

# Re: Why is it dangerous?

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*Source:* [http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/C\\_CPP/comp.lang.c/2008-08/msg01245.html](http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/C_CPP/comp.lang.c/2008-08/msg01245.html)

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- *From:* Keith Thompson <kst-u@xxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Sat, 09 Aug 2008 20:20:01 -0700
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Julian <juli@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> writes:  
[...]

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <malloc.h>

void main()
{
char *string;
printf("enter string (max 2000 chars): ");
fflush(stdin);
fflush(stdout);
string = (char *)malloc(2001);
if(!string) exit(1);
gets(string);
printf("you entered: %s\n", string);
free(string);
exit(0);
}
```

[...]

This program, in 16 lines, exhibits at least 6 blatant errors or gratuitous non-portabilities that have been discussed repeatedly in this newsgroup: <malloc.h>, "void main()", "fflush(stdin)", casting the result of malloc(), exit(1), and of course the use of gets().

Either this is deliberate, and Julian is a troll, or it's not, and he's been very poorly taught. In the latter case, Julian, please read the comp.lang.c FAQ <<http://www.c-faq.com/>>, and feel free to post again if you still have any questions.

—  
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"We must do something. This is something. Therefore, we must do this."  
— Antony Jay and Jonathan Lynn, "Yes Minister"

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