

Unit 3 Topic 2.5 Page 65

Activity: Research

Jurors and the internet

Learning objective

At the end of this activity you should be able to:

- Identify the impact of the internet and social media on juries.

A. Using the article, answer questions 1 to 8 that follow.

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2011/jun/14/facebook-juror-defendant-contempt>

1. Why did the multi-million-pound drugs trial collapse?
2. What is this the first case of?
3. What did Joanna Fraill admit to doing and what sentence did she face?
4. Why had Fraill contacted the defendant, Jamie Sewart?
5. What did Sewart try to find out from Fraill?
6. What was the impact of the breach on Fraill?
7. What did the psychiatric report reveal about Fraill?
8. Why did one of the defendants in the original trial apply to have his conviction overturned?

B. Overall, how can the internet and social media affect trials and the decisions of juries?