

## Re: Creating framework for singleton pattern?

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.languages.csharp/2004-10/4598.html>

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Date: Wed, 20 Oct 2004 17:13:54 -0500

"Nick Malik" <nickmalik@hotmail.nospam.com> wrote in message  
news:rRudd.398781\$mD.63412@attbi\_s02...

> *I respectfully disagree, Daniel.*

>

> *The Wiki page that I linked is one of hundreds of pages that call into  
> question the usefulness, in the long run, of the Singleton pattern.*

>

Perhaps it is, but its probably among the worst. That page is little more  
than semi-technical rambling by people who may or may not know what they are  
talking about.

No one argument is terribly convincing, no one argument is well formed, and  
no one argument covers all the bases. That page is as much scare tactics as  
anything else.

Contrast it with the linked GlobalVariablesAreBad article, I thought that  
one was considerably better.

> *I believe in "informed consent". That is, if someone is going to  
> encourage  
> me to engage in a risky behavior, they should have the integrity to share  
> the risks with me beforehand. While I don't think it is wise to turn a  
> valuable technical article into an opinion piece, the OO world has learned  
> that this pattern is being widely misused... (and others as well,  
> including  
> Visitor, apparently). That learning should not be ignored just because  
> it's  
> not "technical" in nature.*

>

No, it should not be. However, it also shouldn't be displayed as fact (or in  
a way which suggests it is fact) as there is little to no proof provided  
there. And again, I made a comment about not requiring a great deal of  
research on the part of the reader. If you start in on this "informed  
consent" of yours in articles like Jon's, I fear you risk either becoming  
biased towards one opinion or the other, or result in destroying the purpose

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of the article trying to maintain the balance between the two and effectively swamping out the technical merit.

I do not think an informed decision can be made based only on negative viewpoints. The wiki, on its own, is not informative, it is simply inflammatory.

> *To the contrary, attached to every set of instructions for how to*  
> *correctly*  
> *use household cleaner, there is a warning label about keeping it away from*  
> *children. We should be willing to put a warning label on patterns as*  
> *well... especially the ones that get more misuse than others.*  
>

\*IF\* those are actually misused and not just the vendetta of a small number of loud people. There is an implicit lack of proof that Singletons are bad and one article mention is not going to achieve that, its just going to make opinion look like fact.