

### Appropriate Use of Social Media: Cyberbullying, Internet Piracy, and Sexting

Social media makes it possible to share personal things quickly with others. It also allows for the quick sharing of copyrighted materials or sending inappropriate or offense materials to others. It also opens the door to cyberbullying or hate speech.

#### **Format**

The Easy Essay allows students to articulate their feelings on the topic in only 100 words. Each question can be assigned daily or over the course of five weeks. During Nevada's Law Month, a total of \$500 in prizes was awarded to the top three essays submitted during the contest. Teachers can choose to award prizes or use this exercise to encourage written expression on the topic.

#### **Question 1:**

A 19-year old sent several dozen people a semi-nude picture of his 16-year-old girlfriend, a photo she had sent to him first. He has been charged with child pornography as an adult. Is this child pornography and should he be charged with a crime?

#### **Question 2:**

Social media allows individuals to be anonymous and say things they wouldn't normally say to a person's face. Should free expression be limited to prevent cyberbullying or hate speech?

#### **Question 3:**

Do you think there is a link between the rise of social media and an increase in bullying?

#### **Question 4:**

Plenty of people download music from the Internet every day. Illegal downloading takes money from the artist, the music company, and many others. Is it okay to download music without paying and then sharing the music with others?

#### **Question 5:**

A friend purchased a CD and then lent it to you. You plan to "rip it" into your computer. Is this piracy?