

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.

- Put yourself into the shoes of Beck’s employer and ask: What might have happened to Beck’s application?
- Now, put yourself into Beck’s shoes and come up with an action plan. What can Beck do now?

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.

- What are the different issues to consider in this scenario?
- The video was taken consensually, with full knowledge by the ex. Is there a problem in sharing it?
- What are the options Ty has now?

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.

- What is happening to Mir?
- What is the impact on Mir's real life friendships/relationships?
- What can Mir do? How can Mir's friends and family lend support?