

# THE MS 54 QUARTERLY

QUARTER 1

2018-2019

Taking Kavanaugh  
to Court



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Throw Me In  
Space For Years,  
I'll Be Fine



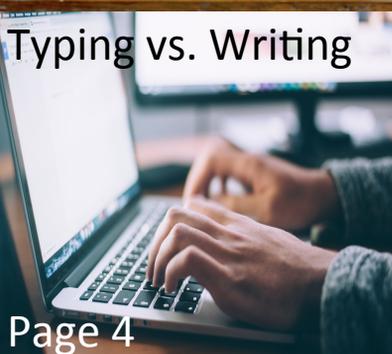
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Thanksgiving:  
Celebratory or  
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Typing vs. Writing



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## 2018 MIDTERM ELECTIONS Samari Beauford and Isabel Karaoglu

There's a new topic in town! Midterm elections! Midterms have been the new latest discussion on the news, the radio, and maybe even with friends. In NYC, school cafeterias have been turned into voting areas so adults can vote! When you vote, you are determining who you want for the house and senate of the U.S. You also vote for the president but on November 6, 2018, this wasn't the case. They are also for the individual states, like the governor. People vote on whether they want a Democrat or Republican as their governor in their state. In our case, we voted for who we wanted as U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. Let's take a look at the results below.

| Party   | Seats        |
|---|--------------|
| <br>Democratic Party | 225<br>51.7% |
| <br>Republican Party | 197<br>45.3% |
| <br>Other parties    | 0<br>0%      |

These are the results for the House elections. As you can see, the Democrats beat the Republicans and now control the House.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2...

## 2018 MIDTERM ELECTIONS

### Samari Beauford and Isabel Karaoglu

| Party   | Seats     |
|---|-----------|
| <br>Republican Party | 51<br>51% |
| <br>Democratic Party | 44<br>44% |
| <br>Other parties    | 2<br>2%   |

These are the results for the Senate. This time the Republicans beat the Democrats and control the Senate.

There was a change in the government after these elections. Before the elections, the House and Senate were both Republican. Now, the House is Democratic. This will last for 2 years and then the next election for House and Senate will come!



## Taking Kavanaugh to Court

Sarah Wagman



When Justice Kennedy announced his retirement after serving on the Supreme Court for 30 years, the president needed to nominate a replacement. His pick was critical, as the Supreme Court makes many important decisions regarding issues such as abortion, same sex marriage and immigration. Additionally, justices don't have term limits; they can serve for life on the supreme court. About a week later, Trump nominated Brett Kavanaugh for the court.

A Yale graduate, Kavanaugh was an aide to President George W Bush before becoming a judge on the DC circuit court. He worked there for twelve years, where he made many right-leaning decisions. For example, he wrote a dissenting opinion on a case asking if it would be allowed for an undocumented teenager to receive an abortion. He also dissented in a case that upheld a ban of semi-automatic weapons in Washington DC. Nearly all of the Democrats did not support him because of his views. However, it was thought that Kavanaugh would easily be confirmed by the Senate since it had a Republican majority. Confirmation hearings began, and even with all of the Democratic pushback, it seemed as though Kavanaugh still had the support to be confirmed.

But then, a woman came forward with stories of sexual assault by Kavanaugh. In mid-September, Christine Blasey Ford publicly accused Kavanaugh of attempted rape. According to her, while she and Kavanaugh were at a party in high school, he and his friend tried to pull off her clothes, groped her, and covered her mouth to prevent her from screaming. Kavanaugh strongly denied that these events had ever taken place. She took a polygraph (lie detector) test and passed. However, after 35 years, it is hard to prove the events of that night. A few days after the allegation, a hearing was scheduled where Ford and Kavanaugh would testify before the senate.



*Christine Blasey Ford.*

## Taking Kavanaugh to Court

### Sarah Wagman



*Debbie Ramirez*

A week later, a second woman came forward. Debbie Ramirez accused Kavanaugh of exposing himself to her at a dorm room party when they were at Yale together. At the time, Ramirez was very drunk, so her memories of the night have significant gaps. By this time, more and more people had started to oppose Kavanaugh's appointment. With the hearing a day away, a third woman, Julie Swetnick also claimed that Kavanaugh had raped her. Kavanaugh again spurned the allegations, calling them "ridiculous" and from the "Twilight Zone."

At the hearings, both Ford and Kavanaugh shared their stories and answered questions from members of the senate judiciary committee. Ford described the night in detail, along with the effects it had on her life. When asked about her certainty, she said she was "100 percent" sure that Kavanaugh had attempted to rape her. Kavanaugh angrily denied her claims, saying that the Democrats were just trying to prevent his confirmation. After the hearings, a deal was made where there would be a week long investigation into the allegations against Kavanaugh. After the FBI finished its investigation, senators were allowed to review their findings. They did, and a movement was made to hold a cloture vote. If enough people vote in favor of it, the Senate would need to hold the Kavanaugh confirmation vote up to thirty hours after the vote. The cloture passed with 51 votes. Soon after, the confirmation, passed narrowly with 50 people (49 were democrats) voting for it and 49 against.



*Supreme Court Justice Kavanaugh during his swearing-in ceremony.*

It has been more than a month since Kavanaugh became a Supreme Court Justice. From now on, whatever decisions he makes will affect the whole American population. In his oath, he promised to "administer justice." He should try his hardest to carry through on that.

## Typing vs. Writing

### Gabe Brazil

The two most well known writing tools: a pencil, and a keyboard. These tools are often found in schools as items for productivity. It is a controversial discussion on what is a better item for school. Which do you think is more useful?

**Price-** A pencil is considerably cheaper than a computer. A reasonably-priced chromebook cost around \$200. On the other hand, 150 pencils can be obtained by \$12. Considering the information, pencils are cheaper and therefore win for the best price.

**Speed-** Computers are known to be faster at writing than handwriting. With enough practice, you will automatically memorize the keyboard and type insanely fast. Modern day keyboards have many other interesting quirks such as copying, deleting, and fitting. Pressing buttons are a lot easier than making pencil strokes. Pencils can often break. This slows you down as you have to keep sharpening.

**Pain-** Sometimes, writing can be painful. If you apply too much pressure to the paper, it could cause wrist pain. It's not only pencils that cause wrist pain. People have a lot of incidents getting wrist pain while typing as your hands have to be at a certain angle. Having your wrist bent in the same position for hours could really strain it. Also, looking at a computer screen for long enough is bad for your eyes. It could even cause headaches.

**Weight-** Pencils and paper don't weigh that much. Studies have shown that the average backpack belonging to a middle schooler weighs 18 lbs. A computer weighs about 5 pounds. Carrying it with you everywhere can be a painstaking job. The cloud has got you covered! The cloud is an online place to access your files on any computer anywhere you want!

Computers and pencils are in a never-ending war. It is really up to the owner to decide their preference.

I prefer handwriting

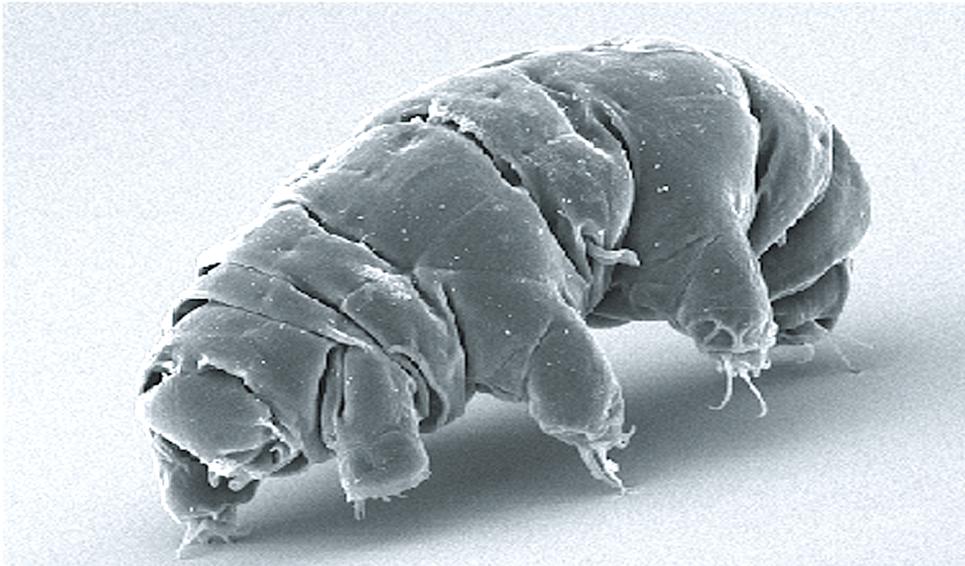
I prefer to type



## Throw Me In Space For Years, I'll Be Fine

Cyrus Smith

You think that's a joke? Well, kind of. Have you ever heard of *Milnesium tardigradum* or tardigrades? *Milnesium tardigradum* sounds like a Harry Potter spell, but it's not. It's this amazing creature.



You might be thinking, how does the tardigrade have anything at all to do with space? Let me explain. In 2007, thousands of tardigrades were attached to a satellite and sent to space as a test, and were given no protection and, guess what, they were COMPLETELY FINE. Some females even laid eggs in space, and the hatched young were fine. And, just when you thought that was completely crazy, tardigrades (or “water bears”) can survive in boiling or subzero temperatures, radiation, starvation and severe dehydration for years, as well as getting crushed.

There are over 700 species of tardigrades in the Tardigrada Phylum. Most are herbivores, eating or sucking moss or lichen. Others are carnivores, eating smaller tardigrades or other animals smaller than them. Tardigrades have 8 ferocious claws, and their gas mask-looking mouths can sear through prey. One catch, though. They're microscopic. Ah, they look cute now, don't they?

Tardigrades were discovered in 1773 by a German pastor named Johann August Ephraim Goeze. However, it was three years before he and scientist Lazzaro Spallanzani discovered their “superpowers”. The way these “powers” work is this: when the tardigrade is dehydrated and dries itself and keeps it alive and inactive. You might be thinking, if they are inactive, what's the point of staying that way forever?

There is one way to reverse the effect: get them wet. Yes, it's that simple. Get them wet, even after 100 years, and they'll be fine. In order to understand how they survive space and radiation, we must know how it affects life. It makes some cells called reactive oxygen cells damage your DNA. The way tardigrades counter this is by simply releasing many antioxidants.

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## Throw Me In Space For Years, I'll Be Fine

Cyrus Smith

So, tardigrades are interesting and all, but there is one more thing that might make them even more interesting and valuable: if scientists find a way to let humans trigger this in their bodies, the results could be insane. Picture Superman, but no costume and cape. But, as this is just theoretical, there is no use diving deeper into this. (And it's most likely impossible.)

So, as you've hopefully learned, tardigrades are very interesting and resistant creatures. They also look cute! Tardigrade lives matter!

This is the binomial nomenclature of the general "tardigrades" that I mostly talked about.

Domain: Eukarya  
Kingdom: Animalia  
Phylum: Tardigrada



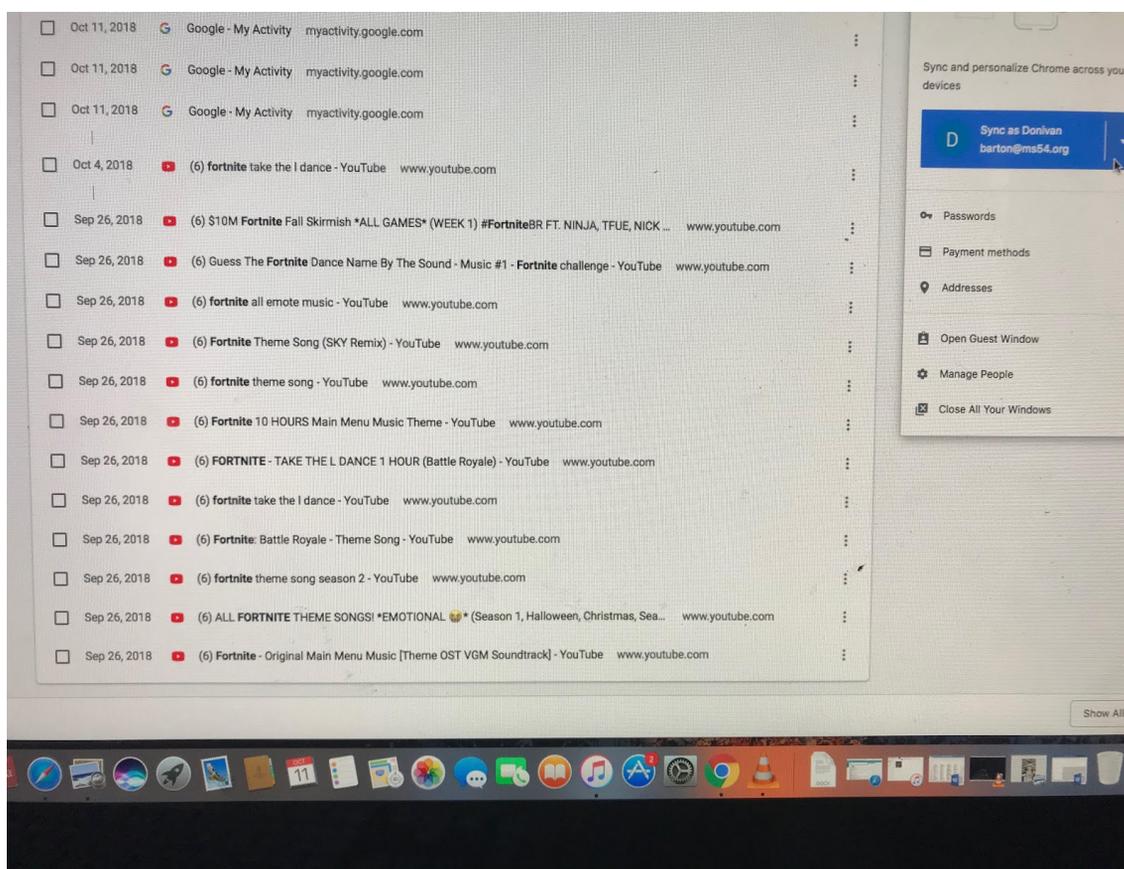
TARDIGRADE LIVES MATTER!!

# Barton EXPOSED

## Dakota Lee and Marina Gallo

“It was hilarious. I wish I had videotaped it!”, said Dakota Lee, one of the many viewers of Mr. Barton’s incident.

Samari Beauford from class 603: “Do you remember who made Mr. Barton start dancing?” “Jaden Brown.” “And do you remember when it was?” “No.” “You can guarantee for a fact that Mr. Barton was dancing?” “Yes!” “Can you give us your own take of this?” “Jaden wasn’t listening, so Mr. Barton told him to sit down. But he didn’t and started doing the ‘Take the L’ Fortnite dance. Mr. Barton was like, ‘I can do that too (and better than you!)’ and started doing the dance.”



On September 26th, Mr. Barton was signed into his email account. As captured above, his search history includes “Fortnite: TAKE THE L DANCE 1 HOUR (Battle Royale).”

# Exposed.

# The Homerun: Season Recap Edition

## Sebastian Merkatz

The MLB (Major League Baseball) season ended, and I think it's time for a season recap!

The Best MLB Teams Based on Each Teams Win/Loss Record:

1. Boston Red Sox: 108 Wins, 54 Losses.
2. Houston Astros: 103 Wins, 59 Losses.
3. NY Yankees: 100 Wins, 62 Losses.
4. Oakland Athletics : 97 Wins, 65 Losses.
5. Milwaukee Brewers: 96 Wins, 67 Losses.

The Worst MLB Teams Based On Each Teams Win/Loss Record:

1. Baltimore Orioles: 47 Wins, 115 Losses.
2. Kansas City Royals: 58 Wins, 104 Losses.
3. Chicago White Sox: 62 Wins, 100 Losses.
4. Miami Marlins: 63 Wins, 98 Losses.
5. Detroit Tigers: 64 Wins, 98 Losses

The Playoffs:

**MLB WILD CARD ROUND:**

1. Rockies Beat The Cubs 2-1.
2. Yankees Beat The Athletics 7-2.

**DIVISION SERIES:**

1. Houston Astros Win Series Against Cleveland Indians 3-0
2. Milwaukee Brewers Win Series Against Colorado Rockies 3-0  
LA Dodgers Win Series Against Atlanta Braves 3-1
3. Boston Red Sox Win Series Against NY Yankees 3-1

**LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:**

1. Boston Red Sox Win Series Against Houston Astros 4-1
2. LA Dodgers Win Series Against Milwaukee Brewers 4-3

**THE WORLD SERIES:**

- Game 1: Red Sox Beat Dodgers 8-4  
 Game 2: Red Sox Beat Dodgers 4-2  
 Game 3: Dodgers Beat Red Sox 3-2  
 Game 4: Red Sox Beat Dodgers 9-6  
 Game 5: Red Sox Beat Dodgers 5-1  
 Red Sox Win Series 4-1



## Poor

### Kayla Ruano-Lumpris

Poor  
 An icy cold word  
 That stings your soul  
 When said.  
 When you're  
 Poor,  
 You don't know at first.  
 You go to school  
 You go home  
 You hang out with friends  
 You do everything that you think is  
 normal,  
 Normal for you.  
 But then  
 One day,  
 You see a person  
 Who leads a life  
 Quite  
 Different  
 From yours.  
 It seems the same  
 Go to school  
 Go home  
 Hang out with friends  
 But then,  
 But then,  
 But then.  
 You see this person go to a school,  
 But better  
 Than yours.  
 You see this person go home,  
 But it's nicer  
 Than yours.  
 You see this person hang out with  
 friends,  
 But all of them have pretty, shiny  
 clothes  
 Better than yours.  
 Then you see yourself,  
 With old,  
 wrinkled-up clothes,  
 With a dirtier home,  
 Then you see yourself,  
 With old,  
 wrinkled-up clothes,

With a dirtier home,  
 With a worse school,  
 And you realize that maybe  
 Other  
 People's  
 Lives  
 Are not the same as yours,  
 And you feel dirty  
 You feel gross  
 You feel lousy.  
 Poor  
 Is  
 Always needing more,  
 Always wanting more,  
 Never having more.  
 Poor  
 Burns and aches and hurts your heart when you think about it,  
 Hitting you with  
 The  
 Truth  
 When you're not ready.  
 You're never prepared  
 To hear it slide off the tongue,  
 Like a sled sliding down a hill.  
 You're never prepared to  
 feel the hurt that you get when you hear it.  
 You're never prepared for any of it.  
 You never get used to it.  
 You never get  
 Used  
 To  
 Poor.

## Rich

### Kayla Ruano-Lumpris

Rich  
 It seems like everyone is  
 Because you are.  
 You glide on  
 Without a care in the world  
 Because  
 You  
 Have  
 Everything.  
 You go to a good school  
 You have a nice home  
 You go on vacations  
 You hang out with your friends  
 Who all have nice homes too.  
 Your reality  
 Is a fantasy  
 For more than  
 Three  
 Billion  
 People.  
 These people  
 That don't have homes  
 Have food  
 Have money  
 You might not think about  
 Or even know about  
 Because  
 You don't have to deal with it.  
 You don't need to know  
 About poverty  
 Or homelessness  
 Or starvation  
 Because it doesn't happen to you.  
 But then,  
 But then,  
 But then.  
 You walk in the living room  
 The news is on  
 And you hear about these people  
 Who are not as privileged as you  
 Who can't afford nice homes  
 Because it doesn't happen to you.

But then,  
 But then,  
 But then.  
 You walk in the living room  
 The news is on  
 And you hear about these people  
 Who are not as privileged as you  
 Who can't afford nice homes  
 Or vacations  
 And get neglected by all the good  
 schools.  
 You ask your parents  
 Why that happens,  
 Why it exists.  
 They say it's just  
 The way  
 Of our world.  
 You go to bed that night,  
 Thinking  
 Reflecting  
 On your life and those people's lives.  
 Why does this happen?  
 Why do some people have good  
 lives,  
 And some people don't?  
 You fall asleep thinking about it.  
 The next day,  
 Your eyes open,  
 You crawl out of bed,  
 And you  
 begin a  
 new day.  
 As though it  
 never  
 Happened.  
 Because you can,  
 And some people can't.  
 You can act like it  
 Never  
 Happened.

## Thanksgiving: Celebratory or Not?

### Ari Birnbaum

Thanksgiving: Celebratory or not?

Thanksgiving, a holiday known for family, food and celebrating the victory of the colonists. However, dating back in time, things weren't so great with the colonists. This leaves the question, is Thanksgiving the innocent holiday that it usually is?

History:

In 1620, the Mayflower set sail from England to Jamestown in Virginia. They were heading to Jamestown to settle there, and to start a new life without having religious difficulties (back in England, the King wouldn't let them practice their own religion). The ship got caught in storms and wind, which moved the ship in the direction of Cape Cod. When they arrived and docked on November 21, 1620, to their surprise, they weren't at Jamestown. Instead, they started a new colony and named it Plymouth. The natives were very friendly at the beginning, and showed the new pilgrims how to plant and grow crops. One year later the fall harvest was so successful that the pilgrims and natives decided to celebrate together. It was so successful, they celebrated for three days straight. This was the "first Thanksgiving". Because there is no exact date for when this happened, Abraham Lincoln decided to celebrate when the pilgrims arrived at Plymouth.

The "Good" Side:

There are strides toward celebrating the first people in the Americas by remembering and recognizing their sacrifices in our Thanksgiving feasts each year. Thanksgiving is also great to celebrate and gather with families and can give happiness to a lot of people. Even in the history, it shows that there were a lot of good things to celebrate during that time. The great harvest, friendly natives, and big feast and recreation were all valuable things to celebrate. So overall, Thanksgiving can be considered a great innocent holiday for many reasons.



## Thanksgiving: Celebratory or Not?

Ari Birnbaum

The “Bad” Side:

Sixteen years later, the Pilgrims put a turn on the whole situation. A great genocide of Native Americans called the Pequot Massacre took place in 1637. The English Pilgrims killed around 700 men, women, and children. Since Thanksgiving was all about thanks and giving, this definitely made Thanksgiving have a whole other side. From then until the 1800’s there was massacre, rape, torture, and disease throughout all natives and colonists. After those moments, there was a small chance of forgiveness between the natives and pilgrims.

Overall:

Thanksgiving is a very well known American holiday. In some ways, this holiday is very important and great to celebrate with others like family. In other ways, Thanksgiving can be dreadful to some people and reminds people of the betrayal of the pilgrims.

Is Thanksgiving worth celebrating?



## Easy Fall Recipes to Keep Up Your Spirit

### Ari Birnbaum

#### Apple Cobbler:

##### Ingredients:

1 cup sugar  
1 cup all-purpose flour  
1 tsp cinnamon  
1 large egg (no specific temperature)  
1 stick/8 tbsp unsalted butter  
4-5 large granny smith apples

##### Recipe:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees fahrenheit/180 degrees celsius. In a large mixing bowl, fold flour, sugar and cinnamon together with a spatula. Then add large egg to the mixture and mix together until the consistency of dry oatmeal.

Peel and slice the granny smith apples into medium-sized cubes/slices and place them into a greased 8 by 8 baking pan.

Pour the dry mixture on top of the apples in the pan. Melt the butter and slowly pour and spread out the butter on top of the cobbler. With a spatula, evenly spread out the butter across the pan on the mixture until evenly spread out.

Bake for 30-35 minutes until golden brown on top. Enjoy fresh and warm!



## Easy Fall Recipes to Keep Up Your Spirit

### Ari Birnbaum

#### 2. Easy Pumpkin Pie:

##### Ingredients:

- 1 (15-oz.) can pumpkin puree
- 1 ¼ cup heavy cream
- ¾ cup packed light brown sugar
- 3 large eggs, beaten
- 1 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp pumpkin pie spice
- ¼ tsp kosher salt
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 store bought frozen pie-crust

##### Recipe:

Preheat oven to 425 degrees fahrenheit/220 degrees celsius. Place the pie crust into a greased pie pan after thawing. With parchment pour a bunch of pie weights or dry beans on the parchment paper, weighing the crust down when it bakes for the first time. Bake crust for 10 minutes then take out parchment and pie weights/dried beans and reduce oven heat to 350 degrees fahrenheit/180 degrees celsius.

In a large mixing bowl, mix all the ingredients together except for the pie crust to make the filling. Pour the filling inside the pre-baked crust and spread out with spatula. Bake in the reduced-heat oven for 55-60 minutes. Cool in oven without heat for 1 hour. Serve and enjoy!

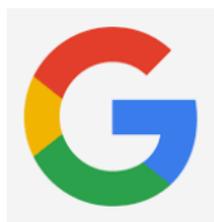


# Your Privacy Is Being Micro-Targeted

Marina Gallo

Technology has been dramatically evolving. Ever since the first data chip was created, your privacy has become more and more exposed. Facebook is taking your information based off of your posts and the things you like and selling it to 3rd party organizations. If you do not know the true meaning of a 3rd party, it is “a person or group besides the two primary involved in a situation”, and in this instance, it is a separate business that is unlawfully taking your personal information from the major businesses that you buy from and passing advertisements to you through it.

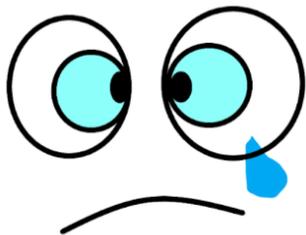
Facebook has misused the personal information on a total of about 50 million accounts. Have you ever noticed an advertisement that adheres to your interests on Facebook? It’s not a coincidence. I was recently talking with Ava Klein, a 7th grade student, who was telling me about an incident she had with the internet micro targeting her life. “I was looking up good places to buy winter jackets” she states. “After awhile, I ended up finding a nice business, from which I had bought my jacket from, and at that time, I thought it was a success - but the next day, I turned on my phone, and I saw numerous ads for places to buy winter coats on Google. I’m pretty sure that is privacy invasion. I’m not saying that Google is terrible, but it is definitely not 100% perfect.”



A number of websites are micro targeting your interests and hobbies. In attempts to get your money, they find what you like and send you ads based off of them. Furthermore, it has been known (and this happened to me too) that major apps like Facebook and Instagram take the personal information/your email that you submit to them when you make your account, and they give it to other organizations. Millions of people constantly get newsletters for websites and apps that they had not given their email to. An MIT Magazine that was released at the end of September stated that a town in France used this new and advanced technology to track the places that the President’s wife was traveling to go shopping on government planes.

Basic technology has evolved. It’s impossible to keep all of your private matters to yourself. People know things that they aren’t supposed to know. Our generation is going to have the worst of this in the future.





Please...

**MS 54... Please...**

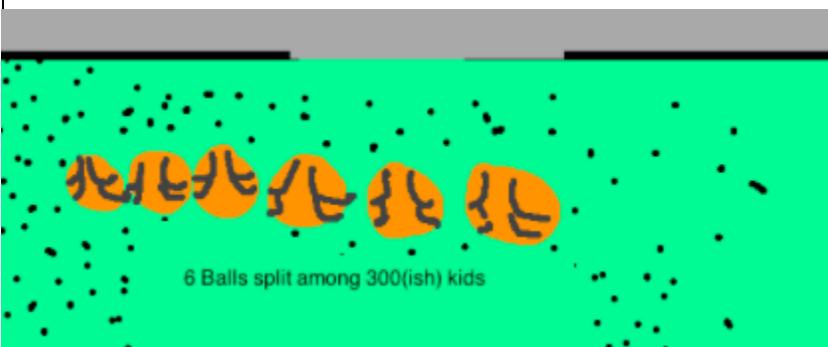
**Including the Recess Rant, the Scamming Machine, and the Boys' Bathroom Problem**

Anonymous, Cyrus Smith, and Gabe Brazil

**The Recess Rant**  
Gabe Brazil

We all know the turf. The beautiful green grass, combined with the rough turf!

The good ol' MS54 recess turf!! As great as it looks, I have some serious problems with their whole concept of "FUN".



^^^Low quality picture made by Gabe Brazil^^^

First things first, there are only a couple balls and a frisbee or two. Many kids are bored as there are minimal resources. For instance, on October 23, 2018, many kids were physically fighting over an orange frisbee as there was only one available and 15 kids wanting to use it. I think the school could buy more equipment or, we could be able to bring our own equipment (monitored by staff) I think this would be reasonable because it would make recess a lot more enjoyable and it wouldn't have a cost (for the school).

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**MS 54... Please...**

Anonymous, Cyrus Smith, and Gabe Brazil

**The Scamming Machine**

Cyrus Smith

The vending machine in the cafeteria once cost \$1.00 per snack... but those were simpler days. Now, (at the time of writing) the vending machine costs \$1.25 per snack (and for me it doesn't accept quarters). However! There is a mythical place called... RANCH DELI. Here, most things cost \$1.00. (Except for large packages, like the Lifesavers gummies, and most drinks.) So, until MS54 fixes this scam, come to Ranch right before school! You might even meet us!



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**MS 54... Please...**

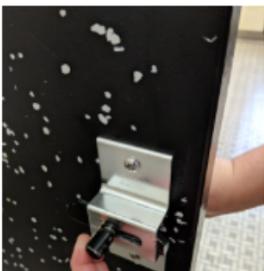
Anonymous, Cyrus Smith, and Gabe Brazil

**The Privacy Problem**

Anonymous

It has come to my attention that many boys bathroom locks in this school don't work. Lately, I have seen many issues in the MS54 boys bathroom system, such as a Sour Patch wrapper being in a urinal for the last 8 weeks. But the main problem with the bathrooms is the privacy. For example, none of the locks in the third floor boys' stalls work. I have seen kids holding on to the door with their feet because of this major issue. Most of the first floor locks work, but none of the third floor locks work, this is a major privacy issue and it needs to be brought to attention. Finally, we spotted a big pink blob on the ground of the third floor boys bathroom that was covered in filth and hair. In conclusion, the boys bathroom needs to be cleaned and repaired, so that MS54 will keep its remarkable title of "the best school."

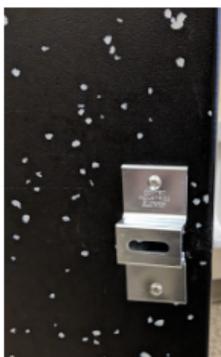
**THE EVIDENCE:**



<-- Stall 1 Jammed lock



<-- Stall 2 *without* The entire Lock



<-- Stall 3 *without* lock handle



<-- ???Solid Hairy Pink Blob Found On Floor???



<-- Sour Patch Kids Wrapper In Urinal (For 8 weeks as of writing)

## Horror Stories

Lucas Meshulam and Tyler Meshulam



### Story One

A family dog runs away from home. He returns a year later to the delight of his family. But there's something different about him. Something demonic. When the dog's caretaker/mom goes to get him water the dog is gone! She thinks that he's just playing. But when she turns away the dog strikes! He bites her like a vampire and now the apocalypse rises...

### Story Two

On the way back from school, I was on the bus. The bus was really crowded. Then a man started to push everyone to the back of the bus. One of the students was me. Then the bus stopped. We were all looking out the window when blood splashed on the windows everyone got out and ran. When the police checked out the bottom of the bus, and found a shredded corps. It was me...

### Story Three

Once there was a killer soup can. The killer soup can's name was Fluffy. The reason his name is Fluffy and he is a killer soup can is because when he was born his mom was

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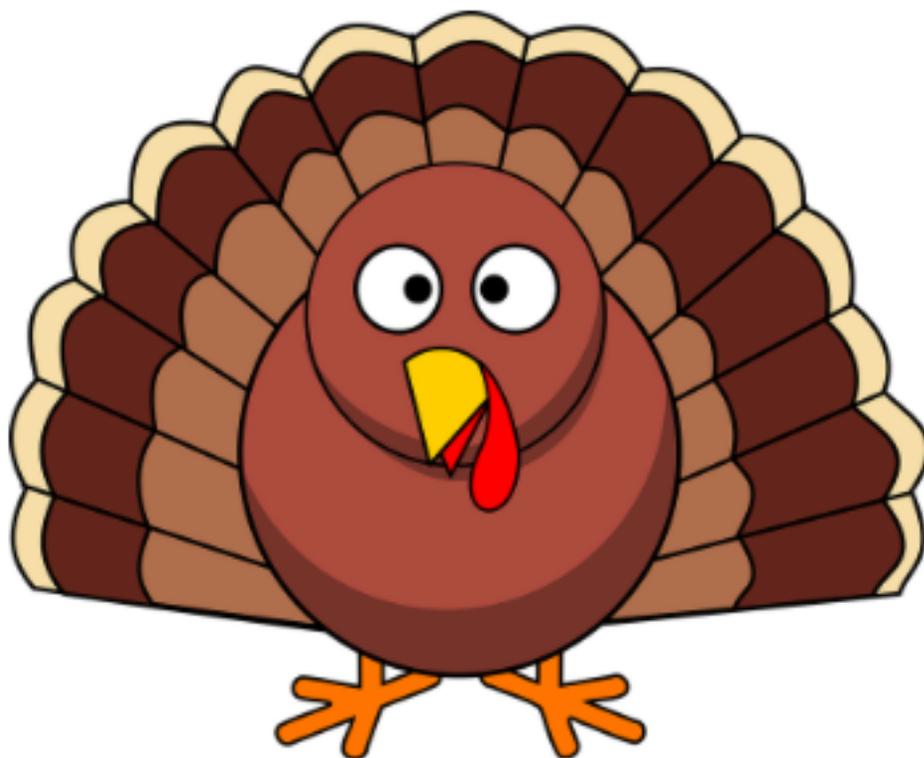
## Horror Stories

Lucas Meshulam and Tyler Meshulam

super nice to everyone even people she did not know. But when he was born everything got worse. He started to take over his hometown he destroyed anything in his path he was a monster. The first really bad thing he did was eat his own mom he did that by putting her on pasta until there was no more of her.....

### Story Four: THANKSGIVING SPECIAL

One day on Thanksgiving a turkey was going to get killed but he gobbled to the gods asking for their help. The gods responded and saved the turkey but something was wrong about the turkey. He was black with red eyes and long sharp teeth and that was the end of the world. The cursed turkey plunged the world in darkness.



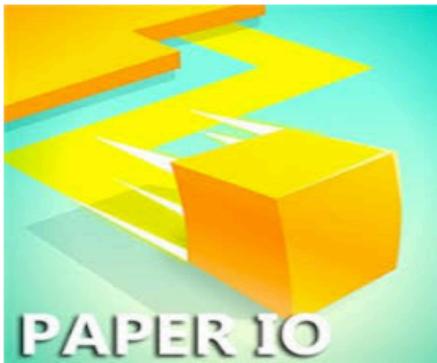
# Would You Rather

Lucas Meshulam

## (Paper io) or (slither io)

Paper io:

Paper io is an io game in which you are a color and you need to color an area with your color. If another player hits your faded color stream you get a game over. You can game over yourself by hitting your own faded color stream.



(Slither io)

Slither io is where you are a snake and you must survive other players you need to eat other players and glowing orbs.



## Mike the Headless Chicken

Sam Zwick-Lavinsky

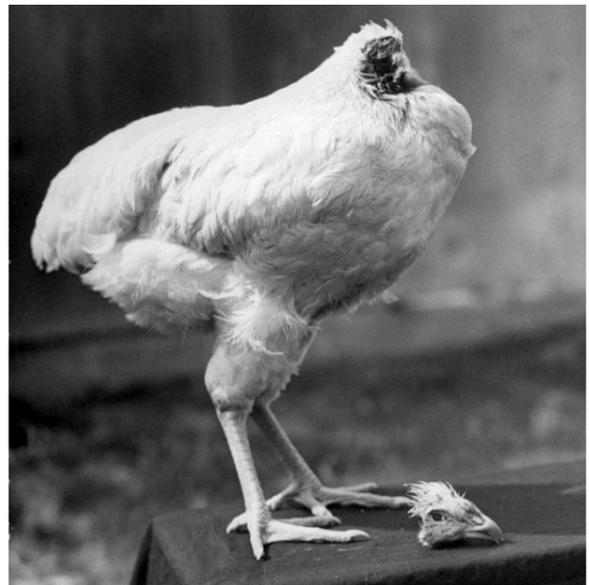
**Warning: the following context is completely non-fiction and trying to comprehend it could be fatal.**

“Ahhh!” screamed the kitchen maid, while slaughtering one of the hundreds of chickens at the farm where she worked. The maid was astounded when the chicken decided to deny its fate. When the seemingly dead and beheaded chicken got up and started walking around, as one might expect to happen when a dead chicken gets up and starts walking around, people were dumbfounded. The foul fowl became famous when Lloyd Olsen opened his farm to visitors. But then 40 or 50 other chickens who were brutally killed did not react in the same way as Mike, which was the name Olsen coined for the chicken.

Olsen and Mike decided to go on a tour of US. In Phoenix, the chicken finally departed, headed for chicken heaven. Olsen and his wife received fan letters and... not so positive letters. One letter even took the stretch to compare the Olsens to Nazis. People were opposed to something new, as people are. Just a chicken can produce hate speech.

Scientists have sought out an answer to this mystery for decades. Apparently after someone is beheaded, the oxygen will cut off, but the spinal cords will still have residual oxygen. In rare cases, neurons will continue running. They fed Mike through his esophagus using a dropper. They also cleared his throat with a syringe. Most likely the reason Mike the Chicken survived for so long is because most of the chicken's brain is in the back of its head, sort of lodged in its throat.

Mike the Headless Chicken is one of the most incredible and admirable feats of nature. Even though he has long past, up to this day Lloyd Olsen is one of the only people on this earth who can say he got filthy rich off his chicken!



*Mike sitting next to his decapitated head.*

## Creepy Stories

Jackson Daly

Once upon a time, a girl in a far off town wanted a beautiful doll for her birthday. Her father, wanted everything for her little girl as all fathers do. He spent hundreds of dollars on her doll. It had beautiful bright blue and gold hair, and a beautiful diamond dress. The little girl named her Annie. Se loved the doll so much you could never see them apart. When the day finally came to an end, she put the doll on her nightstand right next to her bed. Then in the middle of the night she woke up to get some water, she reached for her doll.. she wasn't there. She looked in her closet and right there she saw her doll. She thought she was hearing things but she heard a faint "I'm gonna get you. I'm gonna kill you. I'm gonna get you. I'M GONNA KILL YOU."

The next day when she went to bed she again but this time she put her in her toy box on the other side of her room. She has never slept under the covers in her entire life, but she was so scared from what happened the other night... She did it. It was midnight she couldn't sleep and she heard all around her "I'm gonna get you, I'M GONNA GET YOU!!!!!!!" Getting louder and louder by the second, until all of a sudden it stopped. She was brave enough to check her toy box but took a bat, but the doll wasn't there. When she turned around to go back to bed the doll was right behind her, staring at her. With a cold dead scare. The little girl screamed, as the doll floated towards her. She swung the bat in many directions but the doll blocked every blow. The doll grabbed on to the girl by her feet and dragged her under the bed. And they were never seen again.

# THE THING IN RED

Ava Trujillo

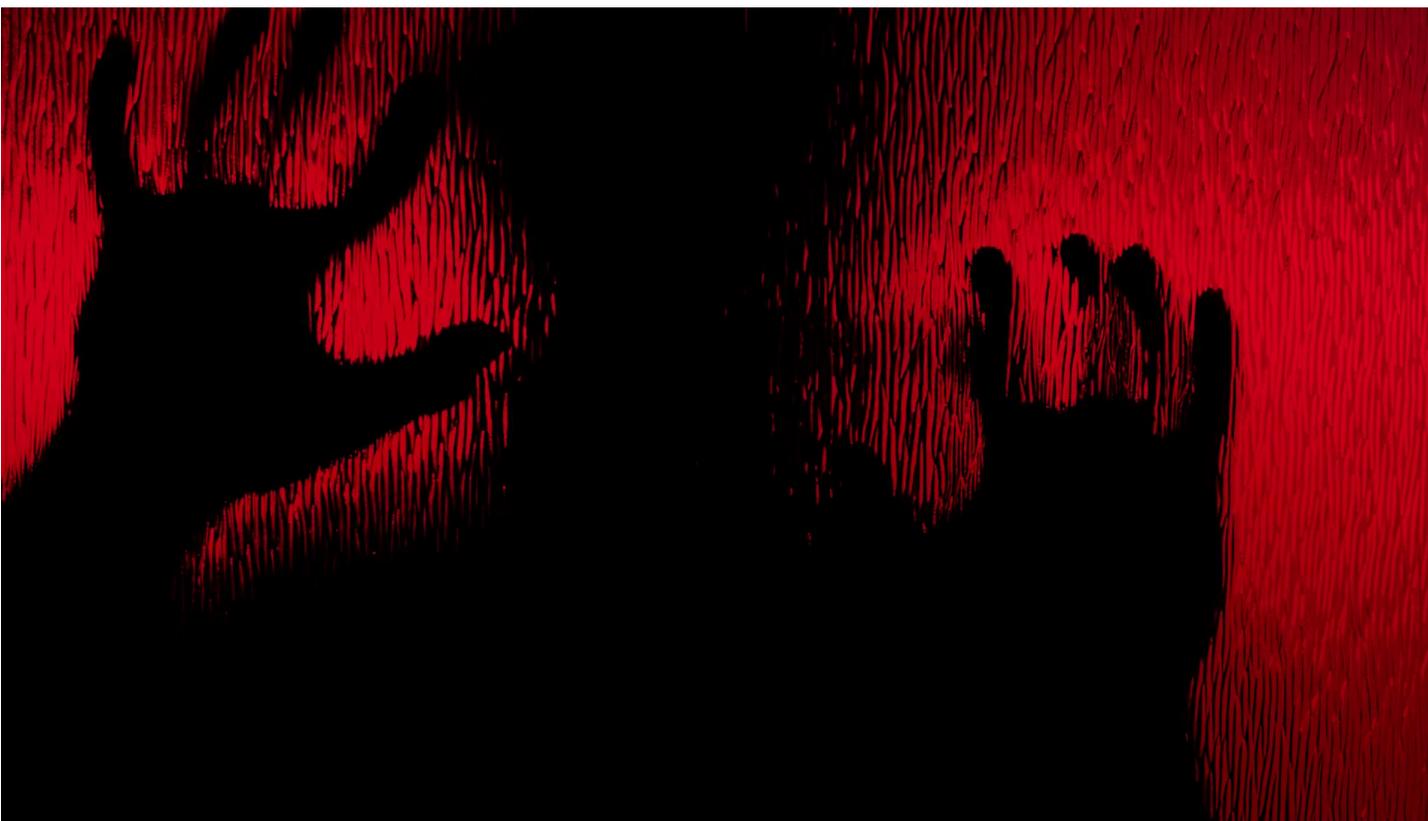
I gasped for air as I ran for the door. I peered around me for a quick second and all I saw was a blur of red. It was right behind me. Maybe if I locked it out I could run and jump out the window and escape. No, it would get into the room too fast. I went in the room anyway and as soon as I did, I regretted it. There were no windows in the room so I blocked the doors with everything I could. Tables, chairs, even some computers. The thing bellowed and pushed the door. Thankfully the door stayed put and I fought back a sob. There was nowhere to go, so I looked for a weapon to defend myself I found nothing but a stick they used to lower down the windows. I was really long, so as I picked it up I fell over I banged my back and heard a loud THANG!!! I thought it was the the thing banging the door but as I stood up I looked behind me and saw a vent. It was just big enough for me to squeeze through. I dropped on my knees and tried to climb through. As soon as I did a wave of nausea washed over me I itched my head and I looked back at my hand. I was covered in blood. I ignored the hand and continued down the vents. It was quiet except the echo of the thing bellowing in the vents. I scattered through the vents until I heard a bang and a creak as the door opened and the the thing roared again, confused on where I was. Then I cursed myself, I forgot to cover the vent, the thing would surely-- . I was cut short by the drop of an open vent. I crashed into a teacher's desk and cried out in pain. I ran out the door and the thing was there. I screamed so loud it was stunned, so I ran. But I was too late the thing grabbed me by the leg and I fell flat on my face. I kicked the thing with all of my strength but it was too powerful. Then I had an idea. I screamed again putting all my energy into it. Thankfully just as I expected I stunned it. I ran as fast as I could for the main door of the school. I locked the door from the outside and ran not looking back hearing the roaring of the thing. I took the bus and everyone staring at me asking "Are you alright dear?", "Oh No! Honey your bleeding!", "Do you need to go to the hospital?". I kept replying that I was all right but I still got some worried looks from some adults. I went to bed and thankfully my parents were asleep. They wouldn't believe what happened to me anyway. I bandaged my head, changed into some clean clothes and went to bed. The next morning nothing was there. I dreaded to go to school but I had to. I took the bus like I did every day. And everything was normal. When we got to the school was terrifying. Nothing was there! I went to all my normal classes waiting for something to happen. I went to the bathroom and lunch alone and still nothing happened. But I was still nervous once I went to the bathroom one last time. As I went there, it was quiet. There didn't appear to have anyone near the bathroom. I went to the bathroom then went to the sink to wash my hands.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE...

# THE THING IN RED

Ava Trujillo

I decided to admit that the thing was gone. I reached the sink and it was covered in red. I was about to scream my head off until something grabbed by mouth I fought back by biting the hand. I was bony and brittle but covered in spikes. My mouth was bleeding really badly but the thing didn't seem to be affected by the bite. I tried to run and escape and I did and a miracle came true but the door slammed shut like magic. I was cornered. The thing grabbed me again and a cold object cut through my skin. I looked down and the point of a knife was sticking out covered blood. "I guess I'll add this to the to my collection. The voice was ice cold and hard. The thing took a sack off his back and through me into it. The bag was a garbage bag the thing lifted me into it. As the thing put me in I got a good look at it. Even though I could see clearly all I could see was a blur of red but a clear face I would describe it to you but I can't. The face was indescribable. The bag was filled with many people in it. They all were pale and cold. I'm dead, I thought, then I was.



## Jokes and Riddles

Ava Klein



Everyone loves a whole hearted joke, or a mind twisting riddle. But this year I have decided to put a new spin on this tradition. This year I went around the school and interviewed different students to hear their favorite riddles and jokes. Get ready to laugh at some of these jokes,

### Jokes:

7th grader Ari Birnbaum- "What did the guinea pig say to the scientists?"

7th grader- Sam Lorenzo- "When an escape prisoner was caught camping out in the woods..."

6th grader Gabe Brazil- Why did the kid eat his homework??

6th grader Cyrus Smith- What do you call a fish without eyes?

6th grader Isabel Karaoglu- What do you call an alligator detective?

6th grade Jackson Daly- Heard about the new restaurant Karma? There's no menu...

Now that you have had a break prepare to take on some of these mind twisting riddles.

**[All answers will be provided on the last page]**

### Riddles:

6) 7th grader Marina Gallo- 1,000 people went on a cruise, every single person dies, but 500 people survived. How is this possible?

7) 6th grader Isaac Tomas- "A plane crashes on the border of America and Canada. There are 9 dead and 1-survivor. Where do you bury the survivors?"

8) 7th grader Thomas Hsin- You leave a bucket of water outside. The next day there is no longer liquid in the bucket. It is not warm outside so the water could not have evaporated. Why is there no more water left?

9) 7th grader Ava Klein- A boy was at a carnival and went to a booth where a man said to the boy, "If I write your exact weight on this piece of paper then you have to give me \$50, but if I cannot, I will pay you \$50." The boy looked around and saw no scale so he agrees, thinking no matter what the carny writes he'll just say he weighs more or less. In the end the boy ended up paying the man \$50. How did the man win the bet?

## How to Be Cool

### Oliver Stafford

How to be cool is a question asked by many individuals who want to learn the secret to being cool. So, take in all this information from a BIG loser. Let's begin.

1. Do not under any circumstances, do the whip & naenae.
2. Same for the dab.
3. Do not mention any dead memes (except for Pepe).
4. Don't use **Comic Sans** font. You will look like such a loser.
5. Do not listen to "Havana." Correction. Don't lip sync "Havana."
6. Don't look like me.



the ugly is real

7. Listen to Royalty Free Dubstep and mention how much better you are then some random person on the street.
8. Don't get blonde tips.
9. Don't shave your eyebrows.\*

\*I don't know why you would in the first place, but go along with it.

## And Finally

10. Play Bin Weevils.

This article is not directed at anyone. It is not Oliver Stafford's fault if you are offended by this piece. Anyone who blames Oliver will be ignored. Please respect his family & friends during the duration of this article being up.

## Would You Rather?

### Samari Beauford and Isabel Karaoglu

Choices. Decisions. Strategy. Would You Rather is a perfect game! Below are a bunch of super hard choices to make, so choose wisely and have fun.

- Watch *Riverdale* or *Stranger Things*?
- Have no pizza for the rest of your life or no Netflix?
- Have a dog or a cat?
- Coke or Pepsi?
- Lays or Doritos?
- RULE THE WORLD OR LIVE IN A WORLD WITH ABSOLUTELY NO PROBLEMS?
- SAVE A PET YOU OWNED FOR 10 YEARS OR SAVE YOUR SIBLING OR PARENT?
- LIVE AS A KING/QUEEN WITH NO FRIENDS AND FAMILY, OR BE HOMELESS WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY?
- WIN \$50,000 OR LET YOUR BEST FRIEND WIN \$500,000?
- Take a vacation to St. Lucia or Antigua?
- Travel the world or spend \$50,000 dollars on anything you want?
- Would you rather go to the moon twice or go to Mars?
- Would you rather eat a box of dried spaghetti or a cup of uncooked rice?
- Would you rather have no fingers or no elbows?
- Would you rather live in a cave or a treehouse?
- Would you rather eat a snake or a live cockroach?
- Would you rather eat a ketchup sandwich or a Sriracha sandwich?
- Would you rather your only mode of transportation be a donkey or a giraffe?
- Would you rather have every decoration in your house gold or have your pajamas leather?
- Would you rather have a yacht or own a public cruise?
- Would you rather be allergic to chocolate or allergic to all candy?
- Would you rather own be famous and unhappy or average and happy?

## Is Social Media the New Cigarette?

Isaac Thomas

Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat. Kids, their parents, their parents' parents. They all have social media. Studies have shown that 94% of teens that go on their electronics, (computers, mobile devices, etc.) end up going on social media. But this isn't all. In addition to that 79% say they use more than one social media website. Now let's look at the most popular social media website. And this title, of course, goes to Facebook. It pretty much capitalized social media websites. Studies have proven that 1.46 billion people log into Facebook daily and are considered daily users. That is more people who read daily!! This of course is a problem for our younger people.



***Now the question is: how addictive can social media be?*** It's said that "addictive social media users have many mental health issues. Issues such as anxiety, depression and loneliness," as stated in Psychology Today. Which would make sense considering how much someone can get judged on social media. Think about it in this sense; when someone sees you on let's say Instagram they automatically judge you. They say "well I don't like this person", or "I really like you," and make assumptions about you.

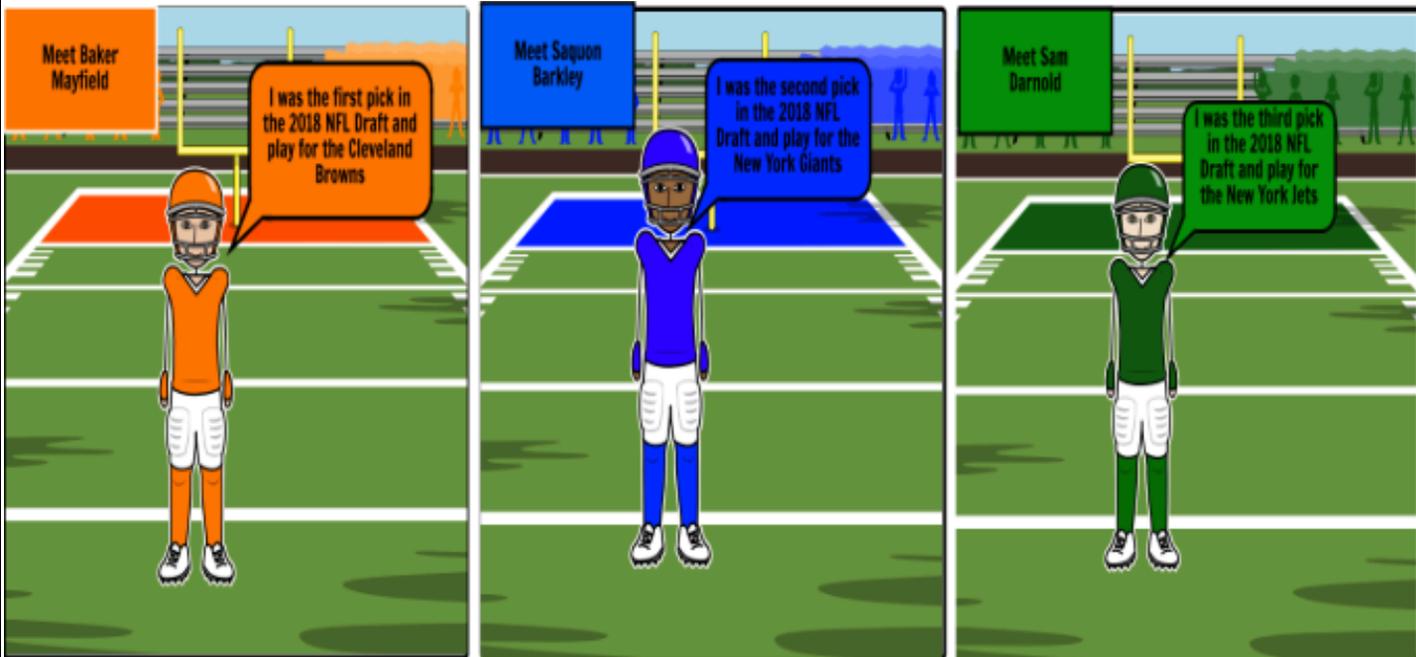
***How does this even relate to cigarettes is the question!*** Comparing social media to cigarettes based on their addictive nature is like comparing an iPhone 5 to an iPhone SE. No difference!!! Cigarettes are so addictive because of the chemical that enters into your brain. This chemical is nicotine. It is what makes addictive cigarette smokers keep coming back. One can infer that the chemical from social media is the ability to judge someone. So is social media really the new cigarette.

## The Fumble

### NFL Week 3 Edition: “The Rookie Showdown”

By Your Favorite Sports Analyzer  
Sebastian Merkatz

It's that time of year again, the NFL Frenzy is back with new players and new opportunities for your favorite teams.



### THE ROOKIE SHOWDOWN:

1. Baker Mayfield, Cleveland Browns: Baker Mayfield has shocked many of us with his outstanding performance in Week 3 after Browns Quarterback (QB), Tyrod Taylor came out with a concussion. Baker threw an outstanding 17 for 23 and has 201 yards. Baker also led 2 touchdown drives and led “The Dawg Pound” to their first victory in 635 days, which was on Christmas Eve 2016.
2. Saquon Barkley, NY Giants: Saquon has impressed us as of Week 3. So far he has 216 yards, averages 72 yards per game and scored 2 touchdowns for the giants. This brings hope to the Giants, as that these are already great statistics (stats). Also keep in mind these are only his stats for three weeks! All NFL fans should be asking themselves if he will live up to the hype.
3. Sam Darnold, NY Jets: In just 3 games Sam has already proved to us that he deserved to be the 3rd pick in the 2018 draft. He has 701 yards, averages 233.7 yards per game, and has had 3 touchdowns.

# ▼▼▼ JOKE & RIDDLE ANSWER PAGE BELOW ▼▼▼



1. I'm not your guinea pig!
2. It was clear case of criminal in tent!
3. Because it was a piece of cake.
4. A fsh.
5. An investigator.
6. You get what you deserve.
7. Every single person died but every couple survived.
8. Because the water froze.
9. The man wrote "your exact weight."