

Digital Drama

Digital Dilemma

Erin was home sick from school watching a movie when she looked down at her phone and saw her screen filled with text messages written in capital letters and punctuated with exclamation points. "I HATE YOU!!! HOW COULD YOU?!" Erin panicked — she had no idea why she was receiving the flood of vicious text messages. She frantically texted two of her friends, but both were in class, and her calls went to voicemail. A few hours later, Erin pieced together what had happened. Someone had hacked into her best friend's Facebook page, acted as Erin, and sent perverted messages to the best friend's boyfriend. The best friend was furious and was convinced it was Erin, since Erin was the only person who had her password. Erin hadn't been at school to defend herself, so their other friends had already heard about the incident and were mad at Erin, too.



Discussion Questions

Integrity

If you were Erin's best friend and realized that you had falsely accused Erin of hacking into your Facebook page, what do you think you should do or say? Do you owe Erin an apology, or was your reaction justified?

TEACHING TIP: When dealing with the "right thing" to do, there's hardly ever one answer. Make sure to treat all student answers with an open mind.

Communication

Do you think it was reasonable for Erin's best friend to assume that Erin was the one who hacked her? How can jumping to conclusions lead to miscommunication?

Empathy

Why do you think a person might impersonate someone online? What might cause that person to seek attention or cause chaos in this way?

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Extension Resources

Suggested Digital Citizenship Lessons



Digital Tools



Healthy communication is vital to thriving workplace communities; it is essential for effective collaborative classrooms as well.