

Shackles for Kidnapped Slaves



The *Amistad* defendants never wanted to be in the United States. They did not ask to leave their African homes in shackles. They were brought to America against their free will.

John Quincy Adams argued their case, before the Supreme Court, to honor their request to go home.

Kale - an 11-year-old boy who learned English while an *Amistad* captive - put it best in a <u>letter to Adams (dated January 4, 1841)</u>:

All we want is make us free...

Kale, and all the other Amistad defendants, wanted to be forever free of the shackles of slavery.

Credits:

Image of slave shackles, online courtesy Wikimedia Commons. PD

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Shackles-for-Kidnapped-Slaves-0

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

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