

Overview

What groups do teens belong to at school? Out of school?
What social networking sites (SNS) do they use?
And how do SNS connect these teens, their groups, and their school?

Method

Participants: 24 10th grade + 24 12th grade students

Data collection: Worksheets completed during a 3-day lesson on social networks

Data analysis: Focused on classifying teen networks and SNS use, identifying points of context collapse

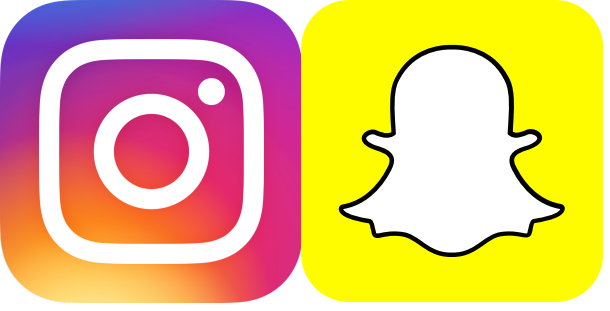
Key Findings

If they had a Facebook, Instagram, or Snapchat account, 12 grade students were more likely than 10th grade students to connect with family. Neither connects with school adults (unless those adults are also family or neighbors). Sport, religious, friend, and informal social groups were most common in both grades. Facebook was used to connect religious groups. Instagram and Snapchat connected friend and social groups. GroupMe connected sports and official school groups (mostly 12th). 12th grade students had larger networks on SNS. Twitter and Snapchat connections appear to be driven by individual relationships more than groups. Pinterest and YouTube are used outside of networks. Students in 10th grade are more likely to evade adults and avoid social media connections if possible. Students in 12th grade are more likely to self-censor to avoid uncomfortable situations.

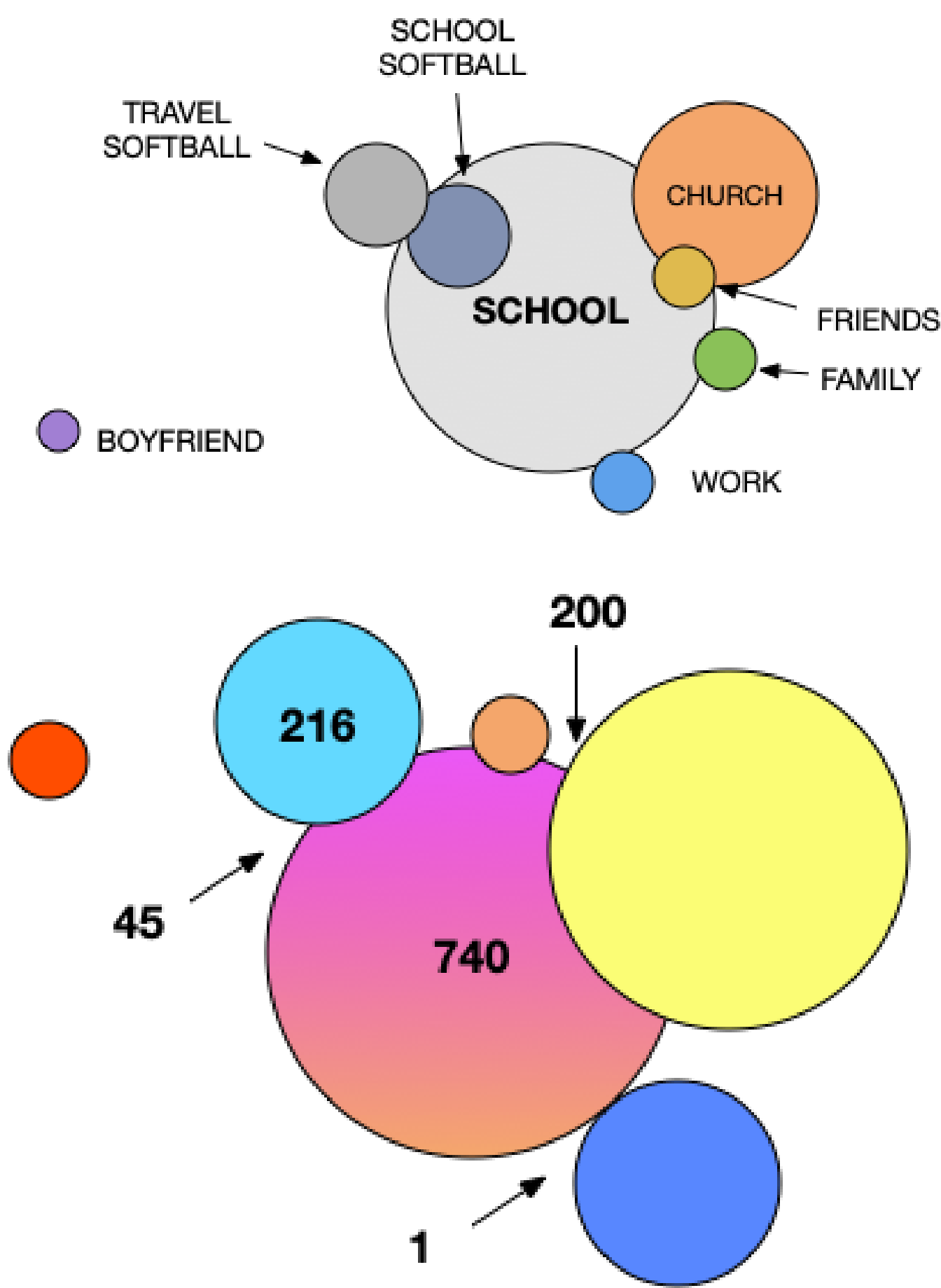
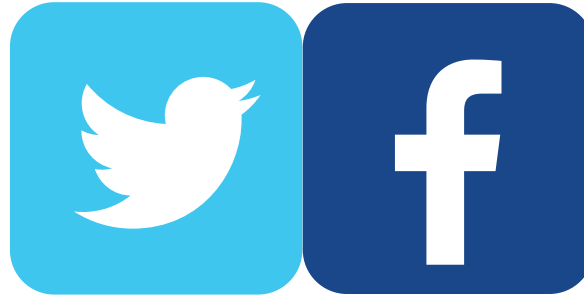
VANESSA P. DENNEN
STACEY A. RUTLEDGE
LAUREN M. BAGDY
VANESSA ODURO
BRANDELL THEARD
SOPHIE RHOADS

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

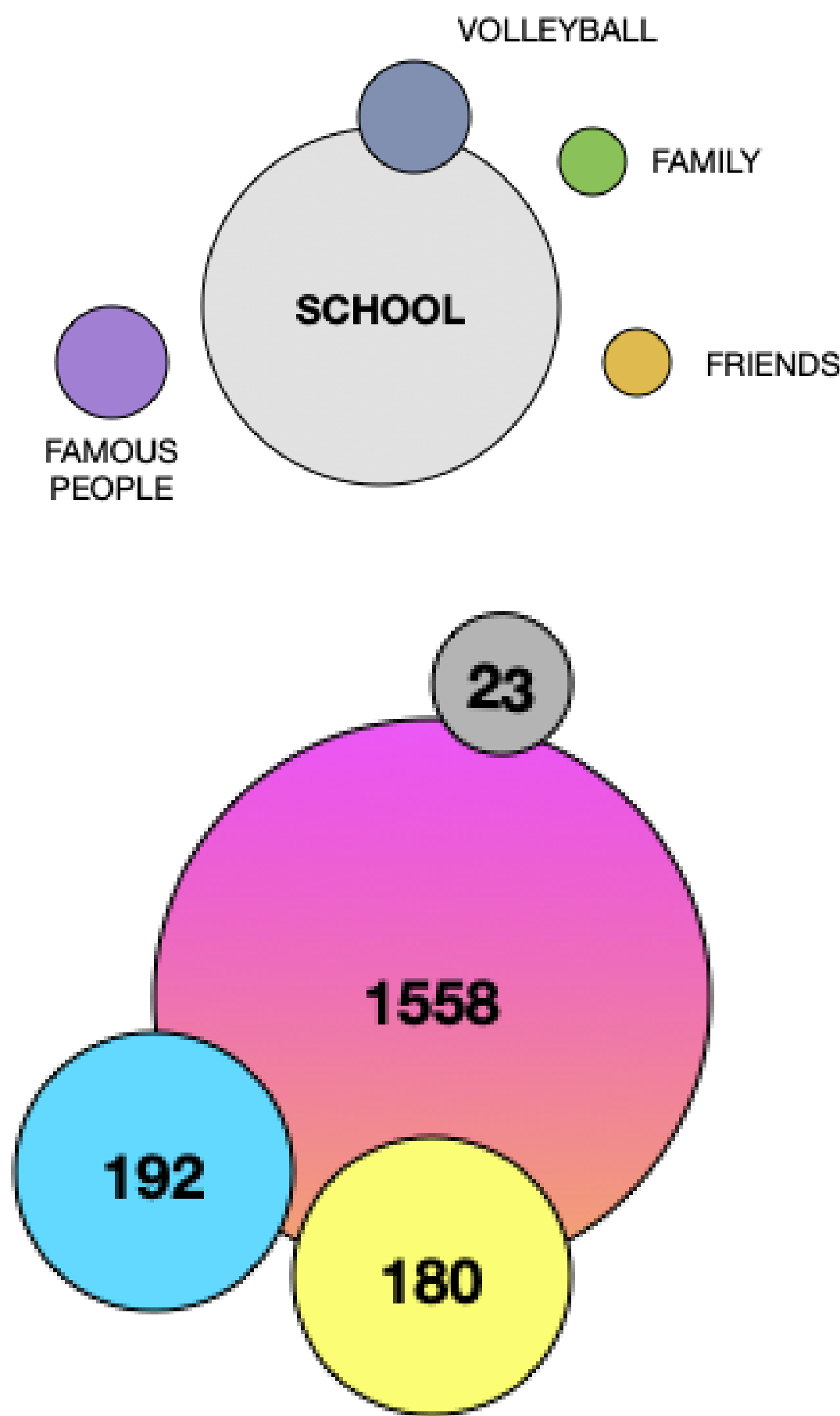
Teens,
Social
Media, and
Belonging
at School



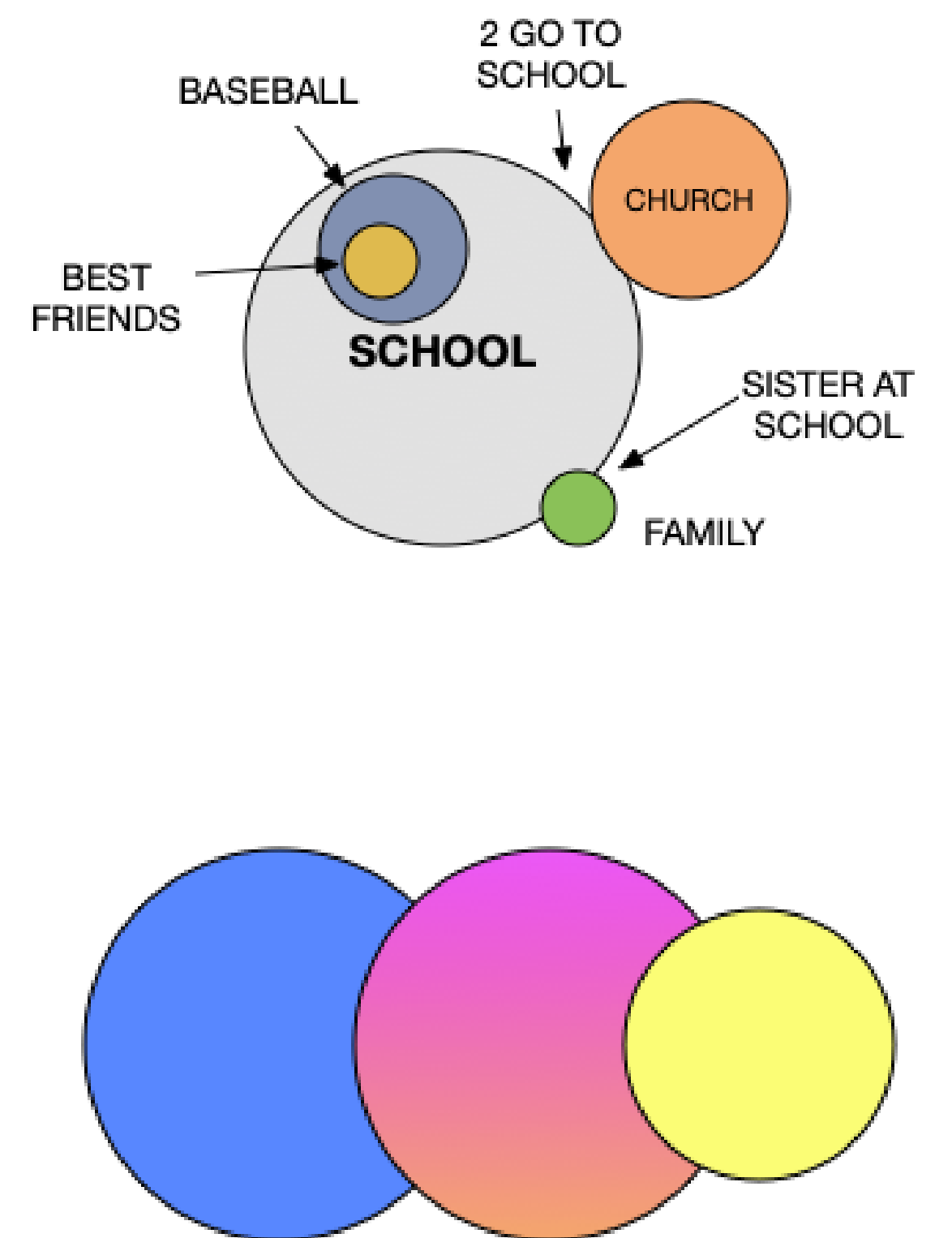
Sample Student Networks



This 10th grade student is "obsessed" with social media. It helps her keep up with people who she doesn't see. On Instagram, she documents her daily activities. On Twitter, she posts memes. If her parents are connected, she watches what she posts.



This 10th grade student keeps school and social media separate. She uses Twitter to express herself, and Instagram and Snapchat to communicate with friends. She likes funny things on Tumblr and follows famous people. Social media helps her feel about 30% connected to people she doesn't often see.



This 10th grade student claims to "live on my phone." He has few good friends at school, but baseball is important to him. He connects to family (mom monitors!), but not teachers. He uses Facebook to connect to his church network, and Instagram and Snapchat for his baseball network.

NOTE: Top diagrams represent the groups the student belongs to and their proximity to the school context, as depicted by the student. Bottom diagrams represent the student's networks on popular SNS in terms of size and overlap, as depicted by the student. Numbers represent size and colors indicate the SNS.

#10thGrade

QUOTE BOARD

#12thGrade

BLOCK THE PARENTS

they followed me so I followed back

I stalk people

I use it for 3 or more hours per day especially at night

Having family that also uses the same social media is frightening

DRAMA

stay connected!

I am myself on social media. I am the same.

a lot of attractive girls comment on my photos

My mom follows me. She knows what I do.