**Assignment: Harassment and Bullying in the News**

1. **Search major newspapers or news stations for two articles related to a teenager being bullied or harassed.**
2. **Choose TWO articles/stories and summarize them.**
3. **ANSWER these questions:**

a. What stood out for you most in what you read or heard? Why?

b. What parts of the article you just read or heard echo something in the class discussion earlier, or in the survey you took? How?

c. What do these pieces say about gender roles and how they are changing, or not changing, in the 21st century? How much of a double standard is there around sexuality in your community or school right now?

d. Do you think it is acceptable to document or share sexual images and video of others on social media? Why or why not?

e. If you were a parent, what guidelines would you give your children about the use of social media around sexuality and bullying?

f. What are the legal questions or implications of the behaviors raised in the pieces you read or heard?

g. What do you think the consequences should be for perpetrators of sexual harassment? Should the consequences be the same whether the harassment takes place in person or online?

h. What can individual students do to bring about change? How can teachers, coaches and parents help? What can we do as a school?

**Possible newspapers and news stations:**

New York Times The Wall Street Journal The Denver Post

Minneapolis Tribune USA Today Chicago Tribune

Chicago Sun Times Los Angeles Times Daily News

**Possible TV stations (Minnesota and North Dakota)**

KSAX WCCO (ch. 4) KARE (ch. 11) KXJB (ch. 4)

KSTP (ch. 5) WFTC (ch. 29) WDAY (ch. 6)

KDLH (ch. 3) KXLT (ch. 47) KXMB (ch. 12)

**Potential case:**

Steubenville case alone, or also now listen to “[A Teenage Girl’s Perspective on the Culture of Online Slut-Shaming](http://www.wnyc.org/shows/rookies/articles/radio-rookies/2012/dec/28/sexual-cyberbullying-modern-day-letter/),” a production by WNYC’s “Radio Rookies” team that is embedded below, or read Newsweek’s “ [‘Thanks for Ruining My Life,’](http://www.thedailybeast.com/newsweek/2012/12/09/thanks-for-ruining-my-life.html) ” an article in which “a teen tweets against her attackers — and upends the courts.”

**Potential case:**

Dec. 17, 2012, and that there has been more news around the case since. A group has [hacked the football team’s Web site](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/25/sports/hackers-of-steubenville-football-teams-web-site-demand-apology-in-rape-case.html) as well as [publicized a YouTube video](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2013/01/steubenville_rape_case_video_t.html) of a student joking about the assault. That student has now [dropped out of college](http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2013/01/07/michael-nodianos-of-steubenville-rape-video-drops-out-of-osu-citing-threats.html).