

Interview Three – Daniel from England

I am in Geneva to progress the youth justice system. We need to make the system better for everyone, all over the world.

Due to the way I was treated in the criminal justice system and prison, I want to change things. This has been a passion of mine as a result of my own run-ins with the system.

I don't want others to go through what I did. I am passionate about changing young peoples lives and building a brighter future for the younger generation. I want them to avoid having the same problems I encountered in the criminal justice system.

Governments must provide funding to open up more youth clubs and stop using prison as a first resort. Raising awareness has to be a major objective for the government, they must provide funding for youth projects. They must also put in place more schemes to stop young people committing crimes and have a place for all young people to go when they are feeling down, and to freely express their thoughts and opinions. It shouldn't take us having to come to the UN to campaign for these things, we are capable as a society of changing things ourselves.

Building confidence in my ability to tackle these issues has been my main achievement. I have developed a wider knowledge of public speaking and hope that I hope what we have said will open the eyes of people as to what is going on around them.

It is important we are here as we, as young people, have more to contribute than adults because it is a youth issue. We are often seen as juvenile delinquents, but we have an input on this issue and the opportunity to express ourselves means a lot to us.

There will be a lot to do when I return home. I will continue with the campaigning, meet with national governments and keep everyone updated with the campaign's progress.