## **Chapter 2 Writing Assignment**

Complete the questions to review your critical understanding of the concepts presented in the chapter.

### Know the Facts:

Define the **Institutional Review Board (IRB)** and **informed consent**. In the example of the chapter’s opener, why didn’t Facebook use an IRB or informed consent when it conducted a social experiment on its users?

### Understand the Concepts:

What are some of the unethical factors associated with Facebook’s manipulation of News Feeds?

### Apply What You Know:

Becca Alice is an undergraduate student who wants to conduct a research project on hazing within fraternities. Her boyfriend, a fraternity member, agrees to provide her with inside information and blurred photos as long as she keeps the fraternity's name anonymous.

What ethical issues are involved? Predict how an IRB committee will respond.

### Analyze It:

Research conducted at higher education institutions and all federally funded grants must meet strict guidelines to protect the rights and welfare of all human participants. An IRB reviews every research proposal to ensure people are not physically, psychologically, socially, or economically at risk. Facebook and other corporations do not abide by these guidelines when conducting market research or devising social experiments such as manipulating users’ news feeds.

Can you think of examples of how corporations have or could harm individuals physically, psychologically, socially, or economically when conducting research? Provide an example in your response.