

**Boston Legal Themes and Allusions in Comparison with StarTrek
For Parallel Universe: Trek in the Courtroom for Boston-Legal.org
Season Three, Episode 2: (03x02) New Kids on the Block
Airdate: Sept 26, 2006]
by Debb from Montreal**

Theme 1: Notable Shorts: It seems that Captain Kirk (as well as all the series Captains) and Denny Crane have had their share of woes from small folk (short, dwarves, midgets, and kids!). Throughout all the series, little aliens have wreaked havoc upon the various Starships including Balok, played by Clint Howard, in The Original Series, in a memorable performance. Clint Howard later went on to play other little people as the Ferengi "Muk" in Enterprise's "Acquisition" and DS9's "Past Tense, part 2". Captain Kirk also suffers at the hands of the Platonians in "Plato's Stepchildren", the episode credited with the first televised interracial kiss between Kirk and Uhura.



TOS: Balok (Clint Howard) is the bane of Captain Kirk in "The Corbonite Manoeuvre"
http://memory-alpha.org/en/images/1/1b/Balok_actual.jpg



TOS: "Plato's Stepchildren" Alexander (Michael Dunn) from Platonius. A dwarf who served as a jester and slave to the other Platonians. This episode saw the first televised interracial kiss.
http://memory-alpha.org/en/images/6/61/Alexander%2C_Plato%5C%27s_stepchildren.jpg

Other small aliens appearing in Star Trek:



TOS: "The Cage" Talosians capture Captain Pike, first Captain of the Enterprise in the pilot episode.
http://memory-alpha.org/en/images/2/24/Talosians_3.jpg



TNG: "11001001" Bynars "named One Zero and Zero One who work as a unified pair hijack Enterprise's computer
<http://memory-alpha.org/en/images/c/c8/Bynars.jpg>

Boston Legal's Little People: (My apologies if "Little People" isn't the preferred term.)



Season 1, Episode 8: "Loose Lips". Deborah Lee Carrington as Patty the Elf
(note: Not to be confused with Debb from Montréal)
http://a.abc.com/primetime/bostonlegal/intranet/General_Office/evidence_to_delete/images/Alan-Santa.jpg



Season 3, Episode 2: "New Kids on the Block". Denny breaks up with Bethany over salad.
http://i107.photobucket.com/albums/m308/rubyppearl_2006/nkotb7.jpg

Theme 2 - "Look-alikes"

Robert Walker Jr. plays Charles Evans in "Charlie X". A 17 year old with telekinetic powers who is unable to integrate into society. His first crash on Yeoman Rand ends up in an attempted rape.

Ashton Holmes appears as Scott Little (coincidence? I think not!) in New Kids on the Block. The resemblance between Ashton Holmes and Robert Walker Jr. is uncanny.



A History of Violence: Ashton Holmes (left)
http://movies.radiofree.com/photos/a_history_of_violence_12641.jpg



TOS: "Charlie X" Robert Walker Jr. in the title role.
http://memory-alpha.org/en/images/f/f2/Evans_%26_Kirk.jpg



Theme 3: Denny: "I hear they breed like gerbils." He said gerbils... but he meant tribbles!

Star Trek Alumni: William Shatner (Denny Crane), René Auberjonois (Paul Lewiston), Armin Shimerman (Judge Brian Hooper),



DS9: Armin Shimerman as Quark and René Auberjonois as Odo
www.startrek.nl/pictures/quark-odo.jpg