

Re: [patch] rm can have undesired side-effects

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Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/hackers/2006-10/msg00225.html>

- *From:* Joerg Pernfuss <elessar@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 30 Oct 2006 03:15:33 +0100
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On Mon, 30 Oct 2006 12:30:02 +1030

"Daniel O'Connor" <doconnor@xxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Silently ignoring user specified options is seldom a good way to go.
The user explicitly stated he wants to wipe the file contents.

I disagree that the user really meant to wipe the file if its link
count is >1.

That of course may or may not be true. I still do not like the 'silent'
part.

IMO having `rm -P` not wipe the file if its link count is >1 is a good
idea. if you are deleting a tree containing a file with links then
this will result in the file getting wiped in the end anyway because
the link count will be 1 after the first link is removed.

It would be easy enough to add a diagnostic message in the `-P` case
where the link count is >1.

Yes, see my other mails. Bahviour similar to OpenBSD (don't overwrite,
generate warning, unlink) is probably what should be done.

The pitfall may really be too big.

Joerg

—
/"\ ASCII ribbon	GnuPG Key ID	e86d b753 3deb e749 6c3a
\ / campaign against	0xbbaad24	5706 1f7d 6cfd bbca ad24
X HTML in email	.the next sentence is true.	
/\ and news	.the previous sentence was a lie.	

Attachment: signature.asc

Description: PGP signature

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