

#OJENTMVAX

OJEN's March 2021 Twitter Moot

Teacher's Guide

About the OJEN Twitter Moot

The OJEN Twitter Moot is an online debate. Students from across Ontario participate in the discussion by tweeting their opinions either individually or in teams/classes. The [OJEN committee in Hamilton](#) came up with this fun and engaging justice education initiative for Hamilton-area schools. This fall, for the first time, OJEN will run the program for high school students throughout Ontario.

The Twitter Moot offers students a fun opportunity to learn about an important and contentious legal issue. This year, the OJEN Twitter Moot will take place during Ontario's Access to Justice Week. On **March 10th, from 9 am to 5 pm**, Ontario students will debate:

Does a law requiring mandatory vaccinations violate the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms?*

How do students participate?

Students need a twitter account to participate and a supervising teacher who registers them. OJEN will publish the Twitter Moot resources on its website on **February 16th**. Online registration opens on the same day. Teachers register for this program anytime between February 12th and March 5th. By **Monday, March 8th**, they must provide a list of twitter handles that their students plan to use on the day of the Twitter Moot: Wednesday, March 10th.

Students can create an individual twitter account, a team account or a class account. OJEN will only retweet and recognize twitter handles which are provided to us by a teacher. We encourage teachers to use the Twitter Moot as an in-class activity, but students can participate in the event as an extra-curricular activity, if they have a supervising teacher who registers them.

On **March 10th, 2020 from 9 am to 5 pm**, students post their thoughts and comments on twitter using the hashtag **#OJENTMVAX** and mentioning **@OJEN_ROEJ**. Teachers can stream the debate in class by using a Smartboard/projector, or students can monitor and participate in the debate by checking out the **#OJENTMVAX** hashtag throughout the day. The hashtag allows everyone to see tweets from other students and teams and encourages a province-wide discussion.

On **March 12th**, OJEN will select two winners, one based on the most persuasive tweet and the other based on overall contribution.

Important Twitter Moot Dates	
February 16 th	Twitter Moot resources are published on the OJEN website Registration opens
March 5 th	Registration closes
March 8 th	Deadline to submit Twitter handles of participating students to kpagnutti@ojen.ca
March 10 th	Twitter Moot takes place from 9 am - 5 pm
March 12 th	OJEN announces winners of the Twitter Moot

Twitter Moot resources

- In addition to this Teacher's Guide, OJEN has a **Twitter Basics** handout that walks participants through setting up a new Twitter account.
- We have a **brief backgrounder on mandatory vaccination law** that will help students form their opinions on the Twitter Moot topic.
- OJEN's also has a longer teaching resource on **section 1 of the Charter and the Oakes test** before or after the Twitter Moot.

- You may also wish to participate in OJEN's Spring 2021 [Charter Challenge](#), which will explore the constitutionality of compulsory vaccination in even greater depth.

Ground rules for participating in the Twitter Moot

- Use the hashtag #OJENTMVAX and mention @OJEN_ROEJ to include a tweet in the moot. We will not consider any tweets that do not include this information.
- Students can participate on their own or as part of a team/class.
- All students or teams must create a Twitter account and provide their handle to their teacher.
- Individual students or teams must be "registered" with their teacher in order to participate.
- OJEN will only retweet from twitter handles that we recognize as Twitter Moot participants.
- Twitter accounts must be set to open, not "protected", or we won't be able to view the tweets.
- At any time between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., tweet away!

Sample tweet

Mandatory vaccination violates the right to security of the person because it undermines bodily integrity #OJENTMVAX @OJEN_ROEJ

#OJENTMVAX identifies that this tweet is part of the Twitter Moot

Mentioning @OJEN_ROEJ allows OJEN staff to retweet and profile good arguments

Some tips to consider

- You may want students to do their own research on the use of peremptory challenges in criminal jury trials.
- On October 28th, consider hosting a live feed to display the ongoing moot tweets – using a Smartboard, or computer and projector

- Teachers can stream either [OJEN's twitter account](#) or the [Twitter Moot hashtag](#). No Twitter account is required to do this, but teachers may want to create their accounts to participate themselves.
- Watch the #OJENTMVAX hashtag stream to respond to as many tweet submissions as possible!
- Encourage students to answer the question themselves and to interact with others' tweets through replies, re-tweets, and favourites.
- Explain to students that when awarding prizes, we are looking for tweets and activity that demonstrate outstanding insight, reflection, creativity, and use of examples.

Misuse of the Twitter Moot platform

The Twitter Moot is intended to be a fun, engaging debate of important legal issues. Cyberbullying or misuse of this forum in any way will not be tolerated. If we notice malicious activity coming from any of the registered student accounts, we will report this activity to the teacher responsible for that student.

Announcing the winners

We will be monitoring the tweets and keeping track of the best submissions. By Friday, March 12th, OJEN will announce via Twitter the winners of the most persuasive tweet and most engaged tweeter awards. We will also contact the teachers of these winning students via email. The prizes will depend on whether the winners are individual students or a whole class.

Thank you for your participation. We wish everyone good luck!