

MOTHER

You know what the school board says about it.

MOTHER

That if I want to go to high school, I should go to a church-sponsored school for Negroes.

MOTHER

What's so bad about that?

JOHN

I didn't say it's bad. Only it's not right under the Constitution. Some of the other parents are asking that the county not be allowed to operate a high school for white students unless we get equal facilities.

MOTHER

You mentioned that Mr. Plessy. What does he have to do with it?

JOHN

Because even though he lost his case, the Court said that that the state does have to provide equal facilities for Negroes. Do you see? The Supreme Court already said that. And now they're going to have to remember what they said when it comes to schools.

MOTHER

John, sometimes I think you've already got too much learning for your own good. You get these big ideas about..

JOHN

But this Judge that said what I read to you...this Judge John Harlan, he's going to be deciding on this one too.

MOTHER

I'll go along with your feelings on this, John. If some of the other parents are going to take it to Court, you can count on me too.

JOHN

Oh, Mama, thank you....

(lights fade on Mother and Son as a Judge appears in a spotlight saying the following very slowly and officially as Newspaper Mastheads show passage of time to decision in 1899:)