



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT

## *SOCIAL MEDIA & YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH*

### *VOCABULARY*

**Directions:** Frontload (introduce and review) these vocabulary words with your students to facilitate their understanding of the topic and coinciding resources:

1. **Social Media** (n.) - Websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking.
2. **Mental Health** (n.) - A person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional well-being.
3. **Algorithm** (n.) - A list set of instructions, used to solve problems or perform tasks, based on the understanding of available alternatives.
4. **Standing** (n.) - A condition that a party seeking a legal remedy must show they have, by demonstrating to the court, sufficient connection to and harm from the law or action challenged to support that party's participation in the case.
5. **Section 230, Communications Decency Act** (n.) - A portion of a federal law that states no provider or user of an interactive computer service shall be treated as the publisher or speaker of any information provided by another information content provider.”

### *CURRENT EVENT ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS*

**Directions:** As you read through news and other resources about TOPIC, consider the following questions:

- What is social media?
- How have youth's social media habits changed over the last 15 years?
- What impacts have been observed in youth who use social media platforms?
- Why are school districts around the U.S. suing social media platforms? Do you believe they will be successful? Explain
- In your opinion, are lawsuits and court actions the proper venue for government entities to try to intervene and protect youth from the negative consequences of current social media usage? If not, what other actions would be more effective? Explain.
- In your opinion, what level of responsibility do social media companies have as it relates to the wellbeing of their younger users?