
Subject: Re: [PATCH][usercr]: Ghost tasks must be detached
Posted by [Sukadev Bhattiprolu](#) on Mon, 21 Feb 2011 20:40:58 GMT
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Louis Rilling [Louis.Rilling@kerlabs.com] wrote:

```
| > But in 2.6.32 i.e RHEL5, task->signal is set to NULL in __exit_signal().  
| > So, I am trying to rule out the following scenario:  
| >  
| > Child (may not be a ghost)  Parent  
| > -----  
| > - exit_notify(): is EXIT_DEAD  
| > - release_task():  
| >   - drops task_list_lock  
| >     - itself proceeds to exit.  
| >     - enters release_task()  
| >     - sets own->signal = NULL  
| >       (in 2.6.32, __exit_signal())  
| >  
| > - enters exit_checkpoint()  
| > - __wake_up_parent()  
| > access parents->signal NULL ptr  
| >  
| > Not sure if holding task_list_lock here is needed or will help.  
|  
| Giving my 2 cents since I've been Cc'ed.
```

Thanks, appreciate the input :-)

```
|  
| AFAICS, holding tasklist_lock prevents __exit_signal() from setting  
| parent->signal to NULL in your back. So something like this should be safe:  
|  
| read_lock(&tasklist_lock);  
| if (current->parent->signal)  
|   __wake_up_parent(...);  
| read_unlock(&tasklist_lock);
```

Yes, checking the parent->signal with task_list_lock would work.

```
|  
| I haven't looked at the context, but of course this also requires that some  
| get_task_struct() on current->parent has been done somewhere else before current  
| has passed __exit_signal().  
|  
| By the way, instead of checking current->parent->signal,  
| current->parent->exit_state would look cleaner to me. current->parent is not  
| supposed to wait on ->wait_chldexit after calling do_exit(), right?
```

~~~~~

Hmm, do you mean `exit_notify()` here ?

If so, yes checking the `exit_state` is cleaner.

If the parent's `exit_state` is set, then it can't be waiting for the ghost, so no need to `wake_up_parent()`. If exit state is not set, then it is safe to `wake_up_parent()` (parent->signal would not yet have been cleared for instance).

The one case where a parent in `do_exit()` could still wait for the child is the container-init which waits on `wait_chldexit` in `do_exit()` -> `zap_pid_ns_processes()` - but even in that case the `__wake_up_parent()` call would be safe.

Sukadev

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