PRACTICAL GAME PROGRAMMING

Accessibility

Making game fun for as many people as possible

Copyright 2010 Jari Komppa - http://iki.fi/sol/

BACKGROUND

 Gameplay accessibility is a surprisingly badly handled problem.

Totally normal people have accessibility requirements!

Copyright 2010 Jari Komppa - http://iki.fi/sol/

EXAMPLE CASE

- Consider a parent who wants to play.
 - Can only play in short sprints (15-30 min!).
 - May only have one hand free.
 - Needs to pause **anywhere**. Including cutscenes.
- Does your game design cover the above?

COMMON REGUIREMENTS

- Pause.
 - Phone? Doorbell? Sudden crashing noise?
- Save.
 - Either anywhere, or frequently.
- Simple controls.
 - Lots of people are not ambidexterious. Requiring coordinated two-handed controls may be harmful.
 - Yes, most gamepads are scary to many people!

Copyright 2010 Jari Komppa - http://iki.fi/sol/

ΟΤΗΕR ΓΟΟጋ ΓΟR ΤΗΟυσΗΤ

- Can the user re-configure buttons?
- Can the color-blind play your game?
 - http://colorschemedesigner.com/ has "Colorblind" simulation.
- Does your game cause motion sickness?
 - Many 1st person games do; same games in a 3rd person cause less.
- Don't get me started on 3d stereo vision.