Re: **UTS #51: add skin-tone/gender info for groups**

From: Mark Davis, ESC

Date: **2018-07-17 (updated 2018-07-26)**

The following are proposed fixes for issues that were found when looking into the gender / skin tone issues.

1. Missing item

The table of explicit genders in UTS #51 is missing one value, which should be added to that table. The PERSON WITH BEARD is currently treated as gendered. That is, it doesn't take the male/female sign modifiers. So it belongs in the table.

\x{1F9D4}	☐	BEARDED PERSON

Note that this does not prevent it from becoming unspecified-gender in the future; it simply reflects the current situation.

2. Multi Person Groupings

We should add a table of exactly which emoji we consider groups (for the purpose of skintones and/or gender) to the section Multi Person Groupings in UTS #51.

Along with that information, we should describe exactly how one would add skintones or gender to those groups, much as we describe how one would support direction. In some cases, we'd be just describing how current RGI sequences are formed. In others we'd be describing how vendors would specify the forms. (The specification is important, so that the choice of *which* valid forms to use is consistent across those vendors that would use them.)

Some of the existing text in that section would be retained, but for clarity the finer-level edits are not included here.

Property Change

There is one associated data change, which is to make each of the characters in the table **Multi-Person Groupings** (below) to have the Emoji_Modifier_Base=Yes.

Suggested change for Section 2.1

Note in the text that the gender-neutral emoji may be known by other terms, such as gender-inclusive and unspecified-gender.

Suggested text for Section *2.2.1 Multi-Person Groupings*

Incorporate the following text into Section 2.2.1. The incorporation may involve reworking or replacement of existing text.

Emoji for multi-person groupings are those emoji having a depiction involving 2 or more people that show skin-tones. They are listed below:

Multi-Person Groupings

Hex	Sample Image	CLDR Name
U+1F91D	🤝	handshake
U+1F46F	👯	people with bunny ears
U+1F93C	🤼	people wrestling
U+1F46B	👫	man and woman holding hands
U+1F46C	👬	two men holding hands
U+1F46B	👭	two women holding hands
U+1F48F	💏	kiss
U+1F491	💑	couple with heart
U+1F46A	👪	family

There are some other emoji that would share the same gender and skin tone, such as *folded hands*:

🙏. As far as gender and skin-tone go, these behave just like 👍 and so need no special treatment.

Gender

The emoji for multi-person groupings have unspecified gender (unless modified) with the exception of the three characters for couples holding hands. The handshake does not provide for gender differences.

Gender is applied to PEOPLE HOLDING HANDS, KISS, COUPLE WITH HEART, and FAMILY by using ZWJ sequences with MAN, WOMAN, PERSON, BOY, GIRL, CHILD, and STANDING PERSON, such as the following. These are all RGI, and listed in the data files.

U+1F469 U+200D U+2764 U+FE0F U+200D U+1F48B U+200D U+1F468	kiss: woman, man

Gender is applied to couples with bunny ears and people wrestling by using ZWJ sequences, as follows.

Gender with Multi-Person Groupings

	Description	Internal Representation
1	people with bunny ears	👯
2	men with bunny ears	👯 ZWJ ♂
3	women with bunny ears	👯 ZWJ ♀

4	people wrestling	🤼
5	men wrestling	🤼 ZWJ ♂
6	women wrestling	🤼 ZWJ ♀

Skin Tones

Skin tones can be similarly applied to multi-person groupings. Emoji represented internally by sequences may have skin-tone modifiers (ie, Emoji_Modifier characters) added after each of the characters that take them (those with Emoji_Modifier_Base). The following table illustrates that.

In Unicode 12.0, the emoji for couples holding hands will be RGI: 55 different emoji sequences that appear as 55 different images. Other multi-person groups can be represented, but are not yet RGI: adding mixed skin-tones to families would add 4,225 emoji sequences, for example.

	Description	Internal Representation
1	two women holding hands: S4, S6	🧍 🟫 ZWJ ♂ ZWJ 🧍 🟫 ZWJ ♀
2	couple holding hands: S4, S6	🧍 🟫 ZWJ 🧍 🟫
3	family: woman, woman, girl, girl: S4, S6, S1, S4	👩 🟫 ZWJ 👩 🟫 ZWJ 👧 🟧 ZWJ 👧 🟫

Skin-tone modifiers can be applied to each of the 9 characters listed in table **Multi-Person Groupings**, as illustrated in the following table. This gives all of the people in the group the same skin tone, which is similar to how the gender marker works.

	Description	Internal Representation
1	handshake: S4	🤝 🟫
2	people with bunny ears: S4	👯 🟫
3	women with bunny ears: S4	👯 🟫 ZWJ ♀
4	man and woman holding hands: S4	👫 🟫
5	family: S4	👪 🟫

(b) continue to disallow mixed skin tones and/or gender for these characters, or

(c) to encode new characters: PERSON WRESTLING, PERSON WITH BUNNY EARS, and (for skin tones), OUTSTRETCHED HAND (for use in HANDSHAKE) in some unspecified future version.

Comments are welcome.

Gender/Skin Tones with Multi-Person ZWJ Sequences

	Description	Internal Representation
1	handshake: S4 & S6	🤝 🟫 [ZWJ] 🤝 ⬛
2	woman and man with bunny ears	👯 [ZWJ] ♀ [ZWJ] 👯 [ZWJ] ♂
3	woman and man wrestling	🤼 [ZWJ] ♀ [ZWJ] 🤼 [ZWJ] ♂
4	woman with bunny ears: S4, S6	👯 🟫 [ZWJ] ♀ 👯 🟫 [ZWJ] ♀
5	woman and man with bunny ears	👯 [ZWJ] ♀ [ZWJ] 👯 [ZWJ] ♂
6	woman and man with bunny ears: S4	👯 🟫 [ZWJ] ♀ [ZWJ] 👯 [ZWJ] ♂
7	woman and man with bunny ears: S4,S6	👯 🟫 [ZWJ] ♀ [ZWJ] 👯 ⬛ [ZWJ] ♂

Review Note 3: The committee is considering a compact form whereby a group with uniform skin tone only needs one skin-tone modifier, similar to how a group with one uniform gender needs only one male/female sign. Comments are welcome. *Possible text:*

If all of the human-form images in the emoji have the same skin tone, then that Emoji_Modifier appears after the first Emoji_Modifier_Base, and there are no other Emoji_Modifier characters.

	Description	Internal Representation
1	couple holding hands: S4	🧍 🟫 [ZWJ] 🧍
2	family: woman, woman, girl: S4	👱 🟫 [ZWJ] 👱 [ZWJ] 👧 [ZWJ] 👧