



**Lois Walker's**  
**SCRIPTS FOR SCHOOLS**

**An Ode to**  
**Social Media**

**A Choral Reading/Speaking Script**  
**Teen Readers**

**[www.scriptsforschools.com](http://www.scriptsforschools.com)**

by Lois Walker

---

## **SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT**

Many internet sites now offer information suggesting “do's” and “don't” when posting on sites such as Facebook, MySpace, and Twitter. When a teacher asked me to write a choral script on this subject, I certainly had a great choice of raw material. I took most of my information from an online article, “12 Things Students Should Never Do on Social Media” <http://mashable.com/2012/09/04/students-social-media-warnings/>. The article's preface states: “The last thing young people want is another set of rules. But these days, social media comes with great responsibility, whether you're just starting high school or finishing up college.” I agree! I didn't include all 12 suggestions in the following script, but I was able to incorporate: bullying, trashing your teachers, posting confidential information, posting overly specific location check-ins, cheating, plagiarizing, threatening violence, and not assuming your posts are “private”- that teachers, parents, and possible employers can see your posts. I also included “sexting”, the fact that nothing is temporary once it is online, “flaming”, responding to inappropriate messages, and how to find your digital footprint by searching your own email address in a search engine.

This script contains some important information, but I tried to keep the mood “light” by adding SOLO 2 who can play all his/her lines lightly or for comedy. Makes sense that not everyone will be “on board” when there are so many rules being tossed around! I also included a recurring/repetitive chorus to ground the piece throughout.

I consider this script to be a “work in progress” because social media experiences are always changing along with the internet. Please feel free to change, add, or delete anything below that doesn't work for your class. Also please feel free to get in touch with me if you require changes or additions. I'll do my best to make those changes in order to keep the script current and meaningful.

Sincerely, Lois Walker

-----

### **FORMATTING:**

This script was written as a choral speaking/reading piece and is formatted for ALL, ALL FEMALE VOICES, ALL MALE VOICES and lines for 10 SOLO READERS.

### **ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM:**

To find the proper rhythm, first read-aloud and clap through the piece as you go. Each underlined word or word part falls directly on a beat. As you read, clap on each underlined word, keeping the rhythm steady. Be careful not to read too fast! This is a rehearsal technique and readers will not clap throughout the entire piece during performance.

**CHORUS:**

ALL: Facebook, MySpace,  
Twitter - Social Media!  
Ways to connect,

SOLO 1: As described by Wikipedia!

ALL: Linkedin, Instagram,  
Friendster and more -  
Waaaaaaay too many sites  
Than we can answer for!

SOLO 1: And they're all just a click away,  
So easy to explore.

ALL: Some say they are corrupting us,  
Some say they're advantageous.  
Some say they are a handicap,

SOLO 3: Some say they're just outrageous!

SOLO 2: Well, they're certainly contagious!  
But what good are they?

ALL FEMALE VOICES: They help you stay in touch with friends

ALL MALE VOICES: Both near and faraway.

ALL: Social Media makes it easy  
To talk, share, participate.  
It helps us stay connected

*(To SOLO 2)*

Now don't you think that's great?

SOLO 2: Could be, I guess.  
And from what I hear  
They can also get you  
In a mess!

But that's just *my* opinion...

SOLO 4: And, all of us have opinions, right?

*(Group nods)*

SOLO 4: Yes, most have one or two.  
And can we voice them?

ALL FEMALE VOICES: We just might!

ALL MALE VOICES: It's what we need to do.

ALL: But whatever your opinion,  
Social medias? We're going to use them.  
So it might be wise to figure out  
Some ways to not abuse them.

SOLO 2: Hey, I'm confused (*pause*)  
What do you mean by abused?

ALL: Abusing social media means  
Not using it the way you might.  
Abusing social media means  
Not using social media right!

ALL MALE VOICES: So, when it comes to social media,  
There are some useful guidelines

ALL FEMALE VOICES: To help you navigate and  
Prevent your being sidelined.

SOLO 2: Are you looking for compliance?  
Well, this isn't rocket science!

ALL: No, but one phrase sets the tone:

SOLO 5: "If you doubt it, don't do it."

ALL MALE VOICES: Just a little common sense

ALL FEMALE VOICES: Can get you through it.

SOLO 6: For example...

ALL: Stay positive!

ALL FEMALE VOICES: Remember Disney's Thumper?  
What he said - do you recall?

ALL MALE VOICES: "If you can't say something nice -

SOLO 2: Just don't say nothin' at all."

ALL: So when you're posting, stay upbeat,  
Don't cyberbully, snipe, or trash,  
Or you're online reputation  
Could be gone in just a flash.

ALL FEMALE VOICES: You never know who's listening,  
Or what friends will share with whom.

ALL MALE VOICES: You really have no privacy,  
On that, you can assume.

**CHORUS:**

ALL: Facebook, MySpace,  
Twitter - Social Media!  
Ways to connect,

SOLO 1: As described by Wikipedia!

ALL: Linkedin, Instagram,  
Friendster and more -  
Waaaaaaay too many sites  
Than we can answer for!

SOLO 1: And they're all just a click away,  
So easy to explore.

ALL: So, don't criticize your teachers.  
Don't dump on former friends.  
Don't tell the world whom you detest,  
Or share who's made you so distressed!

ALL: No flaming! Take a big deep breath,  
Count ten and then consider,  
Do you really want the world to know  
That you are feeling bitter? **CONTINUED...**