

# HOW SHOULD YOU REACT ON SOCIAL MEDIA?

A FEW GUIDELINES TO HELP YOU ALONG

## YOU SEE

A QUESTION?

X

THE ANSWER TO A QUESTION?

Ж

### A COMPLIMENT?

**AN OPINION ABOUT** YOUR STATUS, VIDEO, ...?

X

A MESSAGE YOU **DISAGREE WITH?** 

×

#### **FALSEHOODS?**

(e.g. hoax, corrupt links)

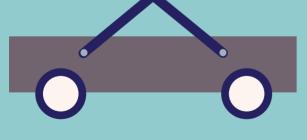
**SPAM/ADVERTISEMENT?** 

X

#### A PHOTO OF YOURSELF?

X

(that you'd rather not have online)



#### WHO SENT THE MESSAGE?

- A friend/acquaintance: think about whether you would also react like that in real life.
- Someone you don't know: react on the original platform, in the same friendly and polite manner as you would in real life.
- Anonymous: don't respond to people who don't show their true identity. These are often "trolls": people who try to invoke anger or fear with their posts.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO



#### **THANK**

Thank friends and strangers for positive reactions, and why not share a compliment?

WARN

Correct wrong

information, and warn

others of potential

dangers.

**ASK** 

Contact the person who

placed it online and ask

them to remove it. No

reaction? Contact the

platform managers.



**ANSWER** 

Do you know the answer?

Offer help! Or link to

friends or organisations

who can help.

### **USE YOUR COMMON SENSE**

Decide based on common sense whether or not to react. Add more explanation if necessary, or thank the poster. But feel free to ignore (not everything merits discussion).



### IGNORE / REMOVE / BLOCK

A commercial message about something you support? Feel free to leave it. Something you don't support? Remove. Do you receive unwanted posts from a person on a frequent basis? Block that person or organisation.

### DO YOU ALSO SEE...

**INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE?** 

### **BOUNDARIES**

Explain why you think the reaction is uncalled for. After consulting the writer, you could edit or remove it.

### INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE, HATRED OR DISCRIMINATION?

### REMOVE / REPORT

These are punishable offences. Remove the message or report to the platform. If they don't know, they can't do anything about it.

### AN ATTACK ON ONE OR MORE PEOPLE?

### **SHOW SOLIDARITY**

Let victims know you support them.

#### **LINGUISTIC ERRORS?**

### **IGNORE**

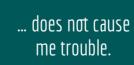
(Only) remarking on someone's linguistic errors does not help the discussion. Focus on content.



### MY REACTION

... is constructive.

... is respectful.



... does not contain falsehoods.

... is visible to those who need it.

... is not in CAPITALS, that makes it look like I'm yelling.















