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Research exercise: An Inductive Approach toward Understanding the Legal Parameters of Student Speech Regarding Social Media Technology

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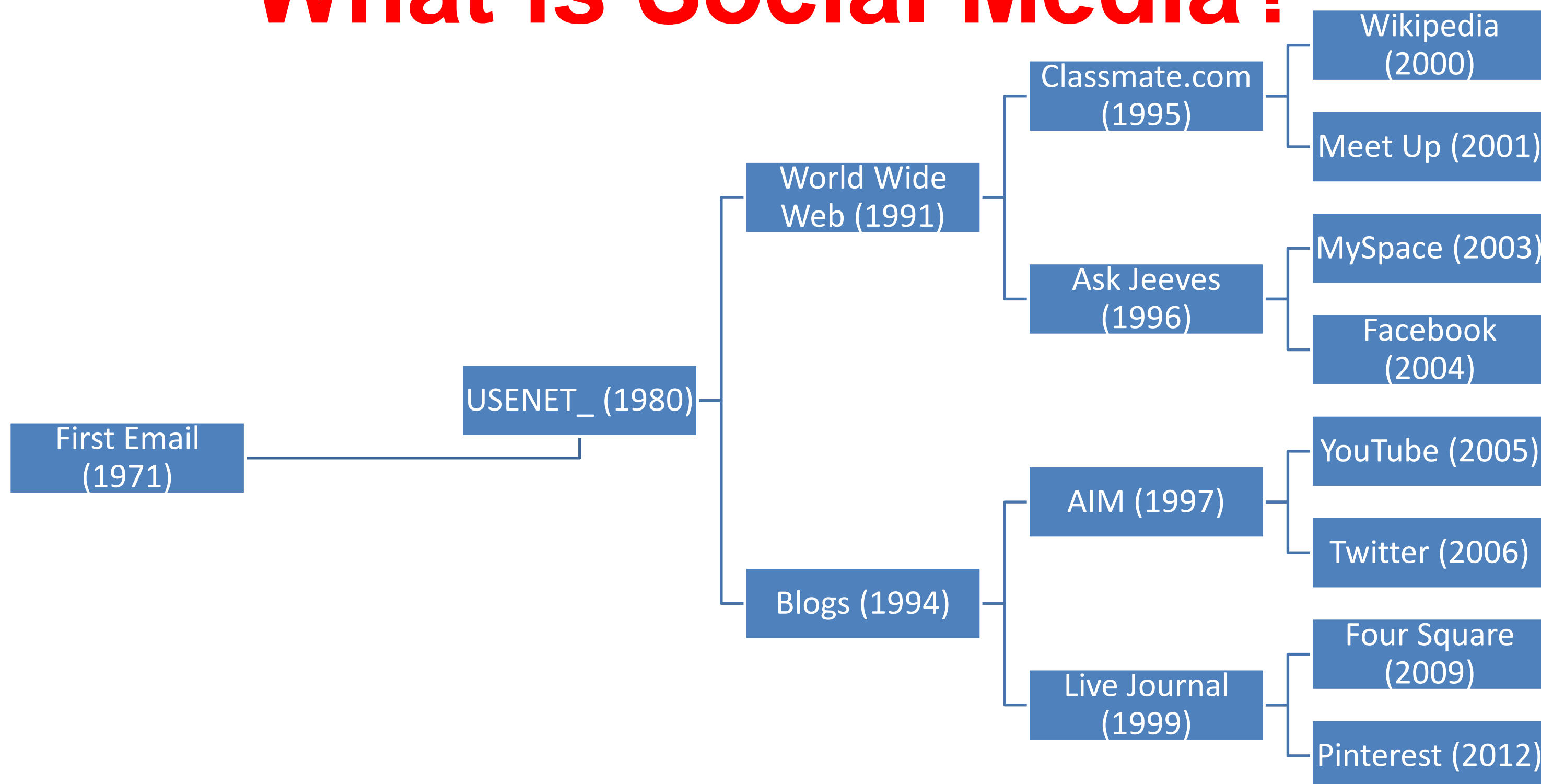
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An Inductive Approach toward Understanding the Legal Parameters of Student Speech Regarding Social Media Technology

Technology
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What is Social Media?



Social media is more than a line of computer code. It is an interactive online medium that allows users to share thoughts, make connections, engage in activities, and/or discuss ideas, Junco and Chickering (2012).

Social Media Cases in Schools

- Layschock v. Hermitage School District
- Snyder v. Blue Mountain School District
- Kowalski v. Berkeley County Schools
- Doninger v. Niehoff



Critical Evaluation

Social media creates a permanent digital record. The potential audience of social media engagement is seemingly endless. Social media blurs the line between on and off campus speech.

Disruption

Publication **Lewd**

Hazelwood

Fraser

Social Media in Education

Dunn (2012) suggests three reasons why social media is banned: bullying, hard to monitor, and it's a distraction. Current thought suggests that an educational aspect to these policies should be added so that students can learn how to use with the technology properly (Junco, 2011).



Social Media Cases in Higher Education

- Tatro v. the University of Minnesota
- Tatro posted comments on Facebook
 - The university disciplined Tatro for the posts
 - The student code indicated that the school has the authority to address student speech whether on or off campus
 - The court found that Tatro's posts "materially and substantially disrupt[ed] the work and discipline of the school."
 - However, the court did conclude that the "true threat" measure did not apply because no threats were made by Tatro

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