



It's a tough subject.

## TIPS FOR YOUR SCHOOL PLAY READING

Thank you for participating in our statewide Courthouse Steps reading. Your advocacy leaders will coordinate their announcements with you directly. This sheet contains tips from the School Play team for your outdoor reading.

### PERFORMANCE

The script is approximately 10 minutes long. Before starting to read, we suggest an announcement (in the script notes) that all dialogue in the play comes from live interviews with citizens of Pennsylvania.

To help call a crowd to attention, you may want to loudly recite the pledge of Allegiance, as was traditionally done in public schools.

Please: read loudly, clearly and more slowly than you think is necessary. It is more difficult to understand loud speech outside, especially if you are using a microphone. While reading, please look up as much as possible to make your words audible; if your chin and eyes are angled down at your script, your words will be muffled. And again, take your time! They want to hear every word!

### PREPARATION

It's helpful to secure your pages so they can be easily turned from the side.

It is essential to read the script through *out loud*, beforehand and to assign parts to each actor before reading it in public.

Highlighting your parts in color will help you find them more easily while reading.

We have suggested a minimum of three actors for this reading: Woman 1, Woman 2, Man 1. But you can do your reading with more.

When assigning parts, be sure that the same actor reads the same characters consistently: eg, if Susan is reading Yvonne, then Susan should always read Yvonne.

If Ed's speech is interrupted by a line from another actor, Ed should complete the rest of the speech.

Neither the character names nor the titles of each scene are intended to be read aloud.

Your advocacy partners will close the program with a call to action.