

# Secret Sharer

## Directions

Read the following case studies and debate the associated questions.

### case study 1 **Model Mix-up**

On the first long weekend of the summer, 9th-grade students Amy, Maxine, and Alejandra head to the beach. They have fun striking poses and taking pictures of each other with Maxine's new camera phone. When the day ends and the friends head home, Maxine promises to email the photos to Amy and Alejandra so they can all have a laugh about them. Amy soon forgets about the photos, but at lunch a week later a boy waves at her and says, "You look better in a bikini!" Feeling embarrassed, Amy asks around and finds out that there are pictures of her in her bathing suit on a website called ModelZone, and a girl at school has sent the link to all of her friends. When she gets home, Amy checks out ModelZone and finds that the photos Maxine took at the beach are on the website. The caption of the photos gives her full name, her grade, and her hometown. It also asks viewers to rate her photos from "hot" to "not." Amy was just clowning around when Maxine took the photos, but people who see the site don't know that! Amy calls Maxine and asks her why she uploaded the pictures. Maxine says that she went to the So You Wanna Be a Model? website to get a photo of the set of the TV show and followed a link that said you could upload photos for the show's producers to view. She uploaded pictures of all three of them from her phone. What Maxine didn't realize was that the link was really an ad, and that the ModelZone website has nothing to do with the TV show. But the damage was already done. Amy, furious, decided to get back at Maxine by circulating a picture from one of their sleepovers, where Maxine had on a facial mask that made her look like a zombie.

## Debate Questions

- *Do you think Amy was entitled to send around an equally embarrassing photo of Maxine? What makes it okay or not?*
- *What responsibility do you feel you have when you post a photo of a friend?*
- *What do you think are the most important questions that come up about responsibility and privacy in this case study? Make a list of at least three.*