



Alternative assembly idea – awards ceremony

You will need:

- Nine students to act in the sketch, the first part could be pre recorded
- A lectern
- A microphone
- An 'award' or 'awards' to be given out
- An image of a bus that could be projected onto a screen behind the actors
- Chairs for 'the bus'
- Maybe some canned applause for the 'ceremony'
- 'Fatimah' needs a bag
- 'Random Passenger' needs a mobile phone
- 'Host' needs a smart outfit

Script

Host at a lectern with a microphone, holding an award: Here at the 'Best of Britain Awards', we are recognising all sorts of people with different talents. But here I present to you a special award for a group of people who truly stood up for what they thought was right; and didn't hesitate to stand up for a vulnerable individual. This is what happened: *(Host leaves the stage)*

You might want to project a photograph of a bus on a big screen with Fatimah and another passenger sitting in clear view of everyone with Masood, Bob and Mason sitting behind her, but a few seats away. Max, Daniel and Steve all 'get on the bus' and go past her (this could be pre recorded and shown as a clip at the 'ceremony')

Random passenger: (takes out phone and starts filming when he hears loud noises)

Fatimah: (sitting quietly on the bus, not disturbing anyone)

Max: (bump into Fatimah and stare vigorously) go back to your country, you're not wanted here!
TERRORIST!!!

ALL: (chant) TERRORIST!! (repeated)

Daniel: (pulls at Fatimah's hijab and mocks her by making shooting and ninja noises)

It can clearly be seen, Fatimah feels uncomfortable and doesn't want to be around these people however feels as though she has a right to stay considering the fact that it's her country as well and she was born and brought up here; therefore has a right to stay put.

Masood and friends: What's going on here?

Bob: We've been watching you for quite some time and we feel as though you're treating this young lady in a very indecent manner!

Mason: It's not right for you to treat this lady like that. She too has a right to express her religion freely and dress the way she wants to. She shouldn't be made to feel afraid or uncomfortable in her own country. I'm pretty sure she pays her taxes and wants what's best for this country.

Steve: But don't you see what's on the news about people like her. There's probably a bomb in her bag!

Bob: You have no right whatsoever to judge an innocent woman like that. For all we know, there could be a bomb in your bag. But here, you don't see this lady pointing unnecessary fingers at you or your character. Therefore, I and all my fellow travellers here would appreciate it, if you were to apologise to this lady and mind your own business in the future.

Steve and his friends: sit down and look regretful

Fatimah: (wiping away tears secretly) whispers 'Thank you' to Bob and her fellow travellers

Everyone in the sketch freezes and a ceremony host comes onto the stage in a Dinner Jacket, or very smart (like you would see someone wearing at the Oscars) with canned or real applause

Host walks to the lectern and microphone: I would like to present an award to Mr Masood Singh, a Hindu man who stood up against a group of strong offenders, Mr Bob Davidson a Jewish man who told those men what major mistake they were committing and also to Mr Mason Jobs a Christian individual, who stood up for the innocent lady on the bus that we have just seen a re-enactment of. They defended her in a respectable manner.

Masood, Bob and Mason come forward and receive their awards – *up to you if you want them to say a few words in accepting their awards.*

Host: Finally, Miss Fatimah Ahmed, a young Muslim woman who didn't let the bullies intimidate her and force her to leave the bus. She stuck strong to her rights and was very forgiving towards the ignorant men. Miss Ahmed, if you could say a few words...

Fatimah: Thank you ever so much to the kind and understanding gentlemen, who assisted me when I was in a vulnerable situation. This is clear evidence that people from different religions and backgrounds can come together and make a positive difference when we encounter ignorance or lack of respect. Your religion shouldn't make a difference to how you are treated, as indeed everyone should be treated the same. (Hold out award) I dedicate this award to all those vulnerable individuals out there that may not have the courage to stand up for their rights; also, to all religions and worldviews that would agree with me. Thank you.

(Round of applause from the audience)