

## **With Power Comes Responsibility and Respect**

IPhones, Androids, Galaxy X4, so much technology and so little time. What did I ever do to my parents that made them deny me the privilege of technology? I wasn't looking for the latest and greatest, just something to be able to talk with my friends. Is that so wrong?

Or is it?

The second we're out of school, that's the second the phones come out. Everybody texting and planning and playing games. But not me. I thought I was going to get a cell phone for the holidays last year. I showed a lot of respect and responsibility, but I guess it wasn't enough. My parents said that cell phones sometimes can lead to people saying things that are disrespectful just because they weren't saying it to their face. I thought they were being totally unreasonable. Cell phones are fun! Nothing bad could possibly come of it. That was when having a phone was the least bit of our problems, until now.

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There was a rumor going around the school that someone was talking bad about another person on Instagram. The particular person felt as if she were being humiliated by all of her classmates, and no one was there to help her overcome the things they said. That's when I realized that you have to have Respect and Responsibility in order to have a cell phone. Maybe I wasn't ready to have a phone. It seems like a lot of growing up needs to happen if people are saying disrespectful things on a website that everyone can see.

There is a level of maturity that needs to be recognized in order for kids like us to have a phone, and maybe we don't have it just yet. My parents kept it from me so I could realize the importance of communicating by actually speaking to a real person. Maybe I will thank them someday for protecting me from all of the drama kids get from phones, and in the end, I'm sure it will all be worth it. I hope.