In the case study “Brave New World” teachers are discussing how social media can be bad and dangerous, but a teacher brought up that it can bring good things to attention. There is a huge debate on whether or not social media should be used in the classroom, and this is my response.

**Brave New World**

***Sociology: How might social media both enhance and disrupt relationships inside and outside the classroom?***

Social media can play a complex role when creating relationships both in and outside of the classroom, it can offer deeper connections while also introducing new challenges. For example, in the classroom, we can see the rise of google classroom being used to enhance communication by allowing students and teachers to collaborate more effectively and share ideas. However, without proper safeguards to block distracting sites, like Instagram, Facebook or TikTok, students may prioritize browsing apps over engaging with the lesson. Outside the classroom, we can see a high rise of cyberbullying and concerns of cybersafety, which have all become increasingly prevalent with social media. In a way social media provides an easy way for individuals to bully without facing immediate consequences, thus contributing to a toxic online environment. If cyberbullying could be effectively addressed, social media platforms could be valuable for sharing information, news, and history, while providing learning opportunities. Social media can help maintain communication both inside and outside of the classroom, but when used irresponsibly, it can create conflict and misunderstandings.

***Implications for Practice: Given the increasing prevalence of social media in our lives and in our schools, how will you manage it in your classroom?***

With the growing influence of social media in our lives and school, it's important to consider how we can manage it effectively in the classroom. Social media can be both a great learning tool but also a potential distraction, so it's important to set clear boundaries and rules when using it in your classroom. Personally, I plan to embrace social media in my classroom as a way to demonstrate to students how it can be a valuable tool for learning, sharing and communicating. Many teachers have created Instagram accounts for their classes, where parents can stay updated on what students are doing. I love this idea, but I would prefer to create a classroom website or digital newspaper, where parents can be updated on upcoming events, showcasing projects, and sharing photos. Students would also be able to post on the site but with clear rules. Another way to manage social media in the classroom is to allow students the opportunity to use it. Finding the mixture of online and in-person sharing is crucial when creating a universal design classroom as some students may find it more suiting to participate in online discussion rather than in-person. As a teacher it's important to recognize that some students may feel more comfortable, or will exceed with online options (DI, UDL). By blending online and in-person interactions, I hope to create a classroom where all students feel comfortable doing work, while also proving that social media can enhance the learning experience.