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## [Unwrapping JSF java.lang.IllegalArgumentException: null source](#)

By [Roger Keays](#), 21 June 2011

Here's a great mysterious JSFError using Mojarra 2.0.2:

```
java.lang.IllegalArgumentException: null source
    at java.util.EventObject.<init>(EventObject.java:38)
    at javax.faces.event.SystemEvent.<init>(SystemEvent.java:71)
    at javax.faces.event.ComponentSystemEvent.<init>(ComponentSystemEvent.java:101)
    at javax.faces.event.PostRestoreStateEvent.<init>(PostRestoreStateEvent.java:101)
    at com.sun.faces.lifecycle.RestoreViewPhase.deliverPostRestoreStateEvent(RestoreViewPhase.java:101)
    at com.sun.faces.lifecycle.RestoreViewPhase.execute(RestoreViewPhase.java:101)
    at com.sun.faces.lifecycle.Phase.doPhase(Phase.java:101)
    at com.sun.faces.lifecycle.RestoreViewPhase.doPhase(RestoreViewPhase.java:101)
    at com.sun.faces.lifecycle.LifecycleImpl.execute(LifecycleImpl.java:118)
    at javax.faces.webapp.FacesServlet.service(FacesServlet.java:312)
    at org.apache.catalina.core.ApplicationFilterChain.internalDoFilter(ApplicationFilterChain.java:241)
    at org.apache.catalina.core.ApplicationFilterChain.doFilter(ApplicationFilterChain.java:193)
    at au.com.ninthavenue.webcore.webapp.WebcoreFilter.doFilter(WebcoreFilter.java:101)
```

The problem is JSF is swallowing the real error as described at <http://java.net/jira/browse/JAVASERVERFACES-1758>.

So, what to do?

Well, there is a novel solution.

1. Downgrade to JSF 2.0.2
2. Check the exception.
3. Fix the problem.
4. Upgrade back to JSF 2.0.3

Worked for me, but a freaking lot of work to find a typo in my template.

### About Roger Keays

Roger Keays is an artist, an engineer, and a student of life. He has no fixed address and has left footprints on 40-something different countries around the world.



Roger is addicted to surfing. His other interests are music, psychology, languages, the proper use of semicolons, and finding good food.