Rules of Conduct for YaleWomen Social Media Sites
(Adopted 2/15/15)

YaleWomen is a global network of Yale women alums dedicated to advancing women's voices and perspectives while enriching and inspiring Yale women, Yale and our communities. We are dedicated to creating a respectful, open, and intellectually stimulating environment to advance women’s voices and perspectives while enriching and inspiring one another.

To that end, all dialogue on YaleWomen’s social media sites should comply with the following rules of conduct:

- Maintain an open mind when reading and assessing comments
  Be open to other’s views
  Start by assuming good faith on the part of other commenters
  Recognize we are a community of 50,000 with varying experiences and perspectives
- Gather facts and avoid jumping to conclusions
- Be courteous and civil, even when disagreeing with others, and even to those whose beliefs you think are false or objectionable; avoid language meant to demean individuals or their beliefs
- Do not engage in or advocate illegal activity
- Do not exploit or endanger others
- Do not compromise anyone’s privacy by using, revealing, transporting, or exporting members’ personal information or contact information
- Do not make unwanted off-site contact with individuals through their personal social media or email accounts to argue or harass
- Do not condone or provoke violence toward any individual or group
- Do not condone or advocate discrimination against any individual or group on the basis of age, disability, gender, ethnicity, race, nationality, religion, or sexual orientation
- Do not violate intellectual property rights
- Do not violate the privacy policies or terms of use of Facebook

The forum will be moderated to remove any content or activity that ignores or violates these rules of conduct or any content that harasses, abuses, threatens, or in any other way violates the rights of others, as well as content whose primary purpose is commercial, such as material that is chiefly aimed at selling a product or service, or soliciting funds, or other such practices—at the Group moderators’ discretion. We also reserve the right to remove posts containing any and all links or posts that are deemed to be off-topic. The foregoing prohibition on primary commercial activity is not meant to preclude members from informing or educating fellow members about their current projects or activities, or from providing relevant links to off-site material related to these projects and activities, where members’ sales pitches, fundraising requests, etc. would be appropriate. In addition, from time to time, YaleWomen may choose to host a dedicated social media site where such commercial activities would be expected and welcomed. In taking action to remove particular content from any YW social media site, moderators will often act as a group; however, particularly where time is of the essence, individual moderators have the power to act unilaterally. Although we may screen and remove content, YaleWomen and the Group moderators are not responsible for the content posted by others on this forum.

In certain circumstances, the moderators, after consultation with the officers of YaleWomen, may find it necessary to suspend or terminate an individual’s access to the site. Prior to acting to suspend or terminate an individual, the moderators will typically issue a warning to the individual, or alternately,
post a general caution to all those commenting on a thread, that the discussion is being conducted in a manner that violates the rules of conduct. However, an individual who has engaged in particularly egregious behavior may be suspended or terminated without prior warning. Additionally, an individual who has previously been warned is at risk for suspension or termination and, depending on the severity of the violation, may or may not receive a follow-up warning. Acting to suspend or terminate a member’s access to one or all of YaleWomen’s social media sites is an internal administrative matter and except in special circumstances, information regarding such actions will not be shared with other site users.

An individual who has been suspended or terminated will be notified of the action by the moderators and provided with a basic explanation for the action as well as, if suspended, the length of suspension. Although there is no formal appeals process, an individual who believes the action has been taken in error, may write to the moderators at info@yalewomen.org and provide further information she believes to be relevant to the decision.

Complaints: If there are problems, we want to know about them. All reports of problems or violations of the rules of conduct, as well as any comments or complaints about the implementation of this policy should be sent to info@yalewomen.org. Do not post complaints publicly; they will be removed and addressed privately by the Group moderators.