

Email from student following Cory Johnson presentation:

Recently my school (Hunting Hills High School) attended a presentation held by the connections group. The presentation was given by Cory Johnson who was born with cerebral palsy and at the age of eleven suffered from a stroke that affected the other side of his body. Cory continued to explain to our group the troubles he has underwent through his life as a disabled person. Mr. Johnson spent an hour and a half talking to our group that had settled down on the bleachers in our gym to here his presentation. Looking around at my classmates I saw that none of them had a bored look in there face. I think that every one was enjoying the presentation as much as I was. Cory put a few jokes into his presentation to lighten the mood of the students and to keep there attention focused on him, this technique was very effective in keeping the other students as well as my self in tune with what he was speaking about. Cory's presentation really changed how my self and many of my classmates look upon disabled people, I realize now how hurtful the things that "Normal" people say to these disabled people really are and how much the discrimination is unnecessary. The presentation that myself and my fellow students watched was very eye opening and was a very moving experience for many people in the gym that day.

Stuart Blanke
Grade 12.
Hunting Hills High School

Email from teacher following Cory Johnson's presentation:

Kudos to Shantelle for all the time she's spent working on the Connections project. I teach three of the girls involved and am really impressed with their level of dedication and enthusiasm . They were really on the mark when they thought it was a good idea to bring Cory to speak to our students. These girls, who are not usually leaders, did a great job of organizing the presentation and speaking in front of a large number of students, which, as we all know, is not easy. The result of these efforts is difficult to measure, but I'm sure these girls will benefit from this experience for a long time, Shantelle. Thank you.