

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

**One Speaker and Two Speaker Systems**

1. The Speaker needs to watch the video prior to their speech. The speaker should tell a little about themselves such as who they are, where they work/live, where they grew up and went to school. If the speaker has a personal story they would like to share, now is the time. This does NOT have to be a story about discrimination. Any inspirational story about standing up for something you believe is what we're looking for. It can be anything from I marched at Selma to I stood up for a friend who was being picked on.
2. Next, the speaker should foreshadow the video some. Ask the kids if they have ever heard of the March on Selma or who led the March. The speaker can also ask when the Voting Rights Act was passed or what were the Freedom Rides or who were the Little Rock Nine. Generally, the kids will not know the answers to these questions, but tell them these are important questions and the video will provide the answers.
3. The video should then be played.
4. An attorney/speaker should then take the podium. The role of this person is to engage and entertain the kids. The attorney should begin with some of the questions mentioned above. Right answers will receive prizes. The attorney should work in personal stories and questions if possible. Ask the students about some of their important issues. Suggest things like what about year-round school or no more sports curriculum in school or should MySpace be banned from schools (any hot topic school/youth issues). Ask more questions about the video. Maybe talk about local government and getting involved. Ask how many kids are already registered to vote. More questions and prizes.

In a two-speaker system, instead of the attorney/speaker, we have a speaker do this part. The speaker should talk about who they are and what they do and share a personal, inspirational story if possible. The speaker (if willing) can do the Q&A portion or have an attorney/speaker assist.

Overall, the speakers need to bear in mind this is an inspiration program. We want to inspire these kids to stand up for what they believe despite the fact they may be standing alone. This is not a program about how bad it was in the old days and things are easy now. These kids have different challenges today and they should be inspired to dream like those before them.