



Joan accepts a social network friend request from Jake because they shared mutual friends. She also liked his profile picture. After a few weeks of chatting online Jake asks for Joan's phone number and is interested in meeting up soon.

Joan is reluctant to give her number to Jake. However, Joan recently met a boy called Sam at a disco, who asked her to go for a walk outside, alone. Joan fancied him and she agreed.

What issues arise in both situations and how does one situation differ from the other?



Mary wants to watch the new *Twilight* movie online. She finds a site to watch it on for free, with a 30-day free trial. She has to submit a credit card number to sign up. She uses her parents' credit card details without reading the terms and conditions, and after 30 days her parents' credit card is charged for the next month's subscription.

What are some of the ethical issues here?



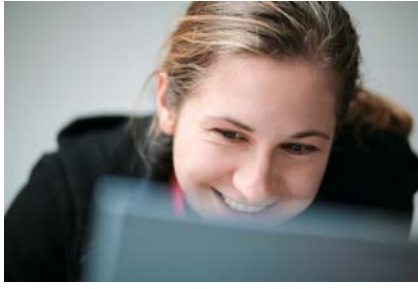
Tara has an assignment due today, but she forgot to do it over the weekend. She Googles the topic and finds a similar essay which she then copies and submits as her own work.

What are the ethical issues?



Karen has a makeup and fashion blog that she updates regularly. She recently uploaded an article that was very derogatory towards an Asian girl from her class. Karen commented on the girl's facial features in an article about eye makeup.

What are the ethical issues here?



Facebook is banned in your school. Some students have discovered a way of bypassing this 'block', but these students are stopping other students from getting their schoolwork done.



A group of older boys has found out Paul's email address and signed him up for pornographic websites. When Paul goes to check his emails in school, his inbox is full of "verification" emails for these websites. Clicking on the "remove" link within these emails takes Paul to the sites themselves to unsubscribe, which also brings up detailed graphic images. Chris, one of the teachers, sees these images on Paul's screen, which are a violation of the school's Internet policy, and suspends Paul's Internet usage for one month.



As a mother of 3 teenage sons, Lindsey regularly hacks into her children's social network sites and checks their online history. She believes that this is the only way she can make sure they are being responsible and safe.

Lindsey doesn't think she is doing anything wrong and believes she is only looking out for the welfare of her family.

Would you agree with Lindsey?

What are the ethical issues in this scenario?



Sean is a regular writer for his school newspaper. He also has two personal online blogs. Recently, Sean wrote some negative comments about a fellow student on his blog and has since been suspended from writing for the school paper.

Sean has also jeopardised his chance of being promoted to editor in the next semester.

Does Sean's punishment fit his 'crime'?

What are the ethical issues here?



Robert wants the new U2 album. His allowance is not due for another two weeks, but he really wants the album now. He uses an online torrent site and downloads the album for free.

What are the ethical issues here?



Gemma is surfing the net when an advert tells her that by simply clicking on the scrolling banner she could win a holiday to Spain. Gemma clicks the banner and is then asked to fill in some personal information, her phone number and e-mail address.

Should Gemma supply her personal information?



Tanya has an English paper to write, but instead of writing it herself, she finds an online essay-writing website. She pays €50 to their group of writers to write the essay for her.

Is this still plagiarism?



Tracy's mum gave her 50 Euro to buy her sister a bottle of perfume for her birthday.

Instead of going to the perfume store, Tracy decided to buy the perfume online.

She bought her sister a bottle of perfume for 20 Euro and also bought herself a bottle for 30 Euro.

When the perfume arrives Tracy realises that one is a fake. She wraps the fake and gives it to her sister and keeps the genuine one for herself.



Kevin spends at least 3 hours a day playing online poker; he spends another 4 hours in online chat rooms, and also spends a lot of time on social networking sites.

Would you say that this is a normal amount of time to be spending online in one day?



Mary's mother is the science teacher at her school. Mary finds a copy of the end-of-year exam on the family computer. She downloads it and sells it to her classmates.

Discuss the ethical issues relating to her behaviour?



Sasha has just found out that her friend Jack has been visiting online sites that give tips on how to self-harm without getting caught.

Should Sasha breach her friends trust and tell Jack's parents?



Amy spends a great deal of time online looking at celebrity gossip sites and catwalk shows. She also searches for exercise and diet tips online. Amy stumbles across a website that promotes anorexia and gives girls tips on how to starve themselves.

What are the ethical issues here?





Peter is studying in the school library when his laptop's Bluetooth picks up a nude picture of a girl from his school. Peter knows that the picture would make him a big hit with the lads, and as he doesn't have many friends at school, he is tempted to pass it on.

What should Peter do?



Craig is the owner of an online clothing store. Over the past few months his business has amassed a large number of clients. His database is full of customers' personal information, such as telephone numbers, email addresses and home addresses. Craig is contacted by an anonymous business owner who offers him a large sum of money for the contact information.

If Craig takes the money he will be able to expand his business and open a store in town.

Should Craig take the money?

What are the possible ethical issues involved here?



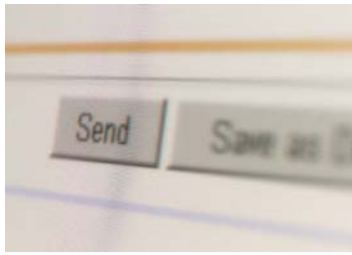
Chloe and her boyfriend John have been dating for over two months. John asked Chloe to send him a topless picture. Chloe sends the picture to John on MSN. John has since shown the picture to some of his friends.

What are the main ethical issues surrounding this scenario?



Dave uses Facebook to conduct a popularity poll.

He asks, "Who are the people you like most in the class? Who are the people you like least?" A couple of names top the "least liked" list. Michelle makes top of the list. Michelle feigns illness in order to avoid school. Her parents are puzzled because the doctor can find nothing physically wrong with her. School officials warn them that Michelle will have to repeat the year if her attendance doesn't improve.



Alan sends an E-mail to the entire school, inviting them to a party (with alcohol) at his house while his parents are out of town. Alan receives a message from a school official, calling him in for a meeting with the headmaster. He objects because he feels that his e-mail is his own private business.

What are the privacy issues at stake here?



Emily forgot to log out of her Facebook account after she had used her friend Tammie's laptop. Tammie looks through Emily's personal messages and finds that Emily has been talking about her behind her back. Tammie, still logged in as Emily, sends mean messages to Emily's friends.

Should Tammie confront Emily about the messages? If she does she will have to admit to snooping in the first place.



There is a group of bullies at Sally's school. They are picking on a few of Sally's close friends. Sally's father is the local doctor, and Sally finds out that the ringleader of the group has a bladder condition that sometimes makes him wet the bed.

Sally could use this information to get back at the bullies by putting the information on her social network site, even though they never bullied her.

What are the possible ethical issues with this scenario?



Beth has 673 friends online. She spends most of her time updating her status and chatting to people online. Beth's small group of actual friends are feeling left out and begin to distance themselves from her.

What are some of the issues Beth might face, along with losing her friends?