**Ethics – Opinionaire Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

In at least one complete sentence for each question, give your thoughts and opinions or reasoning. Make sure your sentence does not begin with yes/no. (Use your notes sheet for help, but remember, these have no exact right/wrong answers.)

1. Do you think a newspaper should be able to publish an embarrassing (but true) story about the private life of a famous person? Why/not?
2. Supermarket tabloids are weekly magazines featuring celebrities, strange occurrences, and fad diets. Many articles about actors, musicians, and other famous people highlight their failings. Readers often are presented with stories about celebrities’ battles with weight or other health problems, drug and alcohol addiction, troubled romantic relationships, and professional difficulties. Do you think that the publishers of supermarket tabloids are ethical? Why/not?
3. Do you think that readers of supermarket tabloids are ethical? Why/not?
4. The actress Elizabeth Taylor once said, “There’s no such things as bad publicity.” What do you think she means by this?
5. If you were the editor of a newspaper, would you print the names of all the adults arrested in your community? Why/not?
6. Your newspaper’s largest advertiser is arrested for a serious crime. What would be a good reason for publishing an article about this arrest AND what would be a good reason for not publishing an article about this arrest?
7. Imagine that you are injured in a serious car accident on a highway. (We hope this never happens!) A photograph of you, bleeding and obviously in pain, is published in a local newspaper without your permission. The photograph appears about a news article about the accident. Do you think that you should be able to sue the newspaper for having published your photograph without your permission? Why/not?
8. Imagine you heroically save someone from a car driven into a pond. A newspaper photographer arrives on the scene while you are bravely helping the motorist. Your photograph appears in the next day’s newspaper. However, the caption below the photograph misidentifies the two of you by saying you were the victim and the victim was the hero. You call the newspaper and ask the editor to publish a correction. The editor refuses to do so. What would you do next? Explain.
9. You meet your favourite celebrity, Bigg Schott. He signs an autograph and a professional photographer also takes a photograph of the two of you, which appears in a local newspaper with a news story about the celebrity’s visit to your community. Do you think you should be able to sue the newspaper for publishing the photograph without your permission? Why/not?
10. Unfortunately, the next week after the photograph was take, Schott is arrested for a serious crime. A news magazine publishes the photograph of you together, but does not publish your name. Do you think that you should be able to sue the magazine for publishing the photograph without your permission? Why/not?
11. Another magazine publishes the same photo of you and Schott with the caption, “Famous celebrity and accused criminal Bigg Schott meets with one of his loyal fans.” The article does not mention that your photograph was taken before he was arrested. Some lawyers would say that the caption places you in a “false light.” Explain what you think they mean by this?
12. In the last few years, many newspapers have changed the title of their “Weddings and Engagements” section to “Special Occasions” or “Celebrations.” Why?
13. As you know, some people are embarrassed about getting divorced. Imagine that you are the editor of a national magazine. Would you publish information about the divorce of a famous celebrity? Why/not?
14. Would you publish information about the divorce of two ordinary local people who are not famous? Why/not?
15. Do you think a newspaper should be able to print anything its publisher and editor what to publish? Why/not?