Issue Card 1

Different Issues?

Are young people presented with a whole new set of issues as a result of their use of online media?

What are the differences between online media and traditional concepts of media, i.e. radio, TV, and newspapers/magazines? What extra precautions should we take to make sure we are keeping young people safe when they are online?

Issue Card 2

Privacy

Is privacy an issue that young people need to worry about?

How would issues of privacy affect their lives, both online and in their everyday undertakings?

What are the risks involved with privacy and the lack of regard for it?

Issue Card 3

Over-Sexualisation of People in the Media

The media's portrayal of women as objects of sexual gratification can harm girls' personal development. Young girls are bombarded with clothing, stationery, and other products with teasing and inappropriate slogans. Many retailers sell these products to children in total disregard of the effects it might have on them.

Does sexualisation in the media cause young people to mature too early?

Issue Card 4

Intellectual Theft

Does technology play a role in people's attitudes to copyright infringement?

Would you agree that modern technology has influenced people's attitudes towards the idea of ownership and plagiarism?

Issue Card 5

Language

Does modern technology play a role in the deterioration of written and verbal skills?

Instant messaging and social networks have made abbreviations commonplace in modern language. Lol, CUL8R, and OMG are now instantly recognisable to many people that have grown up in the digital age.

Issue Card 6

Validity of Sources and Knowledge

Young people have become more reliant on a small number of sources for the gathering of information.

Often they fail to compare or contrast different websites and have no idea if the information they are getting is true or false. Many believe almost everything they see online.

Issue Card 7

Freedom of Speech

Freedom of speech is a basic human right, but should we apply the same level of freedom to those who interact online?

Should children and teenagers that write derogatory remarks in online blogs face the same punishment as a newspaper writer that slanders a person?

Issue Card 8

Airbrushed to Perfection?

Modern society seems fixated on celebrities. Entire websites are dedicated to the clothes, diet and fitness regimes of these celebs, but many fail to mention that their photos have been digitally altered.

Should these sites be held responsible for young people's unrealistic perceptions of body image?

What about the websites that promote anorexia and other eating disorders?

Issue Card 9

Writing for an Imagined Audience?

Social networking sites allow people to view comments, photos and personal info. But these sites often have loopholes that allow them to pass your images and info on to third parties.

Should these sites do more to protect your privacy, especially since once something has been put on the web it tends to stay there even after you have removed it?

Issue Card 10

The Beautiful Body

Online websites often present idealistic views of beauty.

How might these images influence a person's ability to retain his or her own unique identity?

Do these sites feed into the problems of eating disorders?

Issue Card 11

Violent Online Behaviour

Online gaming has always been popular, but recently there has been an influx of violent and disturbing games. Extremist sites that promote anger and violence are all over the Internet. Children that have come from stable backgrounds are gaining firsthand experience of violence from the Internet.

What impact might this have on the moral and social development of children and young people?

Issue Card 12

Cyber Addiction

Would you class cyber addiction as a real addiction, and if so, would you place it on a similar level as alcohol or drug addiction?

What do you think are the negative effects of cyber addiction?

How might it affect an addict's life?