

# 1.1.

# Identify your rights and responsibilities

"There are no rights whatever without corresponding duties." Samuel Taylor Coleridge

## Rights

A right protects individuals or groups from injustice; it allows individuals to grow to their full potential as a positive and active member of their society; it is a responsibility that each person or group has to others; and it is about respect of oneself and others. A right creates a moral and legal obligation that nations and people must fulfill.<sup>1</sup>

Freedom of expression

Education

Right of response

Access to information

Privacy

Ownership / Authorship

Personal safety

Respect

Participation

Accurate information

Safe environment

➔ Identify which of the concepts above you think are your online rights and which are your online responsibilities. Can they be both? You can also write down other words you consider to be related to online rights and responsibilities.

You can find out all of your rights and responsibilities from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child here: <http://www.un.org/cyberschoolbus/humanrights/resources/plain.asp>

### RIGHTS

Freedom of expression

### RESPONSIBILITIES

Respect for others

<sup>1</sup> Australian Broadcasting Corporation (2000), 'Human Rights: What and When' (online), <http://www.abc.net.au/civics/rights/what.htm>, consulted on 04/01/2013.

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Joanna

I'm 14.  
What rights and responsibilities do I have online?

I'm 18.  
Are my rights and responsibilities any different from yours?



Josh



Are there any rights that you think would be different for **Joanna** and **Josh**? Are there any differences in their responsibilities?

14 year old

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18 year old

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Some rights and responsibilities go together; others seem to contradict each other. Identify some of these relationships/contradictions in your online rights and responsibilities and explain them.

RIGHTS		RESPONSIBILITIES
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## 1.2. Terms and conditions, the ultimate challenge

### Terms and conditions

General and special arrangements, provisions, requirements, rules, specifications, and standards that form an integral part of an agreement or contract.<sup>2</sup>

Without a doubt you have ticked a box on a website, agreeing to the terms and conditions of the site.

**But do you really know what you are agreeing to?**

Although it may seem like endless text written in unreadable legal jargon, your tick in the box does bind you to a set of rights and responsibilities, so it's important to try and understand what they are saying.

### So why not step up to the challenge right now...

For content that is covered by intellectual property rights, such as photos and videos (IP content), you specifically give us the following permission, subject to your privacy and application settings: you grant us a non-exclusive, transferable, sub-licensable, royalty-free, worldwide license to use any IP content that you post on or in connection with Facebook (IP License). This IP License ends when you delete your IP content or your account unless your content has been shared with others, and they have not deleted it.

Reference: .....

**Q1** Where does this text come from? (fill in the reference line above)

**Q2** Have you agreed to these terms and conditions?  YES  NO

**Q3** In the box below, can you translate this passage into more understandable language?

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<sup>2</sup> BusinessDictionary (2012), 'Terms and Conditions' (online), <http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/terms-and-conditions.html>, consulted on 20/08/2012.

DID YOU KNOW?



Clément

It would take 76 eight-hour work-days for the average person to actually read the privacy policies for every website they interact with in a given year. No wonder people just scroll down and click "I agree to all terms and conditions."<sup>3</sup>



Now that you have begun cracking the code of legal jargon, why not note a few "translations" for future use? Print out the terms and conditions of a website you use regularly and summarise the key points.

DID YOU KNOW?

Tools have been developed to help you to translate difficult terms and conditions. Have a look at, for example, EULalyzer.

### "An image says more than a 1000 words"

➔ That's why we often use symbols when we communicate today. Identify the meaning of the following symbols:



➔ Now have a go at designing some icons that would symbolise the key points you might expect to find in a set of terms of conditions.



Privacy

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<sup>3</sup> The Atlantic (2012), 'Reading the Privacy Policies You Encounter in a Year Would Take 76 Working Days' (online), <http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2012/03/reading-the-privacy-policies-you-encounter-in-a-year-would-take-76-work-days/253851/>, consulted on 20/08/2012.

# 1.3. When your rights are not respected...

## Violation

The act of doing something that is not allowed by a law or rule. A violation is not automatically a crime.<sup>4</sup> In legal terms, the word **infringement**<sup>5</sup> is often used e.g. infringement of copyright.

Your online rights can be violated or infringed in many different ways. While sometimes this is related to netiquette or expected ethical online behaviour, at other times it may be a violation of law that could even lead to legal prosecution.

▶ Identify some of the ways that your online rights can be infringed or violated.

- 1 An inappropriate comment is left on your social media profile - it contains bad language
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5



James



"I once bought an App online, and money kept coming out of my account. My mum went mad about it but she managed to get all my money back."



Which of his rights do you think were violated in this instance? Do you think he fulfilled all of his responsibilities? How do you think his mother found a solution to the problem? Would you report such a situation and where?

Where can we report violations of our rights?

▶ What would be the best solution to each of the infringements you listed above? Discuss all possible solutions and write down what is, in your opinion, the best.

- 1 Speak to the individual who made the post, block the user if necessary...
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

<sup>4</sup> Merriam-Webster (2012), 'Violation' (online), <http://www.learnersdictionary.com/search/violation>, consulted on 18/01/2013.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, 'Infringement' (online), <http://www.learnersdictionary.com/search/infringement>, consulted on 18/01/2013.

➔ Do you think that the following actions are a violation in your country?  
What could be the consequence of each violation?

Falsely tagging people in photos

YES  NO

Uploading a self-taken photo of a gig when the ticket specifies no video recording

YES  NO

Uploading a copyrighted cultural icon (a logo, symbol, face etc. that everyone recognizes) with or without crediting the owner

YES  NO

Someone has been arrested for phone hacking, but not convicted. Nevertheless you write on your profile "X is a phone hacker!!!!!"

YES  NO

Opening a Facebook account not stating your real name.

YES  NO

There are riots going on in your hometown. You don't participate but post on your account: "Awesome, riots in my town, I love it!"

YES  NO

A teacher puts an image of his/her class on a social networking site without consent of all the parents.

YES  NO

A girl aged 15 takes a picture of herself naked and sends it to her boyfriend.

YES  NO