

STOP HUMAN AND DWARVEN ARROGANCE

Here's what you can do:

1. Organize Start a local chapter of S.P.E.W. All you need is a soapbox, and an official S.P.E.W. handbook.

2 . Intimidate Let local officials know that your S.P.E.W. chapter is sincere.

3 . Create an Outreach Group Elves have spent so long hiding in the woods from their human and dwarfish tormentors, that many believe that they actually enjoy a rural lifestyle. Bring an elf into your local group – he may take some convincing and you may have to force him to face his own fears.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

The elves are a docile race. They have spent centuries apologizing for their very existence. They have a shared racial guilt, even though they do not admit it; They fear that they have somehow done something wrong to warrant human and dwarfish suspicion.

Many elves have an impulse to break into human homes and shops, and do menial chores (making shoes, making ball gowns, doing dishes) to make up for their feelings of inadequacy. They often deny these actions.

S.P.E.W.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF ELFISH WELFARE

S.P.E.W.
Because they
aren't so
bad, after
all.



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WHAT SORTS OF THINGS ARE ELVES SUBJECTED TO?

One elf who lived in Altdorf found himself subjected to an “ear tax” by local officials. They charged him an extra 8 pennies for *each* ear to enter the city.

A Bretonian elf complained that his human neighbors were singing songs designed to offend Elfish sensibilities.

Elves are not allowed an Imperial elector. However, the elven forests – their last refuge – are claimed by the Emperor as Imperial land where his thugs can collect taxes.

WHAT DO ELVES DO FOR ME?

Elves guard the forests, protecting the Natural Resources of the Empire from Human and Dwarfish rapaciousness. Their idyllic societies are free from the petty accoutrements of Human or Dwarfish society; elves do not engage in warfare, they live without clothing, and they are open to sensual experimentation that is treated with derision in Human societies. They are an example for us all.

THOSE SHOES!

Saddest of all are the number of skilled Elfish cobblers whose work goes unrecognized, and un-recompensed. In return for a scrap of stale cracker, elves have been known to work for human guild

shoemakers, spending hours in the middle of the night preparing huge orders.

Elf cobblers are paid in crackers, and are expected to supply their own raw materials from their human shoemaker masters.

HOW TO WORK WITH ELVES

Try to avoid sudden movements. Years of abuse has left elves terrified of sudden movement. They will put on a show of bluff and bravado, some even carrying weapons; but they are a harmless people and victimized by human and dwarfish cruelty.

Elves have been downtrodden for so long, that any harsh or critical word can send them into tears, or silent self-deprecation. Bring back your elf’s pride in himself, and his elfish way of life. Encourage your elf to share his feelings. When he holds back, and claims that he feels no rage against his human or elfish oppressors, force him to admit the problem,. Let him cry if he needs to.

Show that you aren’t afraid of pointy ears, and find a costume pair for yourself (available from the S.P.E.W. bookstore).

Hate is not just an Elfish Problem. It's everyone's problem.

TEST YOURSELF FOR ELFISH TOLERANCE

Have you hugged an elf today? Give yourself a point if you answered yes.

Has an elf ever shared stories with you, from his years of domestic servitude? Give yourself a point if you answered yes.

Do you regularly wear false ears, showing solidarity with the elves? Give yourself a point if you answered yes.

Do elves in your company feel free to dance and sing in your presence? Give yourself a point if you answered yes.

Can you speak more than 10 words of Eltarin, and do you try to use Eltarin greetings when speaking to your elfish brethren? Give yourself a point if you answered yes.

SCORING

0: Hug an elf today!

1-2: You are committed, but could do more.

3-4: Excellent work! They may hide their feelings, so that their human and dwarfish tormentors cannot tease them, but they love you for what you are doing.

5: Excellent! You are definitely S.P.E.W. material! Keep up the good work.