

Diocese of Phoenix
Catholic School Safe Environment Curriculum

Name of Lesson:	Safe Environment –Grade 12 Impact of Media and Culture on Eroding Virtues
Length:	1 class period – 40 minutes & Pre-assignment
Objectives:	USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People requires all students be given safe environment training. This training will have particular emphasis on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify the three types of boundaries and boundary violations• Discuss the effect of media messages on the culture, relationships, human dignity, and on them personally• Understand that abuse is never their fault, and the importance of telling a trusted adult if they or someone they know has experienced abuse or boundary violations
Materials Needed:	1. Prep work a few days in advance: ask the students to keep a log of the messages that are aimed at impacting how they see themselves and their relationships in media (tv, internet, magazines, etc). Distribute <i>assignment sheet</i> for this activity due the date of the safe environment lesson (or before).
Terms to Clarify:	1. Imago Dei (Latin) The Image of God 2. Human dignity – Because we are all created in God’s Image, we all have an inherent human dignity and deserve respect (we reflect the Image and likeness of God in our intellect, freewill and conscience) 3. Culture – The beliefs, customs, arts, etc. of a particular society within a given time
Procedures:	Open with Scripture and prayer - Genesis 1:26 – 28 “Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth." 1. Define Human Dignity 2. Review the three types of boundaries <u>Physical</u> – Who can touch you, how much they can touch you, where they can touch you <u>Emotional</u> – How close you feel to a person, How much time spend with a person, What information share with a person <u>Behavioral</u> – Things you will do and things you won’t do 3. Discuss that if someone is sexually abusing them or making them feel uncomfortable. with boundary violations, it’s not their fault, they have done nothing wrong, and that they should tell their parents or another trusted adult – and keep telling until the abuse stops

In a large group, discuss the following:

1. Cardinal Virtues
 - Prudence –the ability to judge between actions with regard to appropriateness (wisdom)
 - Fortitude – the ability to confront fear, uncertainty and intimidation (courage)
 - Justice – balance between selflessness and selfishness (fairness)
 - Temperance – the practice of self-control; moderation (chastity)
2. Go over examples from some of the students' media logs.
3. Discuss
 - What do these examples from our culture say about human dignity?
 - How do these examples contradict the cardinal virtues?
 - What are some examples of how human dignity can be elevated in our culture?
 - What are some examples of how cardinal virtues are upheld in our culture?
 - What can you do this week to help uphold human dignity or any of the cardinal virtues?
4. Have all students write down a personal philosophy statement reflecting how they will live out the cardinal virtues in response to media and culture.

Closure:

Closing prayer (two different options are below)

Prayer Option 1 – (Blessed John Henry Newman)

“O my God, You and You alone are all-wise and all-knowing! I believe that You know just what is best for me. I believe that You love me better than I love myself, that You are all-wise in Your providence and all-powerful in Your protections. I thank You, with all my heart, that You have taken me out of my own keeping, and have bidden me to put myself in Your hands. I can ask nothing better than this, to be in Your care—not my own. O my Lord, through Your grace, I will follow You wherever You go, and will not lead the way. I will wait on You for Your guidance, and, on obtaining it, I will act in simplicity and without fear.... In all, I will trust in Jesus, the Lord, and my Savior. Amen.”

Prayer Option 2 –

A reading from the gospel according to Matthew: Matt 5:14-16

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

This is the good news! Go and tell the world!

Assignment:

Keep a media log (TV, movies, music, internet, magazines, etc) of the messages that are aimed at impacting how you see yourself and your relationships.

Media Log

Media Message – Describe the message viewed and what was viewed	How does this message contradict human dignity?