

# PROJECT LEAD



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IAP

International Association of Prosecutors





Legal  
Enrichment  
And  
Decision Making



# What is **PROJECT LEAD** ?

- A proven law-related education program
- Primary school students
- Ages 10 -12
- Taught voluntarily
  - Prosecutors and other criminal justice professionals
  - One hour each week
  - 20-week curriculum



# PROJECT **LEAD** **GOALS**



- To teach children about the criminal justice system
- To teach children about the importance of making the right choices in life

# PROJECT **LEAD** **Lessons**

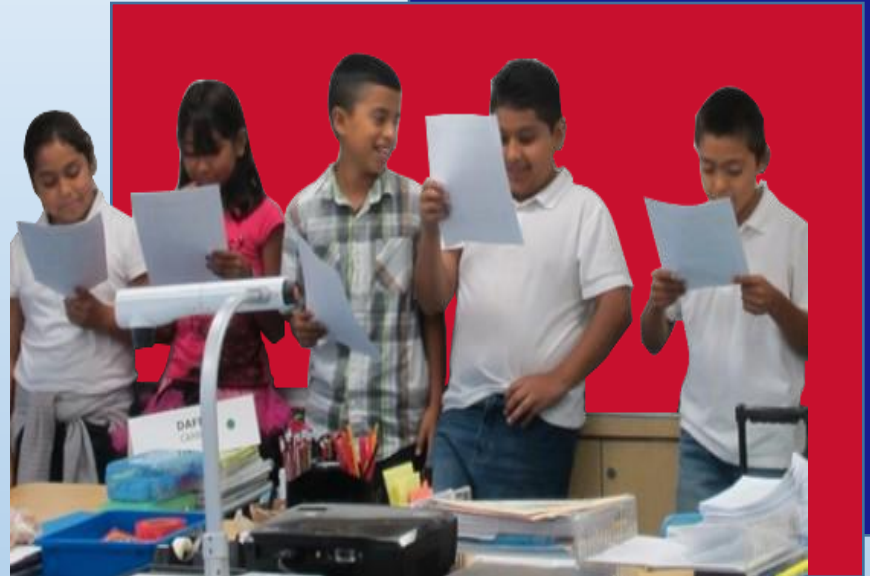
## ■ Focus

- Legal and social consequences of common juvenile crimes
  - Gang affiliation
  - Truancy
  - Drug use
  - Theft
  - Graffiti
- Techniques for conflict resolution and peer pressure
- Life skills, social responsibility and respect for diversity

# PROJECT **LEAD** **Lessons**

## ■ Curriculum

- Role-playing activities
- Interactive lessons
- Concludes with a scripted mock trial





## **Development and Research**

- Developed by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office in 1993.
  - More than 30,000 students in Los Angeles County have completed the program.
- Partnered with the Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) in 2003.
  - CRF is a nationally recognized U.S. Leader in Law Related Education Programs
- Two-Year evaluation published by academic researchers in 2005 .



# Evaluation Results

- Project LEAD provides students with the tools and experiences to help students assess difficult situations and make appropriate decisions with a clearer understanding of the consequences.

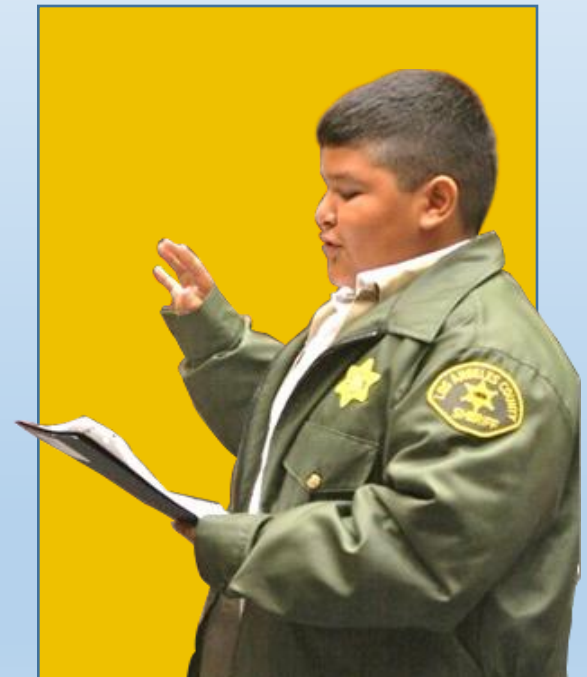






# Evaluation Results

- Participation in Project LEAD appeared to provide a “Protective Factor” in which students:
- Maintained positive attitudes about laws, lawyers and authority figures
- Increased their understanding of the consequences of their decisions
- Developed an understanding of the importance of tolerance
- Maintained positive educational and career aspirations



# Expansion of **PROJECT LEAD**

- The program has been implemented in various locations throughout the USA
- Several countries have shown an interest in adopting the program



# Expansion of **PROJECT LEAD**



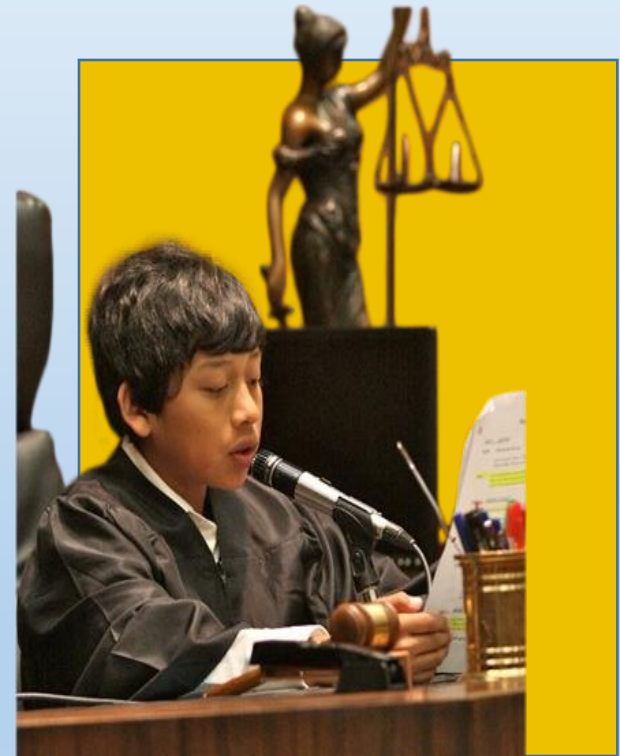
- Quebec, Canada implemented - October 2014
- Curriculum translated from English to French
- Lessons adapted to laws and cultures of the region

# Implementation of



## ■ How to implement Project LEAD in your area:

- Visit the Project LEAD website  
<http://projectlead.lacounty.gov>
- Contact the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office  
[LEAD@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:LEAD@da.lacounty.gov)
- Inquire with local prosecuting agency- current law-related education program in place?
- Contact a primary school principal or chief administrator
- Meet with an assigned teacher
- Follow the easy-to-teach curriculum



# Student Evaluation of



*Before Project LEAD I thought lawyers were not that important. But now I do and the thing I like about them is that they always teach us to do the right thing. And they tell us if you do this you'll get a bad choice and you'll never go to college or you'll never learn. I want to be a lawyer because I want to be able to help other people.*

—Project LEAD Student



# PROJECT LEAD

For more information,  
please visit:

<http://projectlead.lacounty.gov>

Or email:

[LEAD@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:LEAD@da.lacounty.gov)

