



TRUMP JOKES

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Inspired by the liberal reaction to Donald Trump Supporters

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as part of the Hemispheric Institute's Emerge Program 2016

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As part of Theater in Asylum's The PRIMARIES Project

Trump Jokes is a companion piece to *The Debates*, Theater in Asylum's rolling adaptation of the 2016 Democratic Primary Debates. Originally titled *Trump for Dictator?*, *Trump Jokes* was created collaboratively and uses text from Donald Trump, Jill Stein, Bernie Sanders, and Hillary Clinton supporters*. Theater in Asylum believes that theater and politics should be accessible and welcoming to as many people as possible. Starting with *The Debates*, Theater in Asylum has begun posting scripts of our work online, free and available to all. Please feel free to share, perform, and adapt this script in any way you like. Please just let us know and give us credit as the original creators.

*Lines lifted from other sources are indicated via footnotes. All other lines by Theater in Asylum.

Theater in Asylum (TIA) is a New York-based theater company founded in 2010 to provide asylum to highly charged subjects and characters. With ensemble-driven performance we investigate to inspire curiosity, empathy, and action. We seek a freer world and believe theater is both the means and the ends. www.theaterinasyllum.com

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COMEDIAN: Hello! How's everyone doing tonight?
Woah, dead crowd. You guys enjoying yourself tonight?
Great, great, that's fabulous.
Well hey, I'm going to be telling a few jokes tonight. And this is a new routine, so forgive the notecards....

So, if pro is the opposite of con, what's the opposite of progress? Congress!

How many politicians does it take to change a lightbulb?
Two! One to change it and one to change it back.

So anybody here heard of this guy running for president, the one with the weird hair, you know, Donald Trump?
Excellent
Anyone supporting him?
Ah, actually, we're in the East Village, better keep that to yourself.

Donald Trump just announced that if the GOP doesn't treat him fairly, he will resurrect the Whig Party and run as its hair apparent.

If Trump becomes president we'll be calling his plane Hair Force One.

Why can't Donald Trump be a Lannister? Because he never pays his debts.

Why does the Donald sleep with a potato in his briefs?
Because he want to wake up some day as America's First Dictator.

Who here is going to Canada if Donald Trump is elected? Anyone going south of the border? You know, I actually have three really great reasons why going to Mexico is better than going to Canada. Wanna hear them?

1. Tacos
2. It's warmer there
3. There will literally be a wall separating you from Donald Trump

Donald Trump recently said that his favorite book is the Bible.
And we all know his favorite chapter. 11.

What do you call a Disney Princess who supports Donald Trump?
Snow White Supremacist¹

[Lights out. Behind a sheet, a light illuminates a silhouette, a confession.]

¹ Above Comedian lines were taken from various joke collection websites including www.jokes4us.com and www.politicalhumor.about.com

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CLOSET TRUMP SUPPORTER: I recently became engaged to my fiancée. We are young, urban, and have a happy future planned. We seem molded to be perfect young Hillary supporters, but we're not. In 2016, we're both going for Trump.

For me personally, it's resistance against what I see the country becoming, in the form of ultra-PC culture. That's where it's almost impossible to have polite or constructive political discussion. Disagreement gets you labeled fascist, racist, bigoted, etc. It can provoke a reaction so intense that you're suddenly an unperson to an acquaintance or friend. There is no saying "Hey, I disagree with you," it's just instant shunning.

I feel like I have to hide my beliefs. I cannot say openly that I identify with Republicans, lest I see friendships and potential professional connections disappear with those words. I don't know how to describe it, exactly, but I feel in a lot of ways that my identity as a white man is shamed.

If Trump wins, we will have a president that overwhelmingly rejects PC rhetoric. Even better, we will show that more than half the country rejects this insane PC regime. If Trump wins, I will personally feel a major burden relieved, and I will feel much more comfortable stating my more right-wing views without fearing total ostracism and shame. Because of this, no matter what Trump says or does, I will keep supporting him.²

COMEDIAN: How many Donald Trump supporters does it take to change a lightbulb?

TRUMP CONFESSION: It is socially unacceptable to support Trump; I am blasted from all directions. A gaggle of cable news pundits say that I — and voters like me — have jumped on the clown train to nowhere, and a fiery crash is imminent. Newspaper editorial boards imply that I'm an uneducated xenophobe, and the political establishment dubs me an ungrateful and disloyal oaf. How dare I refuse to vote for one of the establishment's carefully groomed candidates!³

COMEDIAN: How do you know when Donald Trump is telling the truth?

TRUMP CONFESSION: Where you see a loudmouth, I see candor. Where you see a lack of filter, I see transparency. Where you see a man who gaffes, I see a man who is willing to wipe the cancer of political correctness out of our society. Where you see a loose cannon, I see a man who says what he means and means what he says.⁴

² Above lines for Closet Trump Supporter taken from: Conor Friedersdorf, "A Dialogue With a 22-Year-Old Donald Trump Supporter," *The Atlantic*, 27 May 2016, 26 Jun. 2016, <<http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2016/05/a-dialogue-with-a-22-year-old-donald-trump-supporter/484232/>>.

³ Line taken from: Charlotte Laws, "Confessions of a Closet Trump Supporter," *The Daily Caller*, 27 Aug. 2015, 26 Jun. 2016, <<http://dailycaller.com/2015/08/27/confessions-of-a-closet-trump-supporter/>>.

⁴ Line taken from: A.J. Delgado, "20 Reasons why it Should be Donald Trump in 2016," *Breitbart*, 22 Oct. 2015, 26 Jun. 2016, <<http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2015/10/22/20-reasons-donald-trump-2016/>>.

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COMEDIAN: Why did the Donald Trump supporter cross the road?

TRUMP CONFESSION: In the plot to take down Trump, one of the first tactics tried was to cast him as anti-women. But Trump has worked with many peers and sparred against many rivals – male and female alike – and thus actually shows he treats women as equals (Yes, he joked about Carly Fiorina – he also joked about Rand Paul. Get it?). Or are we, as women, demanding to be coddled and spared the same treatment as the gents?⁵

COMEDIAN: - So a Trump supporter, Hillary supporter, and Bernie supporter walk into a bar...

TRUMP CONFESSION: We could be in a position where either illegal immigrants will need heavy government assistance, OR current Americans will lose jobs and see the few remaining ones taken by illegal immigrants. Long term, illegal immigrants will have children who will compete against my children for university spots and job opportunities. It's admittedly very selfish, but I want to ensure the greatest advantages I can give my family.⁶

CLOSET TRUMP SUPPORTER: Having Trump in the White House would both give me more confidence to speak my own opinion and more of a shield from instantly being dismissed as a racist/xenophobe/Nazi (all three things I have been called personally).⁷

JILL STEIN CONFESSION: I felt the Bern, he lost, and now everyone's pressuring me to vote for Hillary. But I can't. I won't. I'm voting for Jill Stein, the Green Party nominee. Clinton's support for fracking, offshore drilling, and the Clinton Foundation's contributions from big oil, make her environmental protection claims questionable at best, downright lies at worst. As long as Hillary Clinton is the nominee, I will not be voting Democrat. And I will not be guilted into it by that fear-mongering plea 'but you'll let Trump win!'...I have never and will never sacrifice my values for the lesser of two evils.⁸

HILLARY CONFESSION: You know, I had to come out of the closet as a gay man, I had to come out of the closet as an atheist.... But you know, coming out of the closet as a Hillary Supporter is harder. It's harder. Bernie, his supporters... And god love Bernie. I love some of the things he says. But his supporters are passionate to the point of...ummm... I don't know.... You have to be careful how you

⁵ Line taken from: A.J. Delgado, "20 Reasons why it Should be Donald Trump in 2016," *Breitbart*, 22 Oct. 2015, 26 Jun. 2016, <<http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2015/10/22/20-reasons-donald-trump-2016/>>.

⁶ Line taken from: Conor Friedersdorf, "A Dialogue With a 22-Year-Old Donald Trump Supporter," *The Atlantic*, 27 May 2016, 26 Jun. 2016, <<http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2016/05/a-dialogue-with-a-22-year-old-donald-trump-supporter/484232/>>.

⁷ Line taken from: Conor Friedersdorf, "A Dialogue With a 22-Year-Old Donald Trump Supporter," *The Atlantic*, 27 May 2016, 26 Jun. 2016, <<http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2016/05/a-dialogue-with-a-22-year-old-donald-trump-supporter/484232/>>.

⁸ Line interpreted from: Ari Phillips, "Bernie's biggest fans are ready to get down with the Green Party. Will it make a difference?," *Fusion*, 13 Jun. 2016, 26 Jun. 2016, <<http://fusion.net/story/312634/the-green-party-wants-your-bernie-love-now/>>.

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approach them. Even my friends, I have to kind of say: I love Bernie, I'm not picking a fight with Bernie. But *[whispering]* I voted for Hillary. You have to be careful.⁹

CLOSET TRUMP SUPPORTER: I just don't want to be shamed or held back or attacked for just being what I am.¹⁰

[Lights back on the performance artist. A pause. Performance artist looks at the audience.]

COMEDIAN: Donald Trump has dropped to second place in a national poll. On the bright side, he's still polling Number 1 among Germans of the 1930s.¹¹

[End of play.]

⁹ Laine taken from MSNBC video of Denis O'Hare in: Katie Jerkovich, "'Good Wife' Star: 'Coming Out Of The Closet As A Hillary Supporter Is Harder'[VIDEO]," *The Daily Caller*, 9 Jun. 2016, 26 Jun. 2016, <<http://dailycaller.com/2016/06/09/good-wife-star-coming-out-of-the-closet-as-a-hillary-supporter-is-hardervideo/>>.

¹⁰ Line taken from: Conor Friedersdorf, "A Dialogue With a 22-Year-Old Donald Trump Supporter," *The Atlantic*, 27 May 2016, 26 Jun. 2016, <<http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2016/05/a-dialogue-with-a-22-year-old-donald-trump-supporter/484232/>>.

¹¹ Line taken from: Conan O'Brien, <<http://teamcoco.com/jokes/march-7-2016-donald-trump-has-dropped-to-second-place-in-a-national-poll-on-the-bright-side-he-s-still-polling-1-among-germans-of-the-1930s>>