

**Boston Legal Themes and Allusions in Comparison with StarTrek
For Parallel Universe: Trek in the Courtroom for Boston-Legal.org
Episode: Squid Pro Quo [02x25: airdate: May 9, 2006] by Debb from Montreal**

Theme 1: Humanity on Trial: Inasmuch as the U.S.A. is being put on trial for failure to provide adequate medical resources to other nations in Squid Pro Quo, the pilot episode of The Next Generation “Encounter at Farpoint I and II” involves Captain Picard and the crew of the Enterprise being put on trial as representatives of the human race by an omnipotent race called Q and condemns humanity as “a dangerous savage child-race” and “barbarians”. As the number one planet in the Federation is left to defend its existence, so too, are Alan and Denny left to defend the actions of Earth’s number one nation.



TNG: “Tapestry” Q appears as God to Captain Picard
http://memory-alpha.org/en/images/4/48/Q_as_God.jpg

TNG: “Encounter at Farpoint” Judge Q as portrayed by John deLancie) puts Picard on trial for the crimes of humanity.
www.st-files.de/logbuch/tng/images/001_dermaechtige/szene007.JPG

Theme 2 – The Emotional Debate: “Emotions always win, you taught me that.” Donny says to Denny. Well, how many times did Kirk and Spock debate that argument? Indeed, Spock himself advises this to his protégé, Valeris, in the Undiscovered Country: *Spock*: “Logic...is the beginning of wisdom, Valeris...Not the end.” A concept Kirk demonstrated to Spock on numerous occasions. That would be Kim Catrall as Lt. Valeris.



Theme 3 - Star Trek Alumni: William Shatner (Denny Crane), René Auberjonois (Paul Lewiston), Ray Proscia (Paul Schwimmer), Don McManus (Attorney John Lennox)



VOY: "Deadlock" Vidiian Commander (Ray Proscia)
[memory-alpha.org/en/images/1/18/Vidiian Commander%2C Deadlock.jpg](http://memory-alpha.org/en/images/1/18/Vidiian_Commander%2C_Deadlock.jpg)



VOY: "The Chute" Zio a prisoner aboard the Akritirian prison ship. (Don McManus)
<http://memory-alpha.org/en/images/c/c4/Zio.jpg>