TEAM GREEN



Your reporter gets a tip that a popular Little League coach had been convicted of sexual abuse of a nine-year-old boy more than two decades ago. He apparently served 14 months in prison, changed his name and moved to the community a decade ago. He opened his own restaurant and married the mayor's daughter. He now has two children of his own and is a member of the church choir. He also supplies the local soup kitchen with excess food from his restaurant. You call the coach who confirms the allegations, but begs you not to print the story. "It will destroy me and humiliate my family," he says. "They don't know any of this. We will have to move. Please, I paid for my crime and rebuilt my life!" But the caller who tipped off your reporter is adamant." If you don't print the story, I will go to another news outlet. Pedophiles are never cured. This man is a danger to the community." You also learn that the caller is a rival of the mayor, who is up for re-election.

Do you run the story? Why or why not?

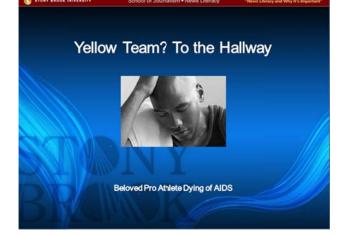
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Do you run the story? Why or why not?

TEAM YELLOW



Your reporter discovers that one of the most prominent baseball players in the nation is dying of AIDS. Currently, the player is mired in a deep slump and there is speculation among fans that he had used steroids in the past. The player is routinely booed when he comes to bat. The reporter learns of the AIDS diagnosis on a source basis from the player's personal trainer, who is angry at the fans' reaction. Your reporter confronts the player who concedes that the diagnosis is true, but says he has not told any of his teammates or team officials. "I have a right to manage my own death," he says, walking away in anger?

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Do you broadcast the story? Why or why not?

TEAM PINK



Staff at The Collegian (campus paper) got an anonymous email tip the President of the Student Body, Pedro Ramirez, born in Mexico but raised in the U.S., is in the U.S. without proper documentation. It was a hotly contested election.

Ramirez had taken steps not to break rules against accepting pay for his post. Nothing on the application for Student Body President asks immigration status. Only a few friends knew.

Staff from The Collegian called him and confirmed that he is undocumented. Legally, it's a bit murky. He is allowed to attend on in-state tuition. But he cannot receive federal or state aid. Because of his legal status he cannot be employed in the United States.

Ramirez said that ASI administrators were aware that he would serve as a volunteer.

Do you publish the information? Why or why not?

TEAM PINK

N STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY



School of Journalism • News Literacy

THE COLLEGIAN #



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Ramirez said that ASI administrators were aware that he would serve as a volunteer. **Do you publish the information? Why or why not?**

TEAM BLUE



Gloria Rojas is an upstanding member of her community. She is an active member of the PTA and volunteers in her church. She lives on a quiet street with her husband and three children. A fire breaks out at the home of her next door neighbor, a single mother who lives with her 3-year-old twins. Rojas hears the children scream and rushes outside and sees a babysitter and the twins huddling inside the house. Not thinking of her safety, Rojas rushes into the house, battles heavy smoke, and drags the twins to safety. A few minutes later, firemen arrive and try to save the babysitter, who is taken to the hospital in critical condition. Firemen discover preliminary evidence that someone has intentionally set the fire. Your TV reporter arrives on the scene in time to interview Rojas and meet other neighbors who have taken pictures and video of the "miracle" rescue on their cell phones. You are ready to broadcast a dramatic story on the rescue when the phone rings. It is Rojas's husband. "You cannot broadcast a story or pictures," he pleads. "We are undocumented immigrants. We came into the country illegally. If the story gets out, we could be deported." In the background, you hear Gloria Rojas crying.

Do you broadcast the story? Do you use video of your interview and video taken by the neighbors? Do you identify Gloria Rojas?

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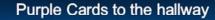
TEAM PURPLE



The 18-year-old president of the senior class at the local high school asks to meet with a reporter. She tells him that she has been having an affair with the president of the school board for the past four months. The president is married and has five children. She says she is coming to you now because the president lied to her and said he was going to leave his wife. He also said he was going to get her a job at his company, but then reneged. She says she has credit card receipts to prove the affair, as well as photos of the two of them walking hand-in-hand on the beach. You call the president who adamantly denies the affair. "She a liar," he says. He says the credit card receipts are "obviously forged." He claims the photos must be the "work of a creative person using photo shop." He says that if you give him a week, he'll prove all of this. At the moment, he is too busy campaigning. The election for the school board is in three days.

Do you publish a story before the election? Why or why not?

TEAM PURPLE





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Do you publish a story before the election? Why or why not?

TEAM WHITE



You are the editor of a major suburban newspaper and your police reporter gets a tip that two high school students have been killed at a Long Island Railroad crossing. When he arrives, a police source tells him that the bodies were found lying across the tracks in what appears to be a double suicide. By the time the reporter gets to the high school, word has spread and he overhears the names of the two students. He learns that they were both honor students. The reporter makes copies of yearbook photos, checks out their addresses in the phone book and rushes to the girls' neighborhoods. Shocked neighbors, still reeling from the news, refuse to talk and are very protective of the girls' families. When the reporter arrives back at the paper, he learns from a detective that the girls left a note indicating that they had made a "suicide pact." While the reporter writes the story, your phone rings. It is the principal of the high school. He urges you to "downplay" the story for fear there could be "copycat suicides." A few minutes later your phone rings again. It is a relative of one the victims. She begs you not to name the girls or publish their photos. She says the parents are distraught and any wider publicity about the dead girls will make the families' agony worse. "Who cares about their names? You don't need to print them," she says. Your reporter arrives are used the viction of the students and that by profiling the families you bilderen

may help other parents spot warning signs in their own children.

Do you identify the girls? Do you publish the photos? How much prominence do you give the story?

TEAM WHITE

White Cards to the Hallway



Will "Suicide Pact" Trigger Copycat Suicides?

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may help other parents spot warning signs in their own children.

Do you identify the girls? Do you publish the photos? How much prominence do you give the story?