

Freedom Skit

Narrator:

Ladies and gentlemen, we join court already in session. The honorable Judge Jane is presiding. The defendant, Debbie Denial lives with an alcoholic and has been arrested on charges of self abandonment, isolation and severe control issues.

Character witnesses, Mary Martyrdom and Vicky Victim have been summoned to appear on her behalf. Debbie's attorney, Rita Recovery is present as well. We will join them now.

Judge: Debbie Denial, you are found guilty as charged. I am prepared to sentence you to a life of insanity. Do you have anything to say in your defense?

Debbie Denial: *She shakes her and hangs her head in shame.* No Your Honor.

Mary Martyrdom: But Your Honor, she's not the alcoholic and she shouldn't have to pay the price for these circumstances. Debbie has been faithful for years. She's cooked dinner every night just to have her husband stumble in hours later, too drunk to eat. On nights that he didn't even make it inside, she pulled him off the front porch so that the neighbors wouldn't have to see him lying there in the morning. Why she even slipped a disk in her back one time, and she still managed to fix dinner every night and made sure he got to work each day. If he was too hung over to go to work, she called in for him. She has been a good wife!

Vicky Victim: I remember that Mary! She is the victim. Her husband Al Coholic is the real problem in this situation. She's tried so hard to make things work and she's never asked for anything in return. Poor, poor Debbie, she is exhausted Your Honor, she can't go on like this! A lifetime of insanity? Oh Your Honor, couldn't you sentence her to 25 years of resentment and fear instead? That's better than a lifetime of insanity, isn't it Mary?

Mary and Vicky nod their heads in agreement.

Debbie Denial Cries quietly in defeat.

Attorney: Your Honor, if I may interrupt these proceedings, I believe I may have an idea that would benefit all involved.

Judge: Go ahead.

Attorney: I would ask that the court would consider a different sentence. The defendant is not without fault. She has contributed to the disfunction of the home and its communication issues. She has interfered with Al's natural consequences and robbed him of the right to fail. She has repeatedly enabled him. None of it on purpose of course, you see Your Honor, Debbie has a problem too.

Judge: I'd like to hear more. Go on.

Attorney: I ask that Debby Denial be sentenced to a lifetime of recovery instead.

Judge: A lifetime of recovery?

Debbie Denial perks up to listen.

Attorney: Yes, If Debbie will attend Alanon, she can learn replace denial with trust, anger with gratitude and she will learn to live her own life instead of Al's.

Mary Martyrdom: (hysterical) I object! How on earth will Debbie be able to fix Al if she gives up denial?! Al will make a mess of everything. Debbie is the **only** person that can hold the family together! Without her, Al will bounce all the checks and forget to go to work. They will be destined to eat cheese sandwiches for the rest of their lives. You can't allow such an atrocity!

Vicky Victim: I agree with Mary. Debbie would happily eat cheese sandwiches for the rest of her life...**and** never complain! Besides, what would happen to Al? He's her world! Who would she become? Why she'd be utterly lost without Al to manage...I mean take care of. Poor poor Debbie, her situation is so terrible.

Debbie Denial shakes her head sadly and dabs a tear from her face.

Judge: Objection overruled. Tell me Recovery Rick, how would this be possible and at what costs to the court or to Debbie?

Attorney: Debbie will receive tools of recovery called, steps, traditions and concepts. She only needs to attend meetings to receive these tools. It is free your Honor.

Mary and Vicky nod in approval.

Debbie Denial looks hopeful.

Judge: And who will oversee and enforce this new life of recovery?

Attorney: Debbie's Higher Power. The Alanon group will also help her to discover her own self. The Alanon program will guide her to reach for her own personal freedom. They even have this workbook to help. *(He shows the workbook to the audience and hands it to Debby.)* Doesn't that sound much better than a lifetime of insanity Your Honor?

Mary and Vicky whisper in agreement.

Judge: Debbie, are you willing to attend Alanon?

Debbie: I'll try anything your honor. I've tried everything else I know to fix the situation. If it has worked for others, I'll give it a try.

Judge: Debbie, you are hereby sentence to a lifetime of recovery. You are free to go.

Narrator: This presentation has been brought to you by the members of District 15. The workbook, "Reaching for Personal Freedom" is available for sale following the meeting **or** through your local ALAnon home group. Join us next year- same place, same time, for the next episode of JUDGE JEAN! Good Night.