



## GETTING STARTED

The Dialogue on Youth and Justice is designed for use with high school classrooms and community groups. The Dialogue offers numerous perspectives on the topic of youth and justice, giving you different options for different audiences or classrooms. Parts I and II of the Dialogue focus on the juvenile justice system. Part I looks at the history of juvenile justice in the United States, while Part II takes up the question of whether juveniles should ever be tried as adults. Part III of the Dialogue looks at the constitutional rights of students outside the juvenile justice system, with a particular focus on student rights in a school setting.

In consultation with the teacher or community group leader, decide which part of the Dialogue would be most interesting and appropriate for your Dialogue group.

## QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

Throughout the Dialogue, you will find “Questions for Review.” These questions are designed to help the Dialogue leader check and reinforce student comprehension of important facts, ideas, and concepts introduced in each section of the Dialogue. Use these questions to make sure that all the Dialogue participants are on the same page before proceeding to the “Discussion Questions” that appear at the end of Parts I, II, and III of the Dialogue.

The “Discussion Questions” are designed to introduce open-ended conversations on the topics and will be the focus of your Dialogue. Discussion Questions for Parts I and II begin with a “take a stand” strategy to gauge the initial opinions of the participants on the topics before you begin the discussion. Discussion Questions for Part III ask participants to debate a number of hypothetical scenarios involving student rights.

We encourage you to be open to new directions your conversation may take as you and your group explore the issues introduced in the Dialogue.

## THE ABA DIALOGUE PROGRAM

The Dialogue on Youth and Justice is the fifth installment in the ABA Dialogue program. The Dialogue program provides lawyers and judges with the resources they need to engage high school students and community groups in discussion of fundamental American legal principles and civic traditions. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy introduced the first Dialogue program, the Dialogue on Freedom, at the 2002 ABA Midyear Meeting in Philadelphia. In 2003, the ABA introduced the Dialogue on *Brown v. Board of Education* to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court’s landmark ruling. In 2005, the Dialogue on the American Jury complemented the ABA’s American Jury Initiative. In 2006, the Dialogue on the Separation of Powers was introduced. For more information on these Dialogues, visit <http://www.abanet.org/publiced/features/dialogues.html>.