

Teacher Support Notes

1. What mistakes did Ryan make in the story?

- a. He did not delete the photo off his phone as soon as he received it.
- b. He left his Facebook account in a logged in mode. If he had closed the account Marcus would not have had the opportunity to post the naked picture of Lowri.

(Advice for pupils - when a naked selfie is sent to them or any naked photos are texted to their phones they should delete them immediately. Their phones should be password protected to avoid being used by another person. They should always log out of any online social networking accounts. Use strong passwords to protect their mobile phone and online privacy).

2. Who has committed in law the most offences?

- **Lowri** has committed 3 offences - making, possessing and distributing an indecent image of a child (as she is under 18). 1. She took the selfie, (a self generated image) 2. Stored the image in her camera phone 3. Was responsible for sending it to Azuben.
- **Azuben** has committed 2 offences - possessing and distributing an indecent image of a child.
- **Marcus** has committed 2 offences - possessing and distributing an indecent image of a child.

These are all very serious offences because they come under the category of Serious Incidents protected by law. Taking, possessing and distributing an indecent image of a child is a sexual offence. This means that it is possible to end up as a registered sex offender for life, on the sex offenders' register.

If a child is 13 years or under it is a much more serious offence resulting in prosecution.



3. Why do you think Lowri sent a naked selfie?

Suggestions:

- Coercion from Azuben
- Afraid that he might lose interest in her if she refused
- Trusted that Azuben would respect her photo
- Naïve to the risks of her photo being used against her
- Is in love with Azuben and wants to please him
- Is under the impression that everyone does this in their relationships
- Doesn't know how to resist the pressure to comply with the demands

It is important for young people to recognise that sexting is not a healthy practice in relationships between young people. It is important to challenge the normalising of this behaviour, and to raise awareness of the potential risks and the illegal aspect of choosing to use this communication in a personal relationship. Young people should be encouraged to not give in to coercion from another to make and send these sorts of indecent images.

This is a sign of an unhealthy relationship. Nobody has the right to pressurise another to do anything that they do not want to do..

4. Why do you think Azuben sent the naked photo of Lowri to Marcus?

- Showing off
- Peer pressure from Marcus
- Treating the image like a trophy (Trophying)
- He does not respect Lowri and makes light of their personal relationship
- He thinks everyone else is doing the same and can see no harm
- He sees Lowri as his conquest and is boastful that she is with him.

Trust is one of the most essential parts of a personal relationship and Azuben has shown that he clearly can not be trusted. He did not take into consideration the impact his actions would have on Lowri and others.



5. Why do you think Marcus posted the naked photo of Lowri on the Internet?

- Because he was jealous of Azuben
- Out of spite
- As a joke or prank
- He fancied Lowri himself
- Pure bravado
- To improve his own street cred with his circle of friends

Having initially sent the image to close friends, Marcus then went on to put the image into the public domain where a much wider audience were able to see the indecent image of Lowri. Once posted onto the Internet he lost control of the image forever. It could be reproduced over and over again and could even appear in the photo collections of paedophiles.

6. What other reasons do young people give for making, sending or posting naked images of either themselves or others?

- Misguided to think that it is cool
- Want to be accepted by others
- Want to appear more grown up
- For sexual gratification
- Popularity
- (Trophying) where boys collect images of girls and rank them in order of most sexiest
- Control of others
- For money
- They have been groomed and exploited
- Copying others



7. Which, if any of Lowri's friends, made a right choice and what was the choice?

Naomi and Kat both deleted the photo off their mobile as soon as they had received it. They did the right thing as in law, the image would be considered as an indecent image of a child. If their phones had been confiscated by the police during an investigation and the image had been found on their phones, both would be in possession of an indecent image of a child. This is a serious offence.

8. If your friend told you they were about to send a naked selfie what would you do?

Young people should be encouraged to act on this information. They could help the friend by:

- Encouraging them to think about the potential consequences of sending the image. It could be viewed by those it was not intended for
- Suggesting that they only send images that are clothed and would not be embarrassing or illegal
- Helping them to find a trusted adult to talk about any pressure they feel they are under
- Going online and checking out some websites that offer advice
- Encouraging them to talk to their partner about boundaries in relationships and what is right and wrong behaviour (sexting is illegal)
- Helping them to identify what kind of relationship they are in (e.g. are they under pressure to do things they don't want to).
- Helping them to recognise what they need to do next for their own well being (e.g. establish clear boundaries for the relationship, reject the partner's requests or end the relationship if all else fails).

Young people should be empowered to say no to things that they do not want to do. They should be challenged to explore the possible consequences of making choices to send naked selfies and encouraged to identify and develop positive personal relationships and ways of resisting negative peer pressure.

