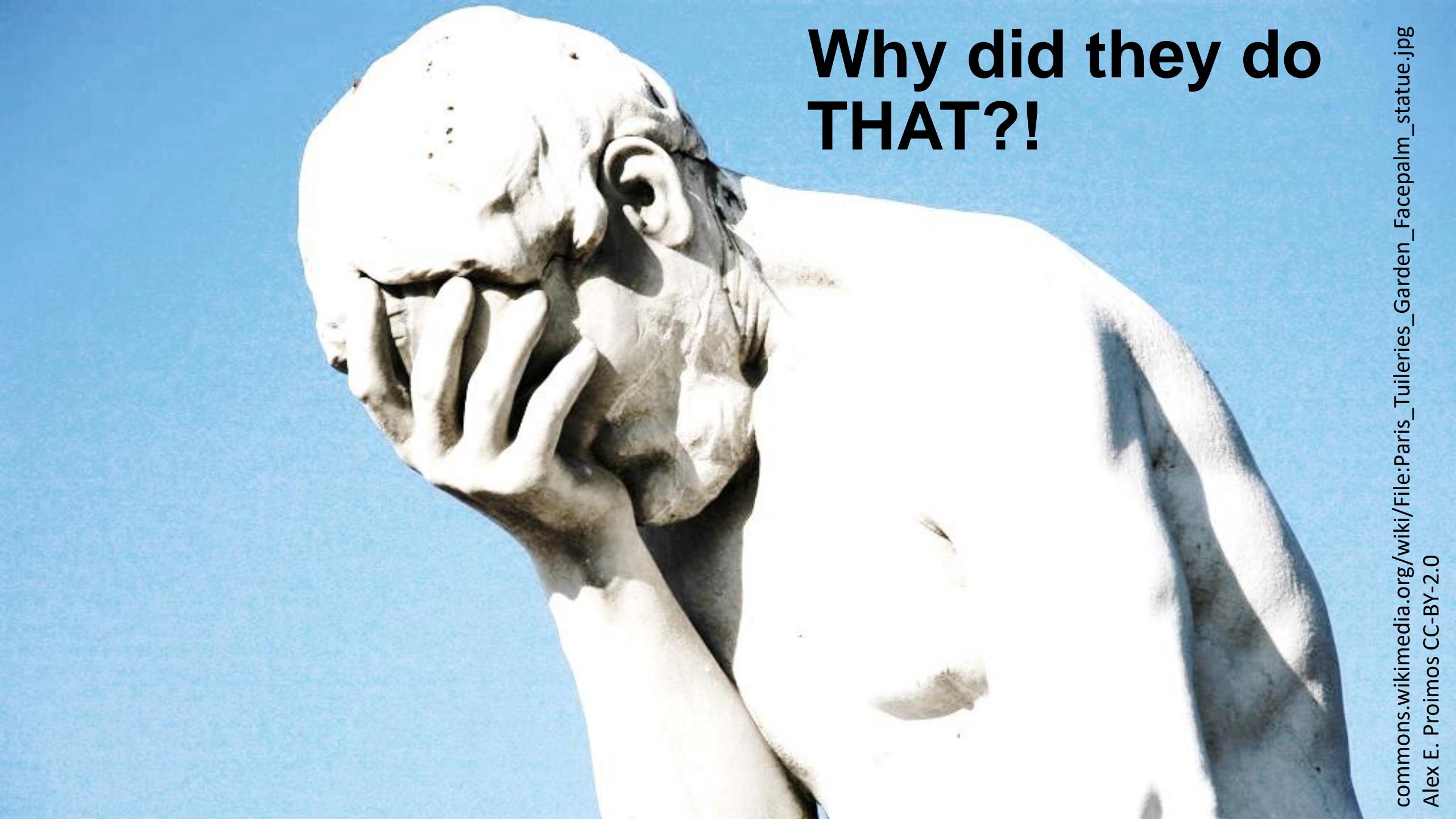
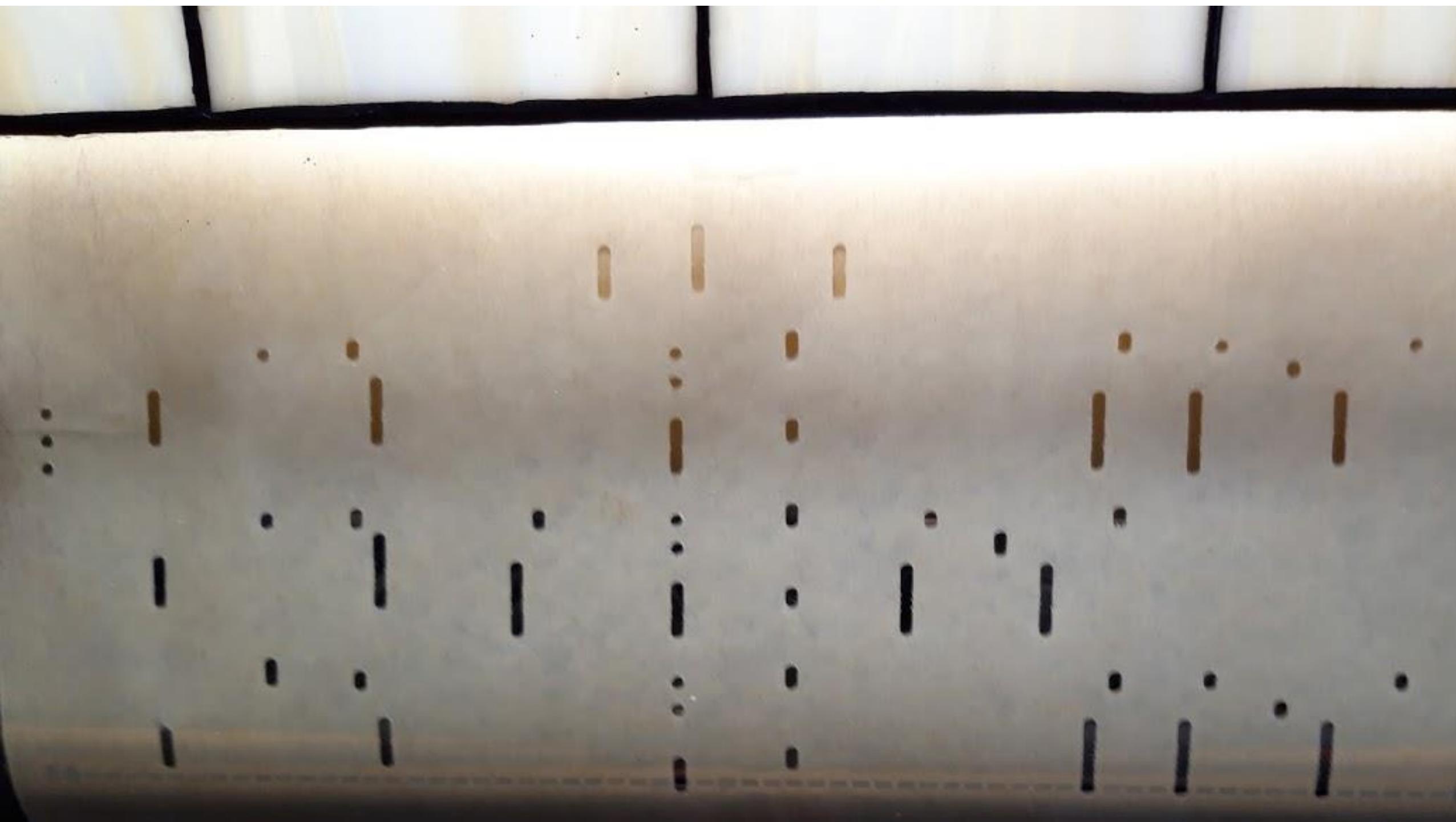


Helping developers to help each other

Gail Ollis
Bournemouth University
U.K.

A bronze statue of a man in a suit, captured in a moment of exasperation or despair. He is shown from the waist up, wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt. His right hand is raised to his forehead, with his fingers pressed against his temple in a classic 'facepalm' gesture. His head is tilted back slightly, and his eyes are closed. The statue is set against a solid blue background.

**Why did they do
THAT?!**





Helping developers to help each other

Gail Ollis
Bournemouth University
U.K.

1.

Interviews



2. Workshops

3.

Feedback



www.sheppard.af.mil/News/Photos/igphoto/20000468971

U.S. Air Force photo/John Ingle, public domain

Interviews

chooses identifiers which are not
and-paste “project”
quality.

self) “DRY” principle

chooses meaningful and distinct
keyboards and user input.
password; userinput & user_input
data to disk
then tries to
oldpwd; userstuff);
password; userinput & user_input
choose to answer que
* Explains how to
keyboards and
patients with
less to
Willing to answer que
Example:

Practices good housekeeping

Example:

moves temporary debug statements
for others to deal with
leaves TODOs

Automates tasks

Example:
* Explains how to
keyboards and
patients with
less to
Willing to answer que
* Explains how to
keyboards and
patients with
less to
Willing to answer que
Example:

Ignores build warnings

Example:
* Checks in their work infrequently
* Rarely integrates their

Bad. Noticeable impact

Bad. Slight impact

Neutral

Good. Slight impact

Good. Noticeable impact

Automates tasks

**Includes symptoms
& how to reproduce
in bug reports**

**Fixes symptoms
without discovering
root cause of bug**

**Is good at helping
others**

**Is willing to discuss
suggestions about
their code**

**Espouses “one true
way”**

**Tends to “own”
code**

**Tends to work in
isolation**

“I saw him create a legacy system in 3 weeks”

Example:

moves team
not leaves

Example:

- * Willing to answer questions
- * Explains how to less experienced
- * Keyboard and mouse
- * Patient

Automates tasks

Ignores build warnings

**Is willing to ask
questions**

Chooses identifiers which are
not succinct, meaningful &
distinct

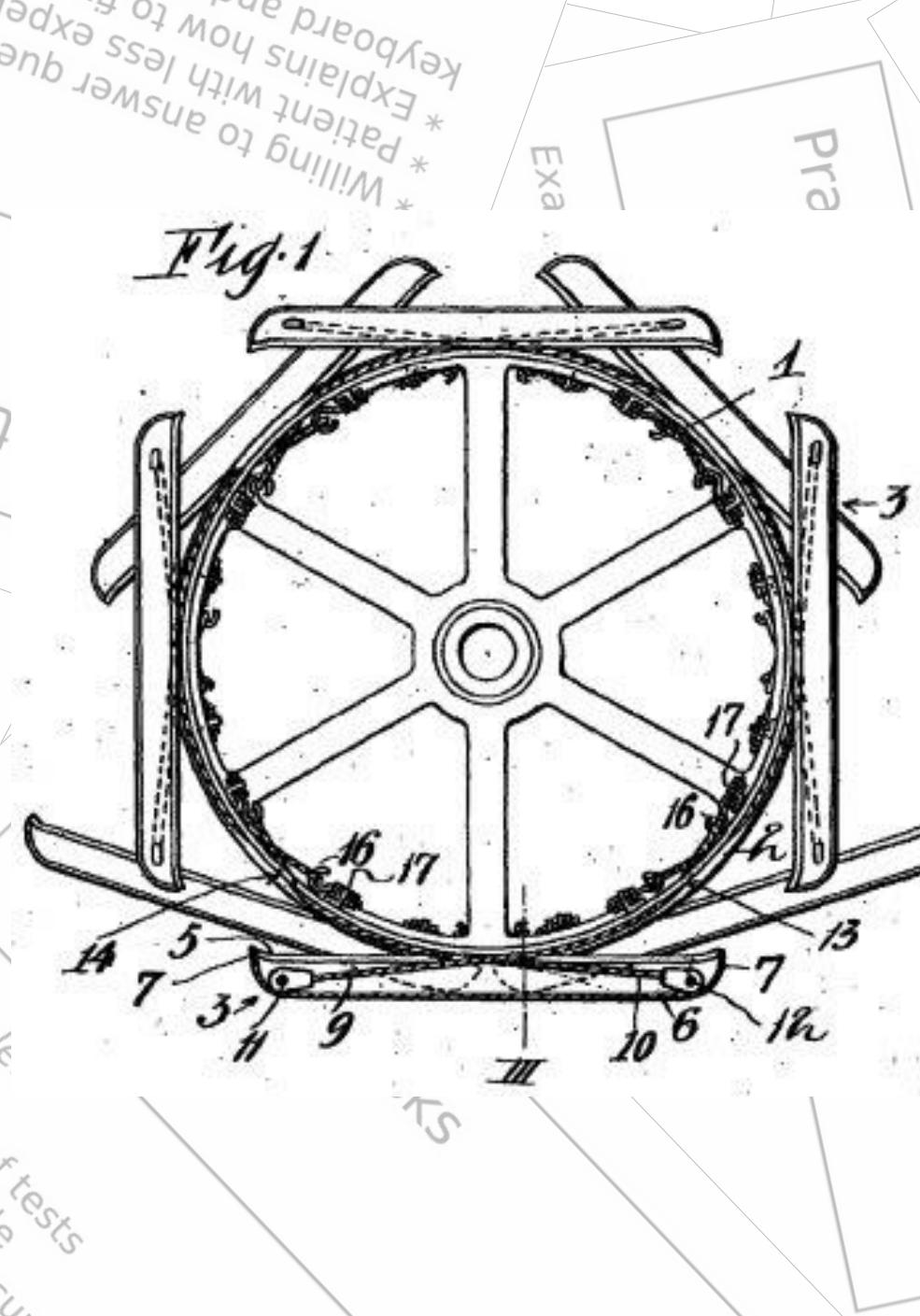
“Vegetables” “Wibble” “Spock”

Example:

- * Checks in their work infrequently
- * Rarely integrates their code

Ignores build warnings

commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Unknown_Chinese_Maker_Tin_Rocket_Spaceship_Skyexpress_Undercarriage_Down_%26_Hatch_Open.jpg
D J Shin CC-BY-SA-3.0



$C(1) = Y + U(1)$

FORTAN STATEMENT

Helping developers to
help each other



Workshops

21

A lot of times I find people are more driven by the latest technologies than by understanding the problem.



CULTURE
ENVIRONMENT
SOCIETY
ECONOMY
TECHNOLOGY
HEALTH

1

Choose

2

Explain





<https://www.sketchport.com/drawing/6326943955812352/pink-blurry-unicorn-under-a-rainbow>, 2014 Zakeena, CC-BY



Feedback



www.sheppard.af.mil/News/Photos/igphoto/20000468971

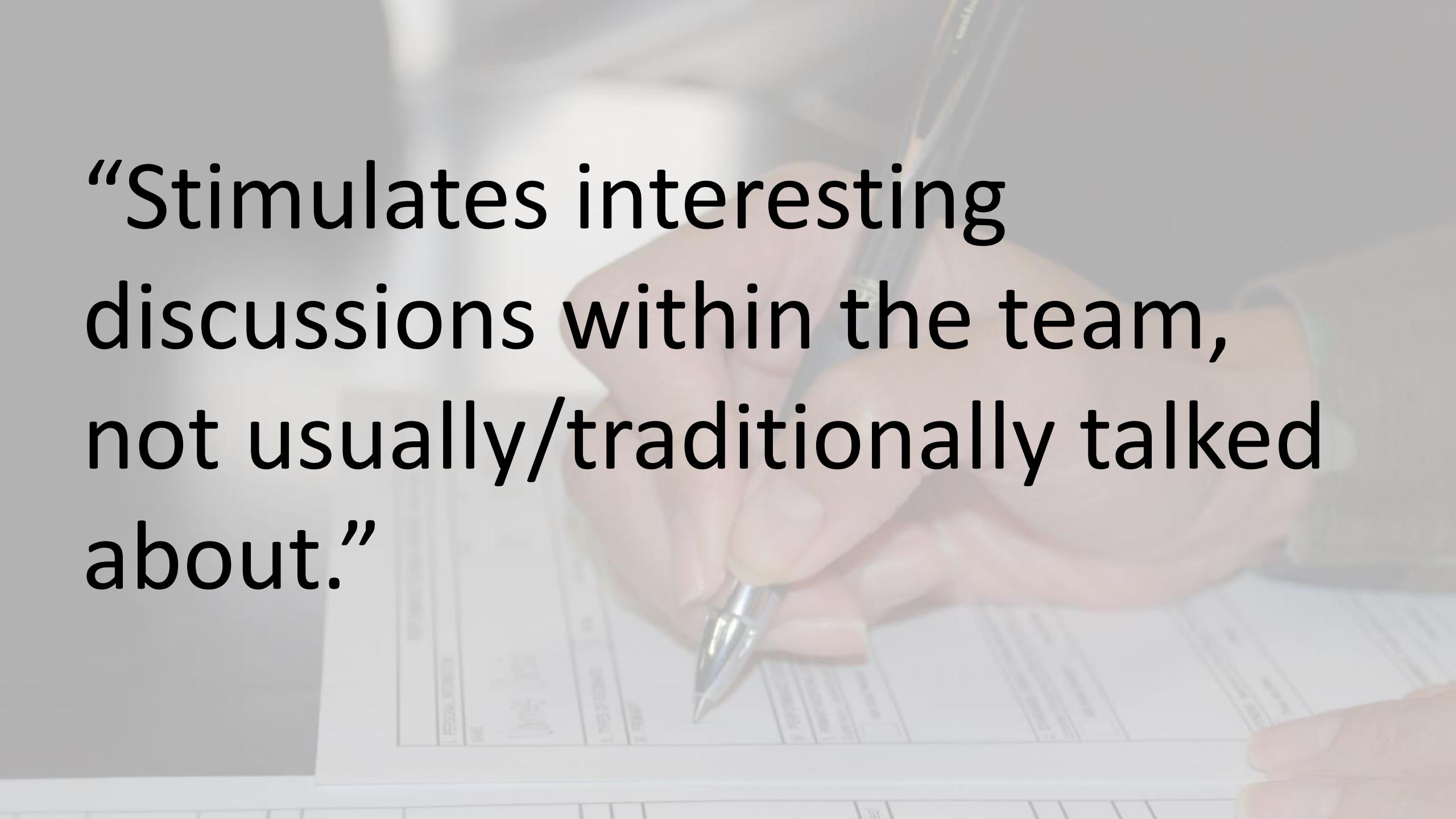
U.S. Air Force photo/John Ingle, public domain

96%

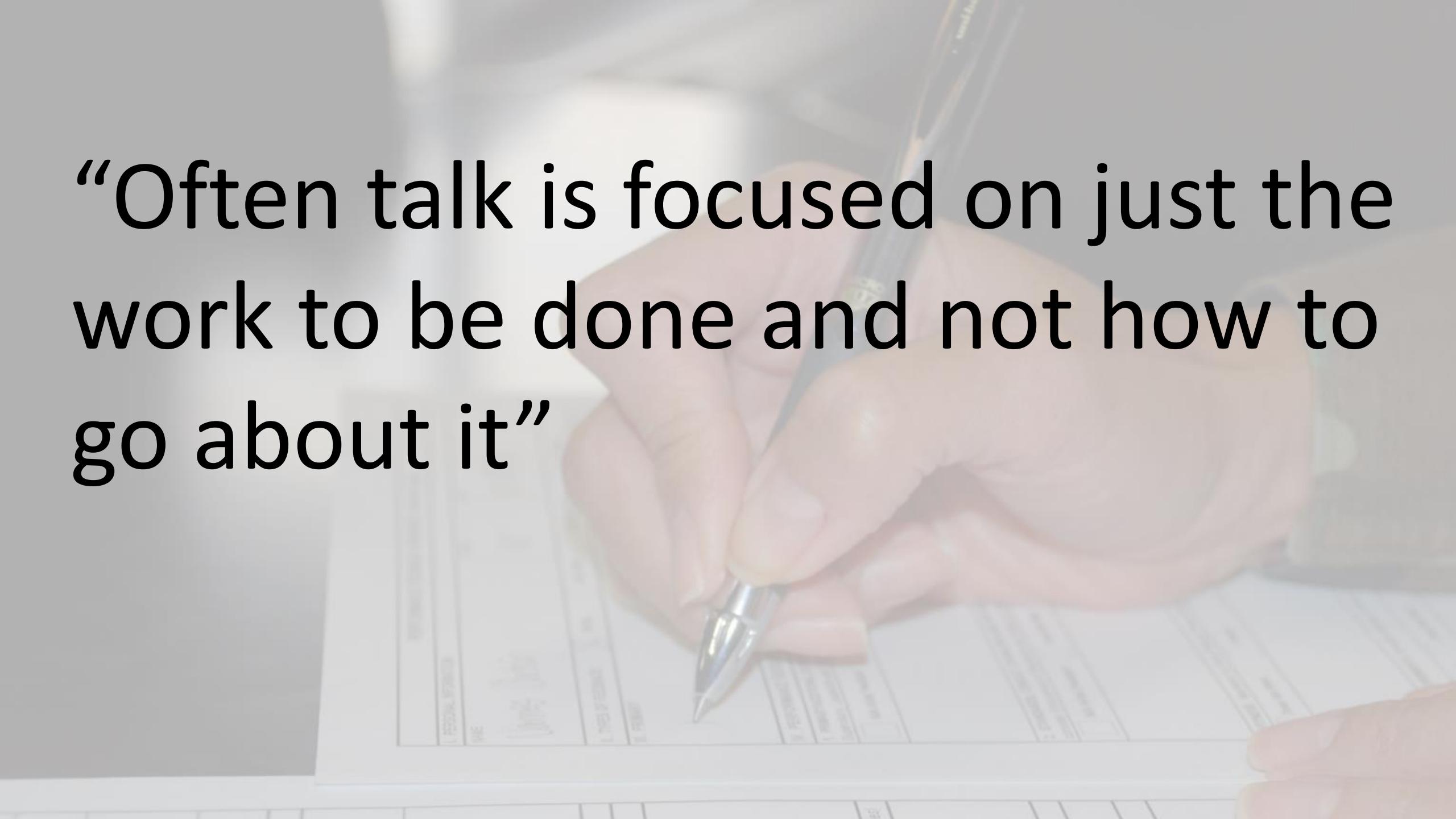
Recommend



“Stimulates interesting discussions within the team, not usually/traditionally talked about.”



“Often talk is focused on just the work to be done and not how to go about it”

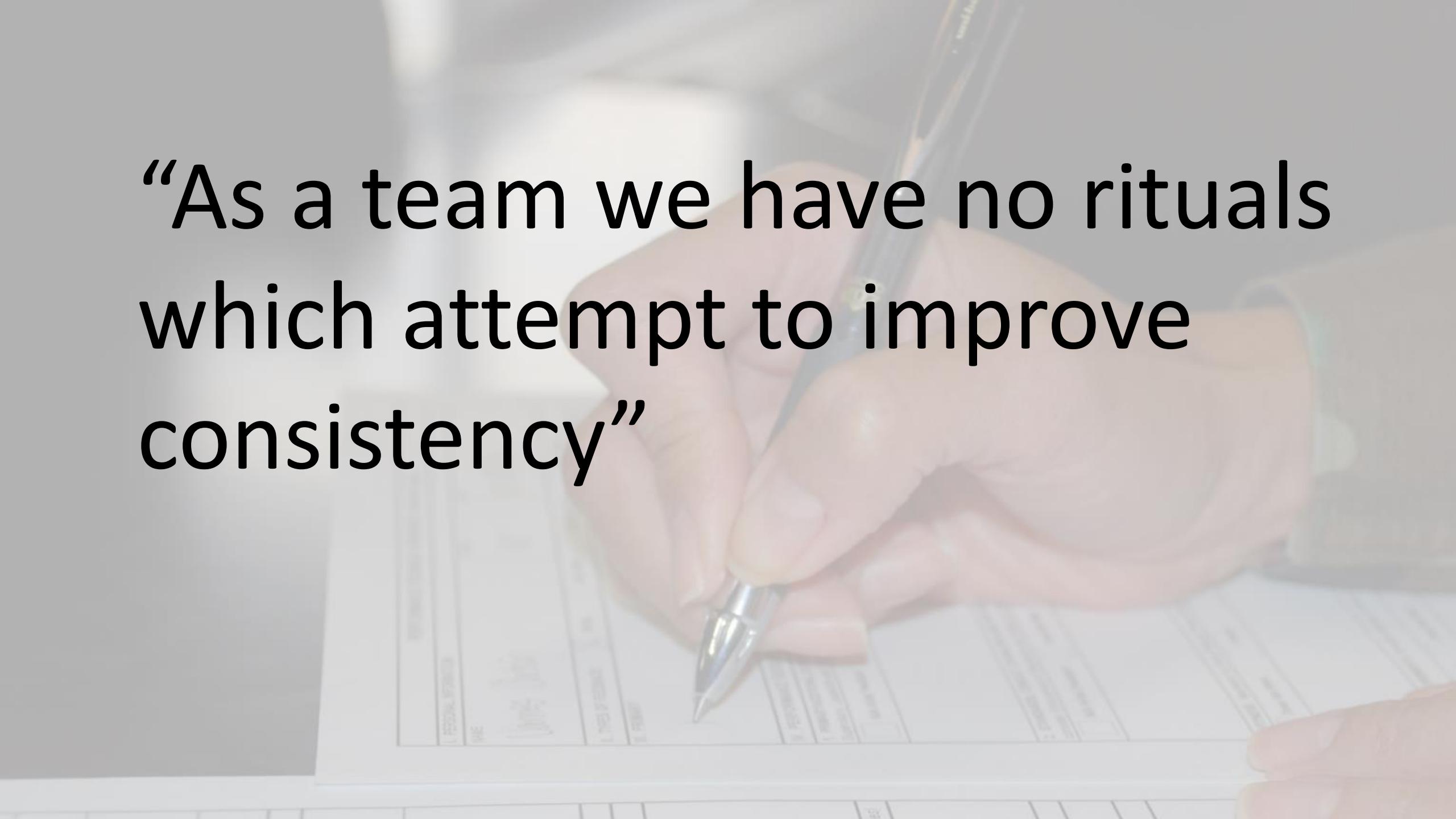


93%

Reuse



“As a team we have no rituals which attempt to improve consistency”



- Other teams
- Appraisal
- Recruitment

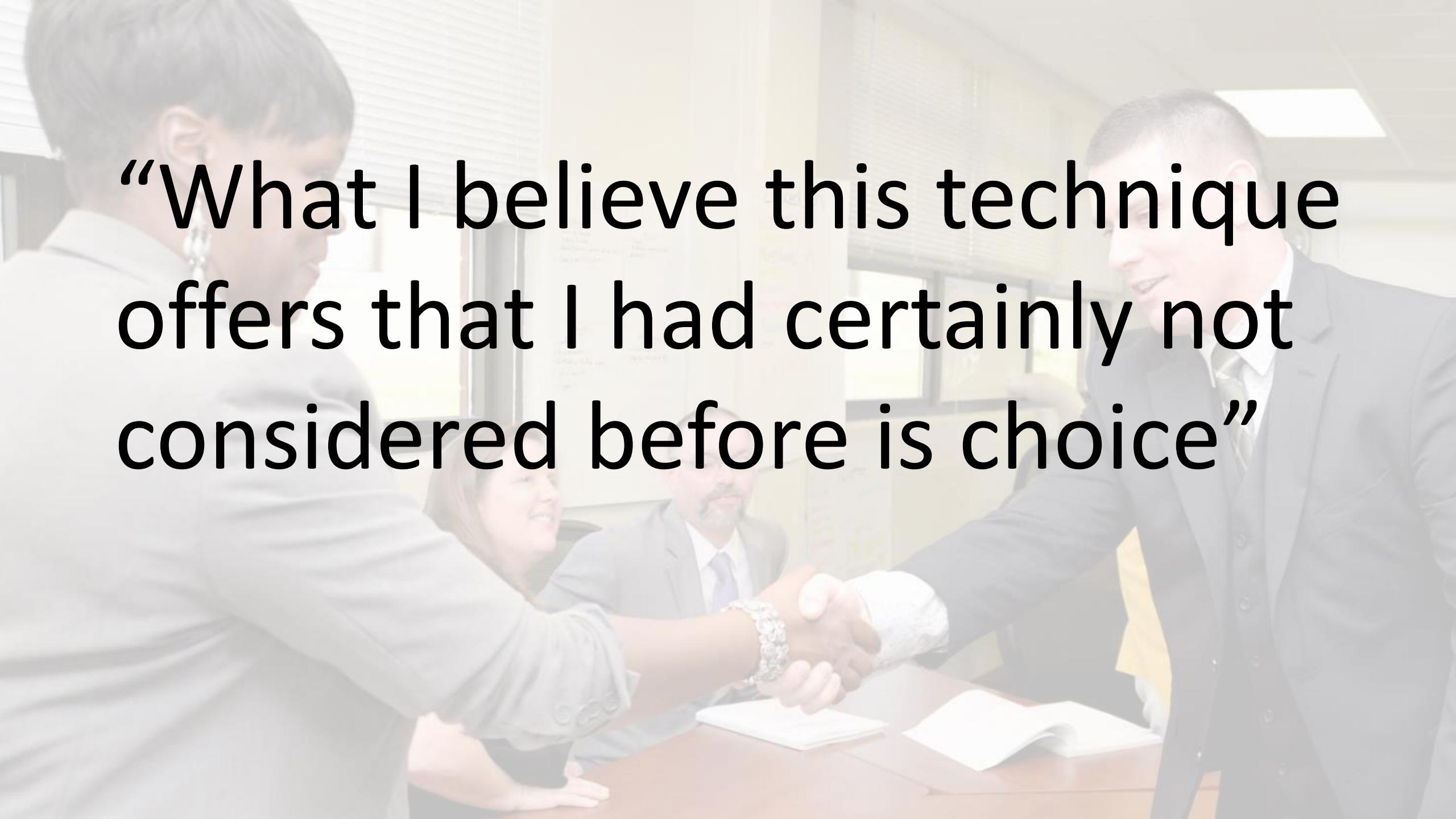
Other uses



“Could help get insights into
how interviewee would fit
with team working”



How are they thinking?

A photograph showing four business professionals in a meeting room. In the foreground, a man in a dark suit and a woman in a light-colored blouse are shaking hands over a wooden conference table. On the table are several papers and a small white notebook. Behind them, two other men in suits are seated at the table, looking towards the camera with slight smiles. The background consists of large windows that look out onto a city skyline under a clear sky.

“What I believe this technique offers that I had certainly not considered before is choice”

Invitation

21

A lot of times I find people are more driven by the latest technologies than by understanding the problem.

$P(1) = Y + U(1)$

FORTRAN STATEMENT

“We’re not thinking in
these ways!”

Help developers to help each other

Give me a card

Or an email: gollis@Bournemouth.ac.uk

Or a tweet: @GailOllis