

My name is Terry Jennings and I want to take you into another universe, into another time and place. We won't know where that time and place is. And it's not important. Maybe it never even existed... But maybe it did.

I'll need some volunteers to go into this new universe with me. (Hand them color coded cards with their scripts) In this universe you will have a new life story. So take a a second or two and read your life story.

Jeopardy music.

Now we have to know a little bit about this universe. When you go to a different country you buy a book that tells you all about it, what it looks like, what it's people are like, what they do. There are no books about this universe. So you're going to have to listen hard, while I tell you a little bit about it.

In this new universe there are men and women and there are girls and boys, but people are divided into two types. There are "groks" and there are "zorks."

Okay, you guys up here on the stage with me, why don't you raise your hand if you're a grok.

Thank you.

Now raise your hand if you're a Zork.

Thank you.

Now groks and Zorks have some definite ways in which they behave, and while I talk to them, these ways in which they behave, and these rules they obey, will become very obvious to you.

You'll be able to tell, very quickly I hope, What Groks can and can't do and what Zorks can and can't do. These rules of behaviors evolved over the years. They're not based on any facts, or scientific observations, in fact, the people who make decisions in this universe are convinced these rules are totally right but when you ask that all important question, "why?" They kinda give you this 'duh!' That's the way they believe!

So you guys out in the audience are going to be the people in this universe who make decisions.

So whenever I ask the question "WHY?"

What are you going to tell me?

Duh, That's just the way we believe!

Now let me hear you all together: Duh, that's just the way believe

Duh, That's just the way we believe

Wonderful. You guys are going to be great decision makers.

And of course I have to tell you what my job is in this universe. I want to make sure you know that I am a Zork. Go Zorks! And my job is to be like a moderator, you know like the host of a game show. I direct things. And I know everything. I think like Zorks in this universe, I act like the Zorks in this universe. When I say something, I represent what the Zorks in this universe believe.

And of course, I have to have a little bit of super Zork powers, so I can make the guys up here on the stage say what I want them to say. So when I ask them a question and I shake my head like this, whoever I'm talking to will say yes. And when I shake my head like this, they will say no.

You Groks and Zorks got it?

Okey pokey. Let's go into our new universe.

Hyper space music.

I'd like to see Grok #1 and Zork #1

Grok #1's Life Story (It's a boy)

Job: Stitches lace on dresses

Married: Married to Zork #1

Zocker #1's Life Story

Job: Works in a Car Factory

Married: Married to Grok #1

What is your name?

And yours?

And I understand that you're married.

To each other (that's okay, this is just for the next five minutes or so)

And what kind of job do you have?

Lace stitcher

So you sit @ a sewing machine all day and sew lace on dresses. Do you like your job?

If Grok says yes: Well, that's great isn't it? Because of course we all know groks aren't smart at all. So menial jobs like sewing on lace is just about your speed. So it's good that you're happy with your job.

If Grok says no: Boring isn't it? But you know, that's all you groks can do. You can't be given a job where you have to think. So even though you're bored to tears I suggest you be happy with your lot. At least you're making some \$, right?

Here's your paycheck. You want to let us know how much money you made this week?

2000 Clinkers

Okay, now with this money I guess you guys are going to pay for the mortgage and the groceries...But there's still going to be a little bit some money left over.

To Grok: You going to hang out? Or buy play box games? Maybe you're saving up for some new wheels.

Grok Answers

To Zork: So Zork, are you going to let him do that? (Say no)

To Zork: That's a Zork! Of course you're not! You're going to take all that money away from your grok. Everyone knows, groks aren't smart enough to handle money.

(Moderator takes the check over from the Grok and hands to the Zork.)

To Grok: How do you like that? Is it fair? Why do you think this happened?

To Audience: Out there? WHY? Because that's the way we always do it.

To Audience: Let me hear you say it loud so this grok can hear it.

Thank you Grok #1 and Zork #1. (and btw, you don't have to be married any more)

Let me see Zork #2 and Grok #2 both boys

Grok #2 Life Story:

You have come to apply for a job as the bookkeeper of a factory.

Accountants have to be very good with numbers. You are very good with numbers.

You managed your father's farm with 300 head of cattle and 15 employees for six years.

You have a letter to prove it.

You really want this job. If you don't get it, you'll feel it's unfair.

Zork #2 Life Story

You have applied for a job as a bookkeeper.

What you know about bookkeeping: You can count to twenty.

You can add and subtract if you use your fingers.

To Grok: Your name Please

To Audience: This Grok is applying for a job as the bookkeeper of a factory. Now to be a bookkeeper you have to be very good with numbers.

To Grok: Do you have any experience with numbers?

Grok: I manage my father's farm with 300 head of cattle and 15 employees. Did all the bookkeeping for it.

Aside to audience: Do you believe this grok? (Shake head no)

Of course not, everyone knows groks are not good with numbers.

To Zork: And you Zork? What do you know about bookkeeping?

Zork: I can count to twenty

To Zork: Can you add and subtract?

Zork: If I use my fingers

To Zork: That's good enough for me. You've got the job.

To Grok: What do you think about this?

To Grok: Well, thanks for coming, deary. (put hands around shoulder). You know, it looks from this letter here that you have experience, but...you know...clucks...I just can't believe it. The thing is, everyone knows you can't give groks important jobs like bookkeeping because groks can't do math!

To audience: They just can't do it.

Because that's the way it's always been done.

Grok #3 (large muscular kid) Zork #3 (smallish girl)

Grok #3 Life Story

You are applying for a job in a factory. The job requires that you lift 30 pounds.

You want this job because it pays more than sewing lace on dresses at the factory.

If you don't get the job, say that you need the job because you have to feed your baby and you know you can lift thirty pounds because your baby weighs 30 pounds.

Zork #3 Life Story

You are applying for a job in a factory. The job requires that you lift 30 pounds.

If I ask you to lift something, lift it.

To Audience: This Grok and this Zork are applying for a job that requires strength.

To Zork: What is your name?

To Zork: Can you lift this?

To Zork: Great. You have the job

To Grok: What is your name?

To Grok: I guess you want a chance at this job too huh? Why?

Grok: Because it pays more money than sewing lace on dresses.

To Grok: You're absolutely right it does, but (put arms around shoulders) let me tell you a little secret. We never let groks try for jobs that involve lifting. We have to protect your cute little frame, don't we?

Grok: But I need the money. I have a baby.

To Grok: No, no dearie. Keep on sewing that lace, that's what groks are good for. It's for your own good, don't you see, we're protecting you so you don't get hurt! And why do we do it?

Because that's just what we believe.

Grok #4 and Zoker #4 Two girls

Grok #4 Life Story

You are a whatzimakallit operator at the factory.

You work with Zoker #4.

You do the same job on the same shift.

You work 40 hours a week. You get paid 1000 clinkers a month.

Zork #4 Life Story

You are a whatzimakallit operator at the factory.

You work with Grok #4.

You do the same job on the same shift.

You work 40 hours a week. You get paid 2000 clinkers a month.

To Grok: What's your name?

To Zork: And yours?

To both: Do you know each other?

Grok: We work together

Zork: We do the same job.

To Grok: Grok, could you tell me your job, please?

Grok: I'm a whatzamacallit operator.

To Grok: So you drive whatzamacallits? How many hours do you work each week?

To Zork: And you? You drive Whatzamacallits too? How many hours do you work each week?

To both: Do you work together on the same shift?

They answer yes

To both: So you work together on the same shift. You do the same job. Work the same number of hours.

They answer yes.

To Zork: So Zork how much do you make?

2000 clinkers a month

To Audience: How many of you think grok here should make the same pay for the same work?

To Grok: Do you make the same?

Grok Answers no.

To Audience: Do you think Grok makes more or makes less?

To Audience: Now Zork makes 2000 clinkers per month driving the whatzamacallit. Who would want to take a guess at how much Grok makes?

Take answers

To Grok: Grok tell them how much.

Grok Answers 1000

To Audience: Grok makes half as much for doing exactly the same work. Is that fair?

To Audience: Of course it is! Groks don't need to make as much money as Zorks! Zorks have to take care of their families and Groks don't. So that's exactly the way it should be! And why?

Audience: Because that's just what we believe.

Grok #5 (a girl) and Zork #5 (a boy)

Grok #5 Life Story

You want the job because you'd be good at it and it pays more money

You are married, but not to the Zork. You have three children who are all in school (NOT BABIES)and your mother lives with you and takes care of them after school.

You've never missed a day of work.

You stay at work as long as it takes to get the job done. You have a letter from your boss to prove it.

When you don't get the job, you should say it's not fair!

Zork #5 Life Story

You want the job because it pays more money.

You are married, but not to the grok.

When you're asked why you missed work say you were playing golf, but you always get your work done...eventually.

You don't like staying late at work.

To Audience: This Grok and this Zork are competing to get a better job. Their boss just left the company and the company needs a new boss. Both these people have been working in the job right below this one. The job requires long hours, it requires a great deal of intelligence. It requires a steady hand.

To Grok: What is your name?

To Grok: Are you married?

Grok answers yes.

To Grok: Are you married to that Zork?

Grok answers no.

To Zork: Are you married?

Zork Answers yes.

To Zork: I assume you're not married to that Grok because she's not married to you, am I right?

Zork answers yes.

To Grok: And do you have any children?

Three

To Grok: And who takes care of these babies do when you're at work?

They are not babies and my mother takes care of them when I'm at work.

To Audience: Now I have here the absence records for these two people. This Grok has never missed a day of work in five years of work in this company. But this Zork, he's missed, about ten days of work in two years.

To Zork: Can you tell me what you were doing? Why did you miss work?

PLAYING GOLF, BUT I ALWAYS GOT MY WORK

DONE...EVENTUALLY.

To both: Now this job requires a lot of work, it requires that the work be done right away.

Sometimes you have to stay late.

To Grok: Will you stay late?

Always stay until the work is done. I have a letter to prove it.

To Zork: How about you?

NO, I DON'T LIKE TO STAY LATE.

To Zork: Congratulations, you're the new manager.

To Grok: You're a little disappointed, I see. How do you feel about this?

It's not fair!

To Grok: Look, I said we need someone who's willing to work long hours. It's true that you have a good record, but I just can't trust that a grok will be there when I need her. Everyone knows groks have to take time off to take care of their babies. And now that you're telling me that things aren't fair, you're reminding me of another reason why groks can't have important

jobs, because they're emotional, because they can't behave in a reasonable way. Everybody knows that

And why?

Because that's just what we believe.

To Audience: Are you folks getting the idea?

Grok #6 (a boy) and Zork #6 (a girl)

Grok #6 Life Story.

Married to Zork #6

Has just inherited, 200,000 clinkers from his father.

Has been managing father's business and money for ten years while his father was sick.

Zork #6 Life Story

Married to Grok #6

Doesn't do much of anything. Lives off the money that Grok's father gave them.

To Grok: What's your name?

To Grok: Are you married?

To Grok: Are you married to her?

To Grok: And I understand that your father just died, I'm so sorry. And he left you 200,000 clinkers.

To Zork: What's your name?

To Zork: And you're married to her.

To Audience: Well, this is a little bit problematic. Here this Grok has just inherited 200,000 clinkers. And we all know that Groks can't handle money. They are unstable emotionally. They just don't know what you're doing with money. Here I'll prove it.

To Grok: What do you know about handling businesses and money?

Grok: Handled father's business and money for last ten years he was sick.

To Audience: And...oh my, Groks also lie, we know. There's no way you could have handled your father's money for the last ten years he was sick. And why?

Duh Because that's just what we believe.

Okay Zork, the attorney in charge of the inheritance has given me this check for 200,000 clinkers to give to you. You can do with it as you want. We know you'll do a much better job of managing the money. Tell the audience what you did to give you experience handling money.

Zork: Nothing. Lived off the money father in law gave them.

To audience: See, there you have it. The father in law gave him money every month. He didn't have to do anything to earn it. Isn't that a good reason that he should have the money?

To Grok: What do you think about this?

To Grok: I am so sorry. But you know, we just believe that you can't handle businesses and money. You're a grok after all.

Okay, I want the Zorks to go to the right of the stage, over here, and the groks to go to the left of the stage over there.

To Audience: Now you guys are the ones that make the decisions in this universe. Is there anyone in the audience that thinks we should change the way we do things?

Look for a yes answer

To Audience: How should we try to change things?

Look for an answer that says makes laws.

To Audience: That's perfect! Let's do it. Groks, on the stage, why don't you go back and take your seats. Let's give them a hand. Thank you for being with us. Now of course you know why the Groks had to leave the stage... Zorks rule this universe. Everyone knows Groks are too emotional, they're not smart enough, or strong enough to even be involved in making the laws of this universe.

To Zorks: Okay. So you guys are the Congress of this universe. You guys are the ones that make the laws.

To audience: Let's see, I need one person who thinks that it's okay for groks to have rights.

Ask them if Zork or Grok: Turn down Groks. Accept one Zork needs to be a male.

To Zork from audience: So you think Groks should be able to keep the money they make, and get equal pay for equal work, and get a job because they are the best person for the job, is that right?

To Zork #3: And you want to change the laws of the universe so that Groks can have the same rights of Zorks, right?

To Other Zorks: And are you going to vote so that Groks and Zorks can have the same rights?
(Shake head no)

To Audience: Of course not! Zorks believe very strongly that they are better than Groks. And why do they believe it?

Because that's just what they believe..

To audience: That's true. Because that's just what they believe. But there could be another reason. I'm not saying that all Zorks are like this, but Zorks have all the benefits in this universe, so they wouldn't give them up very easily, would they? So who's going to vote to give Groks their rights? Nobody. Even if this guy believes that Groks should have rights, the rest of these other guys are going to laugh at him. So what we need is to elect some other Zorks who believe in equal rights for Groks, right? Then when this Zork introduces a law, they'll vote for it. Right?

To Audience: Well, you're right. But this whole thing is all wrong. Who's going to vote for a Zork who believes in equal rights for Groks?

Nobody! Groks can't vote.

Let me show you how making a law works. We need half of the people that vote plus one to pass a law. Now the only people that can vote in the congress of this universe are Zorks. Do you think we can find half of the Zorks in this universe's congress plus one who would vote to give Groks equal rights? (Shake head no sadly)

To Audience: So, in our universe, with these laws, with the way everyone continues to do things and believe things, because that's the way it's always been done, Groks have very little hope.

To Zorks: Thanks so much for helping us understand this universe. You can go back to your seats. Give them a hand.

To audience: You guys are smart. Who do you think groks and Zorks represent?

If answer is African Americans: that's a really good answer and it's true in most ways, but African Americans weren't discriminated against because they could have babies, or because they were emotional. Or because they couldn't lift things. There's some other people who fit this description even better.

Right. Who do you think the groks represent?

And what country?

Validate all good answers

To Audience: In these particular skits, we're talking about women in the United States from a period from the very early 1800's as late as the 1970's 1980's. Now the 1970's and the 1980's is not that long ago. I know for a fact that the largest company in the United States, AT & T paid men 25% more than women for the same job. These were management jobs. Important jobs. It happened to me in 1971. I know for a fact that in the mid 1980s my husband, who is a very open minded person would not promote a woman to a job for which she was the best candidate because she was a mother. He was afraid she wouldn't work the long hours he needed her to work because she had a little boy. So it hasn't been that long ago. It happened to your grandmothers.

But thankfully, things have changed. AT&T was forced in 1973 to pay us back pay and even us out with the men and give us the same opportunities as the men. And my husband eventually did promote the woman and you know what happened? They decided that her husband would stay home and raise their kid because she was making a lot more money than he was. And over the years, she became a great executive.

To audience: So girls, what would you do if you couldn't have your own money? What would you do if you didn't get paid the same as a guy for doing the same kind of job? We've come a long way haven't we? Let's look at a time line of women's rights and see when the little skirts we just looked at would have taken place.

Time line of women's rights fight. Power Point

To Audience: Now we're just about all done. But before we wrap up, I want to impress two things on you.

1. Without voting and getting elected, women could not have changed anything. There have to be women in Congress, for laws to change. Otherwise things will continue the way they are.
2. I want you to think about those men of long ago, heck, of just a few years ago. And how they were convinced that women could not be their equal. How they were convinced that women were not intelligent, that they didn't deserve to be paid the same as them. How they felt that they were better than women.

Now I want you to think of yourself. Is there anyone who you feel is not as good as you because of the way they look, the color of their skin, the language they speak? I want you to think about how wrong those men were and I want you to think that you may be wrong too. I want you to keep this in mind, and I want you to consider everyone you meet with an open heart and an open mind.