

MASS MEDIA AND SOCIETY

Media Libel



What Would You Do?

Now that we've discussed libel, how well do you understand it? Your assignment then is to check your libel IQ by going to the following web site: <http://medialibel.org/wwyd/>.

The purpose of the "What Would You Do?" section is to give you a chance to apply your knowledge of media libel. You will be provided with several sample situations to role-play the decisions media professionals make every day. These situations, some of which are based on real cases, will give you a chance to explore the question: "What is libel?"

- Pick out three of the scenarios presented and answer the questions. Be sure to include an explanation of WHY you would or would not run the story.
- Summarize each scenario and then explain what you would do and why.

I'm trying to get you think about why you would choose the answer you do, as much as I'm interested in which answer you choose, so please be sure to elaborate. Try to develop your own answers BEFORE you read the solutions presented by the author of the site. What other issues do you think might play a part?

Scoring of this assignment will depend less on whether you chose the right answer than on completely answering WHY you chose the answer you did.

Send your answers to rcameron@cerritos.edu

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