**THE SOCIAL MEDIA DISPUTE** (Secondary School Students)

Aka and Andy have been friends since primary school. Aka is very active on social media. She knows through their friendship that Andy dislikes the idea of having an online presence and avoids all social media.

On Andy’s birthday, Aka posts a range of unflattering photos of Andy on her Instagram and Facebook, wishing him a happy birthday.

Andy finds out about this from a friend and is very upset and has stopped talking to Aka.

Aka and Andy have been advised to use the mediation service at their school.

**Aka’s information**

You don’t understand what the big deal is. You know that Andy doesn’t really want photos online and that he/she has this weird thing about privacy. But come on, it is just a couple of photos! Everyone does that these days! Especially on birthdays. It’s a nice thing to do! It is not something people should get upset over.

Also you feel it is about time Andy starts building his/her online presence, he/she does have any photos out there. You thought you could help and that the birthday post could at least get things started.

You are feeling a bit guilty though. You have asked Andy quite a few times if you could upload some of the photos of the two of you together and he/she has always said no. You did know that he/she probably would not like it and in hindsight you probably shouldn’t have done it. You are sad that you made Andy upset but you also think it is an overreaction. It really is not a big deal. You would be happy to take the photos down if need be but you are not sure what you should do. You are upset that Andy won’t talk to you.

**Andy’s information**

You feel really betrayed by Aka. She has plagued you again and again to join social media and you have told her you really don’t want to. You have explained to her numerous times that you don’t like the idea of portraying yourself or being portrayed on the internet.

You have seen many of your friends being bullied online and having their photos altered and misused. You do not wish to be part of that scene at all.

You are also naturally a very private person and even if you were to share photos online you would want to have control over what you post and who would get to see it.

You feel that it was very disrespectful of Aka to go against your wishes and to rob you of that control. You feel she has seriously breached your trust. You want the photos taken down immediately and an apology from Aka.