

Section 1:

#1: "Children, like all of us, deserve the right to consent to how they are represented, especially in a public sphere like social media. This right should extend to giving them veto power over what is posted about them by those closest to them—their parents. Allow me to explain why."

a. Strengths:

- Clear thesis statement
- Introduces the main argument concisely

b. Weaknesses: Lack of specificity Your argument could benefit from more concrete details. You mention "veto power" without specifying how this might work in practice or at what age children should have this right.

c. Exemplar: "Children, like all of us, deserve the right to consent to how they are represented online. This right should extend to giving them veto power over what is posted about them by their parents, starting from an age where they can understand the implications—perhaps around 10 years old. Let me explain why this is crucial and how it could be implemented."

#2: "Second, this issue touches on consent and autonomy. As parents, we strive to teach our children about boundaries and respect for their bodies and feelings. Yet, when we share their lives without their consent, we undermine those very lessons. Children are individuals with their own thoughts and feelings, and as they grow older, they become more aware of how they are portrayed online."

a. Strengths:

- Strong connection between online sharing and broader parenting principles
- Emphasises children's individuality

b. Weaknesses: Overreliance on abstract concepts Your argument relies heavily on abstract ideas like "consent" and "autonomy" without grounding them in concrete examples. This makes your point less impactful.

c. Exemplar: "Secondly, this issue touches on consent and autonomy. As parents, we teach our children about boundaries—for instance, asking before hugging a friend. Yet, when we share a photo of them having a tantrum without their permission, we contradict these lessons. A 10-year-old who's embarrassed by a holiday photo or a teenager

uncomfortable with a childhood video being shared deserves to have their feelings respected."

#3: "Finally, this is a societal issue that requires collaboration between parents and social media platforms. As platforms that profit from user engagement, social media companies bear a responsibility to ensure their users' rights are protected, especially when it comes to minors. Providing features that allow children to manage their digital identity—such as a veto option for family posts—could revolutionize the way we think about privacy in the digital age."

a. Strengths:

- Addresses the role of social media companies
- Proposes a specific solution

b. Weakness: Lack of counterargument consideration Your argument doesn't address potential challenges or objections to implementing such features. This oversight weakens your overall point.

c. Exemplar: "Finally, this societal issue requires collaboration between parents and social media platforms. Companies like Facebook and Instagram, which profit from user engagement, must protect minors' rights. They could implement a 'family veto' feature, allowing children to flag posts about them for removal. While this might reduce content and engagement initially, it would foster trust and potentially increase long-term user retention as children grow into adults who feel respected on these platforms."

Actionable task: Rewrite the opening paragraph, focusing on providing a specific, real-world example of how unchecked parental sharing can impact a child's life. This will ground your argument in reality and make it more compelling.

Overall score: 45/50

Section 2: Revision Guidelines

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed parents, and leaders of the social media world,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today. We live in a time when the digital footprint we leave behind starts long before we even take our first steps. From the moment a child is born, their lives are documented in photos, videos, and posts on platforms that will outlast most of the devices we use to access them. But as we revel in sharing the joy of our children's milestones with friends and family, we must ask ourselves: Are we respecting their rights to privacy and autonomy in this rapidly evolving digital age?

#1 Children, like all of us, deserve the right to consent to how they are represented, especially in a public sphere like social media. This right should extend to giving them veto power over what is posted about them by those closest to them—their parents. Allow me to explain why.

First, let's talk about privacy. The content we share on social media becomes part of a child's online identity, often without their knowledge or approval. This can have far-reaching consequences for their future—personal, academic, and professional. Schools, potential employers, and even peers can access these posts, forming ~~judgments~~ [judgements] or biases based on an online persona the child had no role in creating. We must ask ourselves: Is it fair to compromise their future for a few likes and comments today?

#2 Second, this issue touches on consent and autonomy. As parents, we strive to teach our children about boundaries and respect for their bodies and feelings. Yet, when we share their lives without their consent, we undermine those very lessons. Children are individuals with their own thoughts and feelings, and as they grow older, they become more aware of how they are portrayed online. Granting them the right to veto posts about them empowers them to take control of their digital presence. It teaches them that their opinions matter and that they have a say in how they are seen by the world.

Third, consider the emotional impact. Children can feel embarrassed, exposed, or even ashamed of certain posts, especially as they enter their teenage years—a time when self-image and social pressures intensify. A seemingly innocent post today could lead to ridicule or bullying tomorrow. By giving children the right to veto these posts, we foster an environment of trust where they feel safe to express their discomfort and know that their feelings are valued.

#3 Finally, this is a societal issue that requires collaboration between parents and social media platforms. As platforms that profit from user engagement, social media companies bear a responsibility to ensure their users' rights are protected, especially when it comes to minors. Providing features that allow children to manage their digital identity—such as a veto option for family posts—could revolutionise the way we think about privacy in the digital age. Social media companies have an opportunity to lead the way in creating a safer, more ethical online environment for children.

Parents, I understand the joy and pride that comes from sharing our children's lives. But we must also recognise that with that pride comes the responsibility to respect their autonomy, protect their privacy, and ensure their emotional well-being.

Let us give our children a voice in their digital lives, and let us ensure that they have the right to veto what is posted about them. After all, their future should be shaped by their choices—not ours.

Thank you.