

## WAY OUT WHITEBOARD

### Objectives

- Students will consider their dreams in contrast to their family’s dreams for them
- Students will understand some of the dreams of their classmates
- Students will reflect on ways they feel they can make it out of their current life circumstances

### Materials needed

- Post-it notes and pens

### Activity

In the play, the character Alma puts a lot of pressure on her daughter Angel to do a great job on her SATs. Alma sees education as the way for Angel to get to a better situation in her life. What is that way out for you? Could it be education? Entertainment? Sports? Entrepreneur? Something else?

1. Distribute post-it notes and pens to the class.
2. Ask the students, “What do you think is the way to a better situation in life?” Invite them to write up to three ideas on separate post-it notes and place them anonymously on one side of the board. Give students a few minutes to view the answers of their classmates.
3. Ask the students, “What does your family see as the best way out of your current situation to a better one?” Invite them to write up to three ideas on separate post-it notes and place them anonymously on the other side of the board. Give students a few minutes to view the answers of their classmates.
4. Use the following reflection questions to help guide your conversation:

Which of your classmates’ answers surprised you?  
Is there any overlap between what you think and what your family thinks?  
Is there something new that you would add or take away?  
Do you feel the need to make it to a better situation in life?

While you watch the play *Alma*, notice how important it is for the characters to make it out of their current situation. Notice what is similar to your thoughts and feelings and what might be different.