I am a developer by trade. I do small projects on the side to pull in extra money for my family. I have also spent some time doing construction (mainly houses) before I began programming.

In regard to writing code, I worry about a big, faceless lawyer sending me a lawsuit because I "violated their intellectual property".

There is no way that I can afford to defend myself in court vs a multi-national, billion dollar lawyer driven company.

I see this in the light of my previous experiences as a construction worker.

We use plans to build buildings. Architects have spent some time working on these and making sure that they are unique. That's fine. So now we have a Sherwood style and a RanchHand style.

When it gets down to the actual construction of the building, there are no patents on how to swing a hammer or on how to nail boards together. "OH that's a bob and tom nail pattern, you can't do that!" lol

While working construction, I built many styles of houses. You can't copyright a HOUSE.

I should be able to build a software HOUSE without having to worry about being attacked by some lawyer because they believe that they have a copyright for HOUSES!

If the big companies are worried about their investments (as they should be) they should work hard to provide a better product, instead of attacking some developer in the middle of nowhere that has a better implementation than they do!

Thank you for your time, and I hope an actual human reads this instead of a database somewhere.

~James.