'Short People'

Words & Music: Randy Newman

Boy, did this song cause an uproar when it became an unexpected hit back in the 1970s. Being mean? Nope, just Randy’s wry, barbed humor and wordplay (see: “Political Science”) to make the point that this kind of prejudicial thinking was wrong (see the bridge to this song). Pity that point was lost on the protesters.

A    F#m7    B7    B7sus4    Bm7/E
A                F#m7       B7               Bm7/E
Short people got no reason; short people got no reason;
A    F#m7    B7    Bm7/E
Short people got no reason to live.
A          A/G
They got little hands, little eyes.
D/F#                     F
They walk around tellin’ great big lies.
A          A/G
They got little noses and tiny little teeth.
D/F#                     F9
They wear platform shoes on their nasty, little feet.

CHORUS::
A    F#m    B7    Bm7/E
Well, I don't want no short people;
A    F#m    B7    Bm7/E
Don't want no short people;
A    F#m    B7    Bm7/E           A [play intro chords]
Don't want no short people around here.

BRIDGE:
D                          C#m      Bm7       Bm7/E
Short people are just the same as you and I.
DM7
A fool such as I.
C#m                          Bm7       Bm7/E
All men are brothers until the day they die.
[intro chords]
It's a wonderful world

Short people got nobody; short people got nobody;
Short people got nobody to love.
They got little babylegs, they stand so low.
You got to pick 'em up just to say hello.
They got little cars that go "Beep! Beep! Beep!"
They got little voices goin' "Peep! Peep! Peep!"
They got grubby little fingers and dirty little minds,
They gonna get you every time.

CHORUS: [then, intro chords repeated and out]