

Topic: School rules - PDA and electronic devices

XXXXXXXX's position: Today's schools are passé and students should be permitted to limited access of electronic devices and PDA.

- Support 1: Cell phones and iPods can be incorporated in with how students learn today.
- Support 2: Cell phones can be used in emergency situations.
- Support 3: Electronic devices are a way for many families to stay in contact with one another.
- Support 4: Society accepts a limited amount of PDA.
- Support 5: Creates a more positive environment for the students.
- Support 6: The rules being limited to some PDA would keep some kids out of trouble.

References:

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4. Haber, J. (2007). Touchy About Touch. *The Washington Post*, A. 18. Retrieved from www.galileo.com.

Kim Buchanan's position: School rules, particularly those pertaining to public displays of affection and cell phones, are justified based on the moral and legal responsibilities of school officials.

- Support 1: School safety has become high priority for most districts after Columbine.
- Support 2: Schools function under the "in loco parentis" doctrine which assigns a legal and moral responsibility to school officials; they must act as the "moral compass."
- Support 3: The pervasiveness of PDA makes it very difficult for school officials to isolate the serious cases of sexual harassment.
- Support 4: Cell phones – just behind the Internet - have become the most widely used tool for academic cheating.
- Support 5: The prevalence of cyberbullying has forced schools to look at cell phones as a potential threat to the safety of students.

References:

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3. Giannetti, C. & Sagarese, M. (2005). The newest breed of bully, the cyberbully. *Our Children*, 30. Retrieved March 27, 2008 from Sirs Knowledge Source Database.
4. Page, R. (1996/1997). Helping adolescents avoid date rape: The role of secondary education. *High School Journal*, 80. Retrieved March 26, 2008.
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6. Shaw, M. (2001). Promoting safety in schools: International experience and action. *International Center for the Prevention of Crime*. Retrieved March 27, 2008
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