

Come to a TiP Forum
on domestic violence
May 21 from 4 to 6 at
English High School!
Bring your students.



High School Teachers: use BOSTON TEENS IN PRINT in class!

CURRICULUM GUIDE

for May 2009 issue

“Domestic dis: Chris Brown/Rihanna abuse hits teens hard”

Write a Journal Response

Have students read the cover story about domestic violence and write about the following in their journals: What did you learn about domestic violence? Did anything in the article surprise you? If so, what? How did the story make you feel?

Ask students to propose *three action steps* based on what they learned from the article. They can write them in their journal. Encourage students to share their action steps.

Write an Extended Definition Essay

Shanasia Bennett’s story cited a shocking statistic: one in four Boston Public School teens surveyed said they had been in an abusive relationship.

Help students comprehend the larger meaning of abuse by asking them to write an essay that develops an extended definition of it. Most of us think physical violence when we hear the term, but abuse also means put downs or someone checking up on their partner constantly. Be sure writers consider the many ways to interpret this word.

For help, students should check out the following:

- http://www.loveisnotabuse.com/teen_dangerzone.htm
- <http://www.knowtheredflags.com/>
- <http://www.seeitandstopit.org/pages/>
- http://www.c2home.org/the_facts.html

Write an Opinion Essay

Many people were surprised to hear that Rihanna went back to Chris Brown after the way he treated her. Shanasia Bennett’s article focuses on the victim of domestic abuse and the fact that leaving an abusive relationship is more complicated than many people realize.

Ask students to read the article and write an essay answering the following question: In your opinion, why do some victims of domestic abuse stay in the relationship? Use reasons and examples to support your ideas.

“Cyberbullying is a click away”

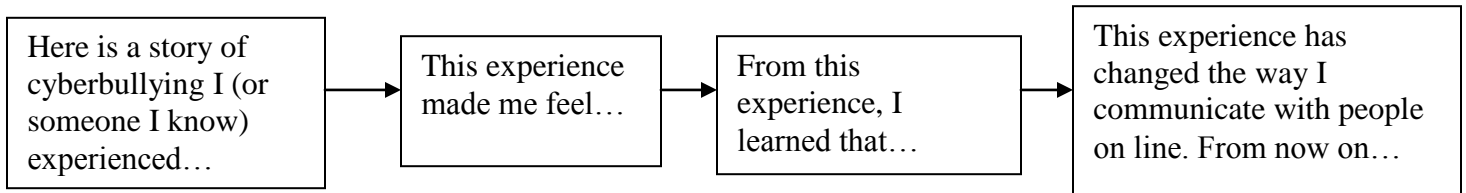
Prevent Cyberbullying: Enlist Students in Writing Protocols

Have each student propose a list of five cyber protocols or principles that would promote better online communications. Let students share and compare their protocols with the class. Then, work toward consolidating them into a class list of ten protocols. Publish them in the classroom and computer lab or create book marks or stickers that list them. Distribute them widely.

Write an Open Letter

Ask students to write an open letter to their peers about the dangers of cyberbullying. Encourage them to start with a narrative of an experience they had (or an experience someone they know had); *they can share stories or examples as long as they don't name names.*

Then have students write what this experience taught them and how it has changed the way they communicate online. Here is a kernel essay model for the letter.



Students complete each of the kernel sentences. Then they expand the kernel into a paragraph by adding details. Then they link the paragraphs into a complete piece. Students can publish their finished letters around school or submit them to *Teens in Print*. (See page 3 of T.i.P. for submission details.)

UPCOMING SUBMISSION DEADLINES

For the September 2009 paper: July 15, 2009
See submission guidelines on page 3 of Teens in Print.

As always, we welcome your feedback about the paper. We also love to hear how you incorporate it into your classroom instruction!

Thanks for reading,

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