
EDUCATOR ANSWER KEY—SOCIAL AND DIGITAL MEDIA SCENARIOS

Scenario A

Beck posts a picture drunk at a party with the caption “Drunk out of my mind! #BestJobEver” on a social media account not directly linked to Beck’s name. The photo was liked by many friends and circulated among students, often tagging Beck in their reposts.

During summer break, Beck applied for a job as a life guard. The manager searched all the candidates and found the drunken selfie on the Internet. Someone else was hired for the job.

- Beck’s application might have been considered for the job but upon finding the drunken selfie, the employer reconsidered. This might have been compounded by the hashtag #BestJobEver, as the prospective employer might have thought that Beck likes to get drunk on the job. Despite the context surrounding the drunken selfie and hashtag, to an outside observer (and especially a prospective employer), this kind of social media post raises a lot of red flags.
- Beck might not be able to influence this perspective employer but Beck could prevent something similar from happening in the future. Beck’s action plan could start with going through all social media accounts and deleting any photos showing parties, alcohol, or any intoxicated selfies. Going forward, Beck could decide not to post anymore photos that might look bad or questionable to future employers, even photos with social media privacy settings enabled.



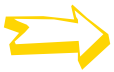
Scenario B

Ty’s friend PJ forwards a video that they secretly took of their ex in the changing room. The ex is getting out of the shower. The message along with it says, “A liar and a cheater! Let’s see how you like public humiliation!”

Ty knows that PJ has been in a lot of pain about the breakup and that the video was taken when the relationship was good and they were joking around.

Everyone involved in this scenario is 16 years old. Canadian law says that sexual images of those under 18 are “child pornography” and those who circulate it can be charged.

- There are legal and social issues to consider in this scenario. Canadian law classifies any sexual images of those under 18 as child pornography and any person who circulates such pictures can be charged. In this context, PJ could be charged under child pornography laws. If Ty decides to share the video, Ty could also be charged under child pornography laws. Sharing a nude photo without the person's consent is also a violation of the person's right to privacy and bodily autonomy. Sharing this kind of photo without consent is considered sexual harassment and a form of cyberbullying. Sexual harassment and cyberbullying are not necessarily punishable in a court of law but there are consequences unique to schools and school boards, such as suspension and expulsion.
- Even though the video was filmed consensually, sharing it without consent is a violation of the person's right to privacy and bodily autonomy. Sharing it without consent is compounded by the intention behind the sharing, which is to purposely hurt the other person through name calling, shame, and humiliation.
- Ty has a number of options. First, Ty could delete the video without sharing it. Second, Ty could confront PJ about the video, asking PJ to delete the video before sharing it with anyone else. Third, Ty could encourage PJ to seek help in dealing with the breakup. Fourth, Ty could tell a teacher, or another adult they trust, about the video and ask for help intervening with PJ.



Scenario C

Mir was off sick from school for a few weeks. While spending many long days at home, Mir passed the hours online gaming. The game that Mir likes playing the most has hypersexualized content.

Back at school, Mir stays in the classroom playing the online game on their phone during recess and lunch breaks, ignoring their friends. At home, Mir is unable to close the game app to study. Mir feels like real life is boring and empty compared to being online. Mir also feels like people in real life are not as attractive or muscular as in the game. Mir is starting to worry about failing the grade.

- Mir might be developing an addiction to online gaming.
- The impact on Mir's real-life friendships and relationships could be damaging. By ignoring their friends at school, Mir risks losing those friendships. By comparing people's attractiveness to that of the characters in the game, Mir risks having unrealistic standards of bodies and beauty, potentially leading to unsatisfactory relationships.



- Mir can talk to an adult that they trust about finding support to help manage the addiction and find tutoring to help bring their grades back up. Mir’s friends and family can lend support by being patient, compassionate, and kind, while setting clear expectations for Mir in terms of friendships, connection, and grades. Friends and family could also support Mir in setting clear boundaries around screen time, both at home and at school. (For more information on reducing harms associated with digital and social media use, see module 7.8).