

POLICEMAN 1: Ok, I'm recording. Let's bring in the first witness. We're going to put that moron thug away for as long as possible.

POLICEMAN 2: What if the witness has been charmed by him? What if HIS chin was complemented?

POLICEMAN 1: This is a complicated case, for sure. But we'll crack it.

POLICEMAN 2: What special interviewing tactics should we use this time?

POLICEMAN 1: Play the thug at his own game. Say the witness has nice thumbs. That will get him to open up if he's nervous.

POLICEMAN 2: Got it.

(A CHAIR SCRAPES. A DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES)

POLICEMAN 1: Good day, sir. Would you like to take a seat?

WITNESS: Yes, sir.

(TWO CHAIRS SCRAPE)

POLICEMAN 1: So... Tell us in your own words: What happened?

WITNESS: Well, that guy kept giving people weird compliments such as 'nice thumbs...'

POLICEMAN 1: Dammit, I thought that was mine.

WITNESS: Eh?

POLICEMAN 1: Sorry, please continue.

WITNESS: Then he got jealous of some guy's socks.

POLICEMAN 2: What do you mean?

WITNESS: He just got really agitated. He went red, he was clearly fuming.

POLICEMAN 2: And then what happened?

WITNESS: He asked for his socks. When he didn't get what he wanted, he punched the poor guy in the face.

POLICEMAN 1: Did he ask for your socks?

WITNESS: (Sadly) Later on, yes.

POLICEMAN 2: Did you give them to him?

WITNESS: No.

POLICEMAN 2: And what happened after he punched the guy?

WITNESS: A brawl broke out. I took my shoes off to ease the tension, but by that point it was too late.

POLICEMAN 2: You've been very brave telling us this. So it wasn't just him who was being violent?

WITNESS: No, but he was the only person demanding people take their shoes off.

POLICEMAN 1: Is there anything else you think we should know?

WITNESS: No, I don't think so. Other than just be careful around him, I guess.

POLICEMAN 1: What do you mean?

WITNESS: When I called him a weirdo, there was a funny look in his eye. I don't think he's all there...

POLICEMAN 1: Ok, that should be all we need from you. Thanks for your time. But you didn't hit him did you?

WITNESS: No!

POLICEMAN 1: Ok. Good day.

WITNESS: Byeeee.

(A CHAIR SCRAPES, A DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES)

POLICEMAN 1: It seems this case is more complex than I thought. We're potentially looking at multiple charges of assault, here...

POLICEMAN 2: Shall I bring the next man in?

POLICEMAN 1: Good stuff.

(A CHAIR SCRAPES, AND A DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES... .. AGAIN)

POLICEMAN 2: Good day, sir. Please sit down...

(TWO CHAIRS SCRAPE... .. AGAIN)

POLICEMAN 1: We all know why you're here, so would you like to explain what happened in your own words?

WITNESS 2: Yes, sir. He was saying all this weird stuff like 'your thumbs are perfect. They're not too big or too small, they're SO good', or whatever. Then he said 'I bet you have nice toes. Can I look at them?' Then when the guy refused, he went red.

POLICEMAN 1: And how did that make you feel?

WITNESS 2: I didn't really know how to feel...

POLICEMAN 2: So you punched him?

WITNESS 2: No!

POLICEMAN 2: Come on. A smart man like you could easily have punched him.

WITNESS 2: I don't understand what that means...

POLICEMAN 1: What he means is only truly smart people stop themselves from being victimised.

WITNESS 2: Would you like to see my mobile phone footage? I started filming after he kept smiling for ages. I don't personally know the other men that you'll see...

POLICEMAN 1: Of course!

WITNESS 2: I'll play it for you, now...

(SUSPECT HEARD FROM MOBILE): Hello, fellas!

(MAN HEARD FROM MOBILE): Hello?

(SUSPECT FROM MOBILE): Wow. You sure have perfect thumbs. Not too big, not too small...

WITNESS 2: Told you...

(MAN FROM MOBILE): Are you trying to be funny?

(SUSPECT FROM MOBILE): No... Hey, nice socks. I bet you have nice toes, too. Can I see?

(MAN 2 FROM MOBILE): Get outta here!

(SUSPECT FROM MOBILE): Give me your socks.

(MAN 2 FROM MOBILE): No!

(PUNCHING NOISE HEARD FROM MOBILE)

(MAN 2 FROM MOBILE): He's just punched me in the damn face!

(SUSPECT FROM MOBILE): Yes! Woo! Now take your shoes off!

(PUNCHING HEARD FROM MOBILE)

(SUSPECT FROM MOBILE): Ow!

POLICEMAN 1: Ok, thanks for that, I think we've seen enough for now.

POLICEMAN 2: Seems like an open and shut case to me...

POLICEMAN 1: Do you mind if we keep your phone for a while, as evidence?

WITNESS 2: Of course not!

POLICEMAN 1: It's pretty funny, though.

WITNESS 2: Yep, definitely going on Youtube.

POLICEMAN 1: Ok, you can go now. Thanks for your help!