Sexual Harassment Prevention Training Exercises

The following 15 situations are either scenarios or questions that can be played out within any Flotilla's Sexual Harassment Prevention Training. This includes racial/ethnic sensitivity examples. The exercises should be monitored by the Flotilla Commander or Sexual Harassment Facilitator so the experience is instructive. Some humor is acceptable to break down any uncomfortable feelings but the point of training should not be lost. The evaluation sheet below will be provided at the end of the training.

Many of the situations below can play out as a role-playing scenario with one person taking the part of the initiator who will articulate the statement and respond to subsequent reaction and, where appropriate, the second person taking the part of the effected person who will react to the initial statement and respond subsequently. The rest of the audience can assist either side in their responses. After a few of these exercises a discussion can take place. The object is to discuss these issues openly.

1. At a Christmas party, the unit commander, after having had a few drinks, puts his arm around his yeoman and tells her that she is the best looking yeoman he's ever had.
2. At a classroom training session, the Instructor repeatedly asks questions of a woman sitting in the front row while leaning over her and staring.
3. A female supervisor constantly refers to her two male subordinates with expressions such as "just like a man" and "you just have too much testosterone"
4. A man puts up a Playboy centerfold on the wall of his office. He states that it is his office and anyone walking past doesn't have to look.
5. A female boss demands that her male subordinates accompany her to social occasions unrelated to work.
6. A male employee tells a joke in the coffee room that is pejorative toward gays. Everyone in the coffee room can hear.
7. A male co-worker regularly points out a female co-worker's weight changes.
8. A man stares over long and smiles at a female co-worker every time she walks past.
9. A male says to a female co-worker, "I wonder how you would look in a bikini"
10. A greeting card making fun of a gay person is passed around an office anonymously
11. A woman leaning over the desk of a male with a low cut blouse asking for a favor.
12. A person in a common area uses sexually explicit language within earshot. And further: A person is in their own office and uses the same language in a loud voice while talking on their speaker phone, but within the hearing of others. And further: that person is the boss.
13. A person of Iranian descent is referred to as a "rug jockey". Is this a humorous expression or an insult? Further: there is no specific Iranian present. Can this be offensive?
14. Is the expression "a person of color" a negative expression or a description?
15. You heard a Jewish person call another Jew a kike. Is it OK for you to use this expression?

Evaluation Form:
1. Did this format for Sexual Harassment Prevention Training engage your interest?
2. What will you take away from this training? Please explain.
3. What are your suggestions for improvement?