

ABA YLD 2009-2010 Public Service Project
They Had a Dream Too: Young Leaders of the Civil Rights Movement
Presentation to Teachers

Good Morning. My name is _____ from the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. ABA YLD is the public service arm of the American Bar Association. It is comprised of more than 150,000 young lawyers who, on a solely volunteer basis, develop and implement various public service projects. ABA YLD has along and successful history of developing law-focused curriculum projects. This project originated with the Texas Young Lawyers Association.

Our current curriculum project is *They Had a Dream Too: Young Leaders of the Civil Rights Movement*. *They Had a Dream Too* is designed to educate 11TH and 12TH graders about the important and often little-known role of students, teenagers and children in the Civil Rights Movement. The film and corresponding curriculum will be available for implementation in the 2009-2010 school year.

They Had a Dream Too will be multi-media project comprised of a twenty-eight minute video, a website, and classroom curriculum. Narrated by renowned civil rights leader and former NAACP president, Julian Bond, the film is designed to show your juniors and seniors the profound impact on history that students had and that they, too, can positively change the world around them. Through pictures, video and interviews with actual participants at the time, *They Had A Dream, Too* will introduce students to Terrence Roberts of the Little Rock Nine, and teach them about Ruby Bridges and others who braved integration following *Brown vs. Board of Education*. Students will hear about Claudette Colvin, Rosa Parks' predecessor and inspiration. *They Had A Dream Too* will take students to Greensboro and introduce them four college freshmen who took a stand by sitting down. They will meet Doreen Loury who jumped in a swimming pool to help desegregate public places. Mary Beth Tinker will explain why she protested and explain why her seminal Supreme Court case states that the civil rights of students and teachers did not stop at the schoolhouse gate. The journey will continue with the Freedom Rides and Birmingham Marches. The video will also discuss how other movements arose, such as the Mexican-American civil rights movement. In twenty-eight minutes we hope to show the students what a difference people their age made in shaping our nation. The website will house the complete interviews of the participants and provide you and your students with additional information and project ideas. The written curriculum will assist you teachers in covering the required TAKS objectives. **Specifically we intend to cover Objective 3 (US4), (US7) and maybe (WG5), Objective 4 (8.20), (US7), (US17).**

The time is ripe for this project with the 2009-2010 school year marking the fifty year anniversary of the Woolworth sit-in and the fifty-third anniversary of when the Little Rock Nine first attended Little Rock's Central High School. *They Had a Dream Too* will inspire high school students to learn more about laws and legal decisions that affect their lives and to become involved in their communities.