



SEPTEMBER 2017

MEDIA LAW & ETHICS

**Instructions to candidates:**

- a) Time allowed: Three hours (plus an extra ten minutes' reading time at the start – do not write anything during this time)
  - b) Answer any FIVE questions
  - c) All questions carry equal marks. Marks for each question are shown in [ ]
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- 1. There is a clear and obvious sensitivity, in a court case, regarding the publication of information relating to children. Explain the powers and circumstances in which a court has the authority to restrict the publication of information in the media relating to children. [20]
  - 2. There is a wide range of circumstances that might give rise to an obligation of confidence on the part of an individual. Explain these circumstances. [20]
  - 3. The rapid growth of the Internet and social media poses a variety of challenges in respect of the offence of defamation. Review the challenges involved in extending the principles of defamation to the Internet. [20]
  - 4. Claims of breach of copyright are commonplace. If a court upholds a claim against a newspaper, review the potential punishments that it has available. [20]
  - 5. A number of potential offences can result in an allegation of racial hatred. Analyse these offences. [20]
  - 6. The media in many countries faces the challenge of overcoming reporting restrictions. Analyse the ways in which a newspaper can seek to overcome reporting restrictions. [20]
  - 7. Explain what **strict liability contempt** is and review the defences available. [20]
  - 8. Standards of obscenity and views as to the type and nature of material that is considered to be obscene varies around the world. This can present a challenge to journalists, and one that must be approached very carefully. However, a number of general principles have been established. Explain the circumstances that are likely to result in a publication being deemed to be obscene. [20]