



## **Parent-child Internet Agreement**

Goals of contract: The purpose of this agreement is to outline guidelines for Internet use that will make everyone happy. Parents want to protect you from harm that might occur over the Internet, whether from others or from yourself. Teens want their freedom to use the Internet without having parents breathe down their back and hound them about everything they do. To that end, we've forged the following agreement:

I, the parent or authority figure to \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby agree to the following....

A) I promise not to freak out over every little thing that may happen to you online. Above all else, I want you to feel comfortable coming to me for help if you ever find yourself in any trouble. I don't ever want you trapped in a situation you can't handle because you think I'll overreact if I know about it.

B) I promise that if a situation arises, I will blame the people and/or circumstances involved and not the technology. Therefore I will offer protection or dole out punishment based on the actions of people, and will not blame the Internet itself or arbitrarily ban you from technology use. I recognize that these tools are a part of our lives, and an important aspect of your social world. The technologies themselves are not evil, and I will react accordingly.

C) I understand that making mistakes is something we all do, and although I may be disappointed if you engage in behavior I wouldn't approve of, I will always look upon the situation more favorable when you handle these mistakes in a responsible manner afterwards. That means not trying to orchestrate a cover up.

D) I do hereby recognize your need to express yourself, perhaps in ways that I would not choose for you. I only ask that you express yourself in ways that will not jeopardize your reputation or your future.

Additional promises or statements I would like to give:



I, the youth living in this oppressive castle under the subjective rule of said parent figures, do hereby agree to the following:

A) In exchange for the aforementioned parent promises, I hereby agree that I will come to you for help if I ever get myself into a situation I can't handle or where I feel I've lost control. I will seek adult help rather than try to handle the problem on my own.

B) I promise not to engage in online bullying, and will do my best to speak out against online hostility. Online bullying is defined as any of the following behaviors: slandering someone or calling them names in a public online posting; Posting or forwarding a picture, posting, or rumor that is meant to hurt or humiliate the subject; Posting aggressive or humiliating videos on YouTube; Falsely representing myself as someone else in order to gain dirt or gossip on someone; Setting up fake accounts or postings in the victim's name. If it is reasonably likely to injure, don't post it.

C) I agree to never post when angry, and will take a break and walk away from the computer whenever I feel frustrated.

D) I'll do my best to adhere to this principle: If I would not feel comfortable with my parents or teachers knowing about this, I will not post it online.

E) I promise not to post anything that will jeopardize my future campaign for President of the United States. This includes: Pictures of illegal activity, scenes of public disorder or drunkenness, pictures of alcohol or substance use, and nude pictures or pictures of sexual acts. If I absolutely must express myself sexually, I understand that there are many ways to look sexy or appealing will still maintaining a minimum amount of covering. These pictures can look just as alluring or appealing as outright nudity, and will not land me in legal trouble.

Additional rules or expectations I would like to highlight:

