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Teens all for wise use of social website

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TWEENS and the little kiddies should have been allowed legally on Facebook from Day One, so say some teen Facebook friends of The Star's secondary school rag sheet stuff@school.

Below are some of their comments:

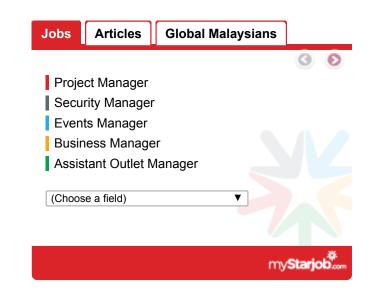
WELL, I think that Facebook should have allowed those under 13 in a long time ago! Much easier way to communicate! Instead of calling, they can now chat for

free! A lot of pros! But there are also the cons. Those below 13 might not understand the terms and conditions of Facebook! One cannot simply add anything they want! There are rules and regulations; Once they know what to do, then it's fine. Ashvin Tiwana

FACEBOOK should allow everyone regardless of age to use it. After all, now that the Facebook timeline is in use, Facebook can be used as a tool to record a person's lifetime history right from their day of birth! Of course, Facebook has to be used with caution especially (by) those who are still too young to understand the dangers of the Internet, especially children. I support the action but parental guidance for children is still necessary when it comes to matters of safety. Chow Qing

IT'S okay to allow under-13s to join Facebook. They can actually connect with their friends or family members easily without the use of phone or mail. But do take note that there will be setbacks when they join Facebook. Facebook does have addictive games for them to play and they could become addicted to it. Aside from that, there are plenty of unknown people that the under-13s might add as their friends just because they want to have more friends. This is where we must ensure that they have parental guidance as a safety measure. Tan Kar Can

I DON'T think age is ever a problem. I mean, in this era, children as young as seven years old, if they know how to type on the keyboard, they are smart enough to know Facebook. Nothing can stop them from creating an account. How? Just put a fake birth year and there, you get a Facebook account. So, no matter if they are allowed or banned from having an account, it's a fact that many under-13s already have a Facebook account. Darren Koh



WELL, technically there's no way of limiting those below 13 from having a Facebook account since they'll probably lie about their age when signing up any way. But considering the pros and cons of having a Facebook account, I personally don't think that all aged below 13 are mature enough to use Facebook. Though, in the modern era, the age of maturity for kids should not be underestimated. Conclusion: Allows kid under 13 if you think they're smart enough; banning them will cause them to find other alternatives and get used to lying (first date of birth, then what else?) Muhammad Farid Taqiuddin Zulkifly

AGE limits don't really exist. Who's to say that the assumed 15-year-old is actually an 11-year-old who faked his age? Banning younger children from a social website doesn't stop them from coming on. Yes, there are a lot of downsides to allowing younger children on, such as cyber-bullying or addiction, but not allowing under-13's to come onto Facebook is not going to hide them from the reality of it all. Natashya Khoo

MY younger brother is under 13 and he already has two Facebook accounts (the other one is just for playing games), so yeah, banning under-13s doesn't really work because they can just fake a birth date. But, seriously? Facebook at the age of 10 or 12? I was still playing Pokemon games and watching Yu-Gi-Oh! at that age. Personally, I think allowing these youngsters on Facebook could expose them to a lot of things that they shouldn't be exposed to, for example indecent pictures or graphics. It's just too much for them to take in, if you ask me. And they can easily be the victims of paedophiles who pretend to be teenagers on Facebook and play games with them just to be on their good side. Syaza Nazura

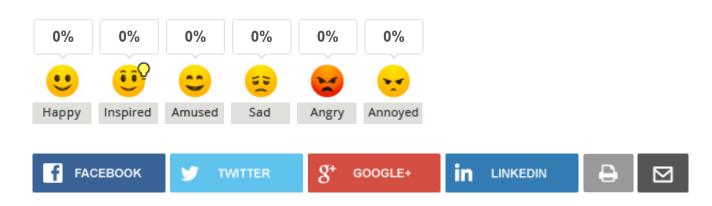
IT'S no use. People constantly lie about their age online. Personally, I think those

below 13 shouldn't have Facebook because, most probably, they'll get addicted since they don't know how to use it. I mean, adults get addicted too! I just feel that every person's childhood shouldn't be filled with social networks and online games. It should be about going out and playing with friends, enjoying what the world has to offer, not what the virtual world has to offer. Katherine Ong

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