



Educator's guide to dilemmas

This document is a support for you as an educator when preparing or working with the individual dilemma, with the reason behind the individual dilemma and any special points to be aware of when going through them. Special attention points include terminology you might be unfamiliar with or any legal intricacies relevant to the question at hand.

Gender discussions are emotionally charged. Be mindful of creating a good framework for the discussions. Emphasise inclusivity, but also acknowledge that it is okay to have opinions on the topic.

Creating a safe space

In the classroom, there will often be references to internet personalities or events that can support and explain why the debate about gender-based violence can be very polarised. As a teacher, you do not need to know all the examples of influencers with opinions on gender and equality, but you should facilitate discussions to create a safe atmosphere. Read through the dilemmas so you can identify which ones have the potential to evoke the most feelings and debate, allowing you to prepare for how you will handle the discussion.

- ❖ Be conscious of individual students or groups at particular risk during discussions of gender-based violence so you can prepare to ensure their safety.
- ❖ Be very clear that agreement is not a goal in itself. On the contrary, one of the main objectives is to make room for diversity and disagreement.
- ❖ Define the boundaries of what can and cannot be discussed, and collectively set boundaries for how you think it is okay to react to each other's statements and opinions.
- ❖ Introduce the students to online gender-based violence and the purpose of working with the topic. It can be helpful to explain the key concepts and definitions. Suggestions for warm-up exercises follow in the next section.
- ❖ It is important to conclude the work and the potentially sensitive conversations on a positive note. Acknowledge the students' courage to participate in the discussions and share one or two positive experiences you take away from the work. Invite the students to share their positive takeaways as well.

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Stereotypes

1. I'm not sure of what I am? (Sophie, 14 years)

I'm not quite like other girls. I don't really have any girl friends, but plenty of guy friends. I'm just more myself when I'm with my guy friends. I'm not like the girls and women I see on social media either. I don't know what I am if I'm not a girl, but I'm just not like any other girls. So, what am I then? I just think I'm damn confused and need to hear what others think?

Why is this dilemma important?

We want to highlight how gender stereotypes can create confusion regarding individual identity and expectations on how one should behave, in relation to the norms associated with their gender.

Attention

Gender discussions are emotionally charged. Be mindful of creating a good framework for the discussions. Emphasise inclusivity, but also acknowledge that it is okay to have opinions on the topic.

3. Cosplay (Alex, 17 years)

For a long time, I have had a hobby of making cosplays and attending various events dressed up. Initially, some classmates found it strange that, as a boy, I was sewing and designing clothes. I've faced some hate, but I also have friends who've supported me. The thing is, many of my favourite characters are women, and I want to design and take pictures in these costumes to share on my TikTok. I'm a bit nervous about the comments I might get by sharing pictures of myself dressed as a woman. Especially in a small town where people aren't very open-minded. I find it challenging to take the step, so I need to hear what others think. Should I just go for it and not care about what others think, or should I refrain?

Why is this dilemma important?

It can be challenging to stand out regarding one's gender expression and not be accepted in one's community, especially if one deviates from stereotypical gender norms and traditional interests

associated with boys and girls. This dilemma offers an opportunity to discuss why a critical approach to norms could be crucial to the inclusion of everyone.

Word explanation:

- ❖ *Cosplay* is the activity of dressing up in a costume normally connected to a character in a video game, movie or similar. The cosplay community is generally open to dressing up as another gender in ones assigned gender - hence why it is relevant to discuss stereotypical gender norms and roles.

5. Girls always choose the handsome and strong boys - (Marcus 16 years)

I really wonder about the girls in my class. They always say that a guy's personality is the most important thing, but at the same time, they always go for the boys who are more of the "pretty boy" and womaniser types. It seems incredibly superficial to me, and I don't understand it. Why don't girls go for the guys who are just nice and treat them well?

Why is this dilemma important?

The dilemma is important to open up a conversation about the frustration of feeling rejected or, more broadly, understanding romantic relationships and what might make one an attractive romantic partner.

6. Not sure how I can help my friend - (Emma 14 years)

I have this friend who is really struggling right now. I know he's not doing well at home. We've been friends for a long time, so I can tell when he's upset. I really want to help him, but I don't know how to approach it because he's like "any other guy" and doesn't really talk about his feelings. Should I ask if he's okay? Should I just say that I think he's not doing well and that I want to help? Should I act like nothing's wrong or something else?

Why is this dilemma important?

Boys sometimes have a different vocabulary to both identify and express their emotions compared to girls. At the same time, it is important to be curious about whether this assumption ALWAYS aligns with reality.

8. My girlfriend's height makes me very self-conscious - (Lucas, 15 years)

My girlfriend is taller than me and I feel it affects my self-esteem that she's taller. If I post pictures of us, I make sure that it's always closeups, and preferably where we are sitting down, so that you can't really tell that there's a height difference. If she posts a picture of us on social media, it's the first thing that I

think about. I know I should just not care, but I do. I think it's because I sense some "rules" about the guy being the tall and strong one who can protect his girlfriend. Why do I feel this way, and what can I do to feel better about it?

Why is this dilemma important?

Gender and body ideals can have significant implications and contribute to both self-confidence and relations. It is important to talk about these taboos and the emotions that can be attached to these body ideals.

Poll

Please note that there's a poll associated with this dilemma. Participating in the poll encourages students to discuss the distribution of responses among their peers.

15. I'm not a 'he' (Julie, 17 years)

I was born a boy, but I have never felt like other boys. In that way, I have always known that I was different. Last year, I first asked my girlfriends and later everyone in my class to call me Julie. I also started dressing differently.

Like everyone else, I share on Insta, but I often experience that people I only know a little still refer to me as male - even though I am clear that my name is Julie now. I know that one can forget or make mistakes, but for some, it clearly seems deliberate, as a way to express hate. Which battles should I fight, and which ones should I let go?

Why is this dilemma important?

Transgender individuals are often more exposed to hate speech and gender-based violence and are as such a significant topic in the prevention of gender-based violence online. This dilemma opens up for a talk about which challenges a transgender individual can face in their everyday life.

Quiz

Please note that there's a quiz associated with this dilemma, which provides students with knowledge about online experiences and how peers typically handle them.

Data: From an EU survey - [A long way to go for LGBTI equality](#)

Sharing of content

7. Why do boys send dick pics? (Ella, 18 years)

There's something I really want to understand. Why do guys send dick pics to random people? It's not like I get angry or offended or anything. I just deleted it. I just don't get it. I don't know any girl who thinks this is even remotely cool, if they didn't ask for it, and I don't know any girl who would send nudes to random people they don't know and trust a lot. Why is there such a big difference, because it seems like something quite a few guys just do as the most natural thing???

Why is this dilemma important?

With this dilemma we hope to touch upon why someone might send unsolicited dick pics, and open for a discussion on what they hope to achieve, and why someone might communicate this way. When and why can sending unsolicited nudes be considered gender-based violence? Working with this dilemma also provides an opportunity to convey information about the legal aspects of sharing such materials.

Legal information:

All EU member states comply with [Directive 2011/93](#), which outlines criminal offences related to child sexual exploitation, as well as the creation, distribution and possession of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM). Member states also apply their own laws at a national level regarding CSAM and child sexual exploitation. There may also be other laws in your country that may be relevant, depending on the context of the situation. These could include laws related to the non-consensual sharing of intimate images (NCII), harassment, intellectual property/copyright and gender-based violence.

It is recommended that you familiarise yourself with the main laws in your country that apply to young people creating, sending and sharing sexual content, so that you can help your students understand when and how these online behaviours are illegal.

9. My ex-partner has shared an audio message (Noa, 16 years)

My ex-boyfriend has shared an audio message of me crying and asking for another chance because we had broken up. My ex then shared it with all of his friends and also some of mine.

It feels insanely invasive, and I feel really hurt that something so private has been shared with so many. What should I do?

Why is this dilemma important?

Sharing without consent and breach of trust in private relationships can be a represented manifestation of gender-based violence. With this dilemma we invite the students to reflect on boundaries, respect and privacy in connection to their online communication.

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14. Showed nude to a friend (William, 16 years)

I have been chatting with a girl for the past few months. We have also exchanged somewhat explicit pictures on Snapchat, though maybe I've sent more. Last week, I sent one to her without us having talked earlier that day. In return, I receive a picture of her and her friend just laughing. I really don't know how to react to that, but I don't think it's okay to show the picture to her friend, do you?

Why is this dilemma important?

Non-consensual sharing and breach of trust in private relationships are significant issues in the prevention of online gender-based violence. In this case, it involves a girl who has done it to a boy, but the perpetrator and the victim can be anyone.

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16. I Created manipulated nudes (Philip, 18 years)

I am an 18-year-old boy who is quite fond of a girl named Sofie. She is not interested in me in that way and has rejected the idea of dating me. She is, of course, entitled to her decision, but I find it difficult to move on.

Right after that, I created some manipulated nudes with her. I showed the picture to two of my friends on Discord, but otherwise, I haven't shared them with anyone, and after a few days, I deleted them. Nevertheless, I feel really guilty about making them in the first place. I actually don't know why I did it.

Why is this dilemma important?

The dilemma is important to initiate a conversation about 'deepfakes' (manipulated images). The wording

also has an embedded point that one can cause harm without it being the primary intention.

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Word explanation

- ❖ Discord is a media platform, where you can both do individual and group calls, but also create and be a part of communities potentially only accessible for invited users.
- ❖ Deepfakes are digitally manipulated pictures, audio or media which can be quite convincing or hard to discern the authenticity of.

18. They ruined my life (Daniella, 16 years)

Someone has taken a holiday photo from my profile and made a deep fake, so it looks like I'm naked, and now it's been shared at my school. One of my friend's classmates has seen it. He told her, before he deleted it, but I have no idea who created it or how many people have seen it. I can't go to school because I feel like everyone has seen it, and even though it's not my body, it feels like everyone has seen me naked. I feel extremely ashamed, but I don't know why because I know I haven't done anything wrong. I don't know what to do. I want to change school and move to a new town where no one knows me. I don't know if I should tell my parents. I also don't know if I should try to find out who did it or report it. Two days ago, everything was fine, and now my life is completely shattered. I need some advice.

Why is this dilemma important?

The dilemma is important to initiate a conversation about 'deepfakes' (manipulated images) and the potential emotional and social damage they can cause to the victim.

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It is recommended that you familiarise yourself with the main laws in your country that apply to young people creating, sending and sharing sexual content, so that you can help your students understand when and how these online behaviours are illegal.

Word explanation

- ❖ *Deepfakes are digitally manipulated pictures, audio or media which can be quite convincing or hard to discern the authenticity of.*

Quiz

Please note that there's a quiz associated with this dilemma, which provides students with knowledge about online experiences and how peers typically handle them.

Data: From a Plan International survey - [Free To Be Online](#)

21. The school photo was shared (Will, 15 years)

A couple of years ago, we had school photos taken. In the class picture, I looked like a total idiot. Kind of sad while I'm scratching my face. Some of the others thought it was funny to cut out the picture and turn it into a sort of meme, which was used in our chats and on Snapchat, etc. It has since moved over to Discord, where it's often used every time someone wants to call an opponent 'gay' or 'fag' in connection with a game. It sucks every time. And I'm not even gay!

Why is this dilemma important?

It is important to raise awareness of how fast an initial innocent image or statement can evolve and change when shared, and to discuss who has the responsibility. Is it always the person who alters the initial content to make it gender- or sexuality based derogatorily. Or is that something you, as the original poster, should always take into account before you share?

Word explanation

- ❖ A *meme* is an internet phenomenon which can present itself both as an audio and/or video clip, or a text snippet. A meme is an inside joke, which in the instance of dilemma 21 is a picture of Will is connected to being the personification of 'being gay'.
- ❖ *Discord* is a media platform, where you can both do individual and group calls, but also create and be a part of communities potentially only accessible for invited users.
- ❖ *Snapchat* is a social media platform where users can in individual conversations or group chats send messages and pictures to each other. The medium is heavily about taking selfies and pictures in general, which are deleted after viewing or after 24 hours.

Dilemma 27 - I regret (Nathalie, 15 years)

One of the boys from 9th grade just kept sending unsolicited nudes on Snapchat. He is well aware that we find it pretty weird. Yesterday, I just got really angry and blocked him and reported him on Snapchat. Now I regret it and I am really scared of what will happen if he finds out that I reported him. I don't know if I should have done something else?

Why is this dilemma important?

To open up a conversation about how it can be both difficult and vulnerable to speak up. And about the shame that can be associated with reporting something - even if you have actually experienced something illegal. It is normal, as a victim, to feel you're doing something wrong by reporting. This dilemma seeks to open up discussions about victim blaming and victims blaming themselves.

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Word explanation

- ❖ *Snapchat* is a social media platform where users can in individual conversations or group chats send messages and pictures to each other. The medium is heavily about taking selfies and pictures in general, which are deleted after viewing or after 24 hours.

Quiz

Please note that there's a quiz associated with this dilemma, which provides students with knowledge about online experiences and how peers typically handle them.

Data: From a Belgian survey [Jongeren over dick pics & het bezit van naaktbeelden zonder toestemming](#)

29. Deep fake (Elliot, 15 years)

My friend created a deepfake of one of our classmates, and sent it to me with the comment, "If Lisa had a body like that, I would totally go for it." I like Lisa, and I found it really weird, and I am also a bit worried that I could get in trouble because of it. Not sure what to do...should I just delete the image and say nothing? Should I tell my friend how I feel about it? Should I tell Lisa what he did?

Why is this dilemma important?

This dilemma focuses on the grey areas regarding sharing content. Is it only the act of forwarding that is not okay? This dilemma's main focus is raising awareness that you can easily get in trouble with the law if you create deep fakes, with a sexualised component.

Word explanation

- ❖ **Deepfakes** are digitally manipulated pictures, audio or media which can be quite convincing or hard to discern the authenticity of

Legal information

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It is recommended that you familiarise yourself with the main laws in your country that apply to young people creating, sending and sharing sexual content, so that you can help your students understand when and how these online behaviours are illegal.

Gaming

4. Positive discrimination (Anne, 16 years)

I play video games almost every day, and I love it. But when the boys I team up with realise I'm a girl, things often get super annoying and really weird. They often get quite goofy, and I feel treated differently, and it bothers me because I just want to be seen like everyone else.

It's not that I receive offensive comments, but they often ask if I need help, and if I make a mistake, I don't get called out like the others do. One time the guys on the opposite team even let our team win, because of me. I don't want special treatment just because I'm a girl, but I'm not sure what to do about it.

Why is this dilemma important?

Discrimination is not necessarily just about hate. One may feel that positive discrimination is just as problematic if it stands in the way of being viewed as an equal. The purpose of this dilemma is to initiate a conversation about what positive discrimination could look like and what feelings it might cause.

Word explanation

The “negative” definition of hate speech online: “Any online content targeting someone based on protected characteristics with the intent or likely effect of inciting, spreading or promoting hatred or other forms of discrimination.” In this case gender is a protected characteristic.

10. Sexist comments (Sarah, 17 years)

I play looter shooters, and it's almost certain that as soon as the others hear that I'm a girl, I get comments like I should go back to the kitchen or questions about what I charge for a blowjob.

I'm seriously considering using a voice distorter, or not using voice chat at all just to avoid such comments, but is that really the best thing to do?

Why is this dilemma important?

Sexist remarks or behaviour towards girls and women in gaming are a well-known issue. It is relevant to discuss the implications it has for the girls who are targeted, and at the same time, it is important to understand how and why condescending and sexist remarks are made towards girls in gaming!

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Poll

Please note that there is a poll associated with this dilemma. Participating in the poll encourages students to discuss the distribution of responses among their peers.

11. We call one another gay (Peter, 14 years)

I game every day with my friends, and the craziest things are said. Often, it's about calling each other gay, faggot, or something similar. Sometimes, things are also shared in our private chat, like videos from a pride parade, and then some in the group write 'freaks' or something like that. It can be really funny at times, but recently, I found out that my brother is gay, and it has just changed how I perceive these things now. However, I don't know how to talk to the rest of the group about it.

Why is this dilemma important?

Homosexual individuals frequently face heightened vulnerability to hate speech, making this a crucial concern in combating gender-based violence online. Additionally, this dilemma underscores the harmful impact of weaponising sexual identity terms through derogatory usage.

12. She's just trying to get attention (Sally, 14 years)

I'm super happy to play CS Go with some of the guys from my class. But lately, I've noticed that some of the other girls in my class have started talking about me on Snapchat, saying that I only game to get attention from the guys.

I know it's not true, but it still makes me upset that others are calling me slutty and attention-seeking behind my back. Should I just pretend like nothing is happening?

Why is this dilemma important?

Sexualised shaming, such as so-called 'slut-shaming,' is just yet another gender-based violence activity. In this case, it involves girls engaging in shaming against another girl, and to emphasise that girls also engage in gender-based violence towards their own gender the example of an all-girl group has been chosen for this dilemma.

28 - Just mutual banter? (Marcus, 17 years)

When I play with my friends, we often write trash talk to each other. I actually thought everyone found it funny, but my friend showed me a screenshot and told me that he had actually gotten quite upset about what I had written. But that's just how we talk; it's just banter.

Why is this dilemma important?

The dilemma should open up a debate on whether it is okay to speak rudely to each other when everyone seemingly agrees with the tone. And if such an agreement exists between two individuals, or in a group, how do you make sure that everyone stays aligned?

30. Girls are noobs (David, 15 years)

When I play CS with my friends, we've started leaving games if we end up on the same team as a girl. It's not something we've explicitly agreed upon, but it's just become a thing. Gamers generally speak harshly to each other, so in a way, isn't it better to spare the girls? But I still don't think it's entirely fair to them. Should I say something to my friends?

Why is this dilemma important?

Discrimination in gaming exists in a variety of ways. This dilemma opens up for a talk about boundaries for harsh language in gaming, gender in gaming, sexist remarks in gaming and why it can be different playing only boys or only girls, or boys or girls together.

Word explanation

- ❖ CS refers to the online video game *Counter Strike*

Debate Culture

2. Is it okay for men to be proud? (Michael, 15 years)

Is it okay for me to be proud of being a boy or a man? Many girls and women are proud, saying "Girl power" and calling themselves goddesses. But can men do the same? I think it's great that girls stand up for themselves and say such things, but I just don't feel like it's okay if boys or men do the same. I feel that one is perceived as a misogynist or chauvinist if they say they are proud to be a man. Why is that?

Why is this dilemma important?

In the wake of Metoo¹, violence towards women and a general focus on misogyny, some boys may feel that it is wrong to be a boy because societal discourse can create the sense that they are wrong simply for being boys. Consequently, it is important to have an open discussion about these feelings and this dilemma can help open up for exactly this talk.

13. Traitor to women (Amalia, 17 years)

I have been politically active since I was 14 years old. Recently, I was elected to the board of a youth political party, where I have particularly spoken out about the well-being of girls and young women in the education system. Among other things, I have made posts about not setting unrealistic expectations for grades and to counteract the culture of perfectionism, as I've seen it grab hold of many of my girlfriends, and also felt it myself. Many girls have become upset about this, and I have received numerous comments and messages saying that I am betraying my own gender and should just shut up. I know what I believe, but I don't think it's fair for others to try to control my opinions in that way.

Why is this dilemma important?

Shaming can have oppressive results for the way girls behave and see themselves, and is therefore a crucial topic in the context of preventing gender-based violence online. This dilemma allows the students to debate an example that involves girls doing it to another girl, but the perpetrator and the victim can be anyone.

17. Crush or Creepy? (Lola-16 years)

I have met this guy online, and we've been chatting quite a bit on Discord while gaming. He's 23. In the past few weeks, he has started becoming more and more flirtatious, often making comments with sexual undertones. I really like him and the friendship we've developed, but at the same time, I feel like it

¹ The #MeToo movement is a social movement against sexual harassment and sexual assault. It began as a way to empower survivors of such misconduct to speak out about their experiences, raise awareness about the prevalence of these issues, and call for change across various sectors of society.

has taken a turn into something I'm not comfortable with. I don't know if he might have developed a crush on me, and it's innocent, or if it has always been about something other than gaming for him, which would be really creepy. I'm unsure whether I should talk to him about it, act like nothing's wrong, or perhaps just cut off contact altogether?

Why is this dilemma important?

Online violence can also manifest as grooming, which is important to emphasise. In this dilemma, the young person raises the question of whether the guy has always had an ulterior motive in building a relationship with her, because he desires sexual contact and genuinely has no other interest. This is especially relevant considering their age difference.

19. They send me all kinds of crap (Thomas, 17 years)

I have two friends who love videos with influencers speaking very negatively about 'weak' men. They tag me in all sorts of videos with the hashtags 'Soyboy' and 'Snowflake.' It's pretty annoying. Afterwards, I get suggested all sorts of crap that I really don't want to see. How do I tell them to stop? I don't want to see this stuff

Why is this dilemma important?

The human algorithm, where friends contribute to defining what YOU should see, can have significant implications for the spread of conspiracies about specific gender groups.

Word explanation

- ❖ The term "snowflake" is a derogatory way to describe a person, usually young, who is perceived as overly sensitive, fragile, or easily offended. This term is often used to criticise individuals who are seen as too delicate or emotionally vulnerable, especially in response to opinions or actions that challenge their beliefs or values.
- ❖ *Recommendation algorithms* on social media work by analysing user behaviour, preferences, and interactions with content to suggest videos that they are likely to enjoy. These algorithms use machine learning techniques to understand patterns in user engagement, such as likes, comments, shares, and watch time, to tailor the content feed to each user's interests. A certain type of videos can be suggested to you again and again if you interact with it. In this dilemma we call it a human algorithm, because the friends stay within a certain echo chamber in terms of content.

20. We send 'Karens' (Johnny, 18 years)

I don't know exactly how it started, but one of the girls from high school had behaved quite erratically and posted something completely random about the boys in the class; something with some sexism accusations. Some of us decided to mess with the girls a bit. We created a fake profile and email and started spamming the girls with YouTube and TikTok links to 'Karens' flipping out on all sorts of men and women.

Women who scold men outside Burger King because they're buying nuggets, and the like. Completely harmless, in my opinion. Aren't you allowed to speak up when someone accuses men of all sorts of crazy things?

Why is this dilemma important?

Sometimes it might feel like you are not allowed to disagree or call out obvious unfair or ridiculous behaviour without being accused of hating. Thus, it is important to discuss how we can preserve the right to disagree.

Word explanation

- ❖ The term "*Karen*" is a slang term used to describe a stereotype of a middle-aged white woman, typically perceived as entitled, demanding, and often displaying a tendency to make unreasonable complaints or requests, especially in retail or service industries.

Poll

Please note that there's a poll associated with this dilemma. Participating in the poll encourages students to discuss the distribution of responses among their peers.

22. Cheating boyfriend (Wilma, 16 years)

I am in a messenger group with a bunch of my girlfriends. The other day, someone shared that her boyfriend had cheated on her. My good friend then wrote that men are pigs and that she knows someone who could come by with a baseball bat because the ex-boyfriend deserved a beating. Many of the others liked what she wrote. I don't understand why she wrote that because I know she would never do such a thing.

I think it's way over the line, but I'm not sure if I should say anything.

Why is this dilemma important?

Encouraging violence can happen on many levels - even humorously. The dilemma is important because it involves a friend making a violent statement, even if meant humorously, and raises questions about where the boundaries lie..

Legal information

All EU member states comply with [Directive 2011/93](#), which outlines criminal offences related to child sexual exploitation, as well as the creation, distribution and possession of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM). Member states also apply their own laws at a national level regarding CSAM and child sexual exploitation. There may also be other laws in your country that may be relevant, depending on the context of the situation. These could include laws related to the non-consensual sharing of intimate images (NCII), harassment, intellectual property/copyright and gender-based violence.

It is recommended that you familiarise yourself with the main laws in your country that apply to young people creating, sending and sharing sexual content, so that you can help your students understand when and how these online behaviours are illegal.

23. Roasting (Emily, 15 years)

I am part of a girls' group online where pictures of other girls from our class are shared. In the beginning, it was mostly about sharing a screenshot and discussing a particular girl from the class whom some thought 'showed too much to the boys.' Today, the group has turned into a full-fledged roasting group where many girls from the entire school are photographed and systematically belittled. Words like 'slut' and 'bitch' often appear, and it seems like each new insult must surpass the previous one. I find it difficult to leave the group, and to be honest, it's kind of amusing. How do I speak up without becoming the next target?

Why is this dilemma important?

Group pressure and the sense of belonging are strong motivators that can lead us to participate in communities with demeaning and problematic content. While not condoning, it is important to understand the dynamics of what might make some individuals participate in communities revolving around hate.

Quiz

Please note that there's a quiz associated with this dilemma, which provides students with knowledge about online experiences and how peers typically handle them.

Data: From Meta transparency report 2023 - [Bullying & Harassment](#)

24. Biological gender (Mark, 16 years)

Influencers often talk about gender, some of them are quite rude towards people who believe there are more than two genders such as people who identify as non binary etc.

I think it's super funny and completely insane that some people say that you can identify as anything else than your sex, at the end of the day sex and gender are same. My friends get so pressed when I say this, it's as if you're not allowed to have an opinion that is so blatantly true! WTF ?

Why is this dilemma important?

It is easy to get carried away when an algorithm places you in an echo chamber where "your" opinion seems to be the only truth. At the same time this dilemma raises the important question if there are opinions that are not "okay" to have, in the public debate.

25. Is it just me? (Yousef, 16 years)

Some of my friends and I have a group where we share all sorts of funny things we come across. Much of it is pretty crude guy humour. One of the others has started doing 'smash or pass' with the girls from our class. I think it's crossing a line, but everyone else seems to find it really funny, so I don't want to be the one to spoil the good vibes. But is it really just me who thinks like this, and what can I do?

Why is this dilemma important?

First and foremost, this dilemma raises issues about how to draw boundaries, and still being able to be a part of the community, if he/she wishes. It is simultaneously important to focus on group dynamics, and assumptions about what others think, as this can have a significant impact on how far we go to be part of a community.

Word explanation

- ❖ **Smash or pass** refers to whether you would have sex with someone (smash) or abstain from doing so (pass).

Quiz

Please note that there's a quiz associated with this dilemma, which provides students with knowledge about online experiences and how peers typically handle them.

Data: From an EU Survey - [EU Kids Online](#)

26. A white lie (Deniz, 15 years)

Today, I was sitting with some friends and some random people in a Discord chat. There was a slightly older guy that I didn't know, and he started hitting on one of my friends in a pretty creepy way. I found it quite uncomfortable, but I didn't know what to do, so I just said that I had to go and then logged off. I think maybe I should have done something.

Why is this dilemma important?

This dilemma emphasises on the difficulty of being an upstander. To do so we try to give the users an opportunity to analyse and maybe even relate to the situation, where you choose a "backdoor" or the easy way out because "the right thing" to do is either uncomfortable or maybe even too risky.

Word explanation

- ❖ *Discord* is a media platform, where you can both do individual and group calls, but also create and be a part of communities potentially only accessible for invited users.