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ANOTHER MYTH-CONCEPTION

Myth: TV's first interracial kiss was between Captain Kirk and Lieutenant Uhura on *Star Trek* in 1968.

Fact: It wasn't even the first interracial kiss on *Star Trek*. The kiss in question occurred in the episode "Plato's Stepchildren." A hostile alien uses telepathy to force Kirk (William Shatner) and Uhura (Nichelle Nichols) to lock lips. As *Star Trek* grew in popularity over the next few decades, biographies of the show—and even the actors themselves—started bragging that the kiss was a television first (though Shatner denied their lips touched), and that it had a huge impact on society during the turbulent civil rights years. In truth, the kiss didn't make a lot of news at the time (though NBC initially balked at airing it). Because it took place at the end of an episode in *Trek's* low-rated third season, not that many people even saw it. Besides, a lot of interracial kisses had occurred on TV before that. For example: Lloyd Bridges kissed Nobu McCarthy on *Sea Hunt* in 1959; Robert Culp kissed France Nuyen on *I Spy* in 1966; Robert Conrad kissed Pilar Seurat on *The Wild Wild West* in 1966, Sammy Davis Jr. kissed Nancy Sinatra on *Movin' with Nancy* in 1967, and William Shatner kissed France Nuyen on another *Star Trek* episode that had aired earlier in 1968.

When you cup your hands to form a bowl, that's called a *gowpen*.