

EINSTEIN AND SOYBEANS

Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged.

Matthew 7: 1-2

When I was a teenager, my parents told me a story about Albert Einstein which made a strong impression on me. While my parents were dating, they attended a devotional talk given by world renowned chemist, Doctor Henry Eyring, who also just happened to be the author of my high school chemistry textbook. Doctor Eyring became a good friend of Albert Einstein while they both taught at Princeton University. Often they would go for early morning walks before classes would start.

One morning as they were walking, Einstein noticed a poor African-American farmer out hoeing in the field. Einstein did not recognize the type of plants growing in the field, so he stopped and asked this laborer what type of plants they were. Now realize, this was in the late 1940's when there was much more racial prejudice in America than there is today. The poor farmer replied that they were soybeans.

Einstein had not heard of soybeans before, so he asked the farmer what they were used for. After the man explained how useful soybeans were, Einstein continued to ask this poor itinerate black farmer more questions, while the