This is an analysis of a 13.5 minute video vignette in which Stacy Friedman, Sylvia Kind, and Roger Dane "discuss the ways in which teaching art provides a tool to explore and analyze questions of identity, culture and representation." Remove or move down a few lines??

The video vignette, produced by Stacy Friedman, (a Methods in Elementary Art Education) I think I would omit this and just say "an" instructor at the University of British Columbia, "discusses the ways in which teaching art provides a tool to explore and analyze questions of identity, culture and representation.". In her accompanying paper, Friedman discusses her many thoughts and emotions that developed as she was producing the video and how she "rapidly became aware that the person who [was] doing the most growing, and who had the greatest need and room for conceptual and practical growth, was [herself]'" (2004). I think it would sound better to change this as it sounds a little confusing with the first person in there She also describes her emerging awareness of the incredible power that is afforded by the very selective, and not always objective editing process, as well as the "authoritative nature of video," and the "concealed bias [that is] inherent in video."

This awareness can be utilized by an aware educator to engage his/her students as producers of multimedia content, as is similarly advocated by Goldfarb in *Video Pedagogy: Media Cultures in and Beyond the Classroom*. In fact, according to Goldfarb's descriptions of some of the projects that have been undertaken by the Education Video Center in New York, it is

clear that even something as simple as "remaking" a familiar media text, where students substitute the original words with their own, can spark an awareness of the relationship between images, sounds, and text, thereby giving students a new and "different perspective from which to understand how meaning is produced" (Goldfarb p. 73).

This capability is extremely powerful and as soon as learners begin to realize the potential that it has to empower them personally, their interest level quickly accelerates. Does a level accelerate or increase? Maybe just semantics! During this process, it is vital that educators provide learners with guidance on the importance of maintaining balance, accuracy, and objectivity in their work. (Of course, if the purpose of the video is to persuade, the student needs to understand the importance of at least presenting the appearance of balance and objectivity.) I understand what you mean here, but not sure it is necessary to put this in! Otherwise, whatever message the student is trying to convey will lose plausibility, thus negating all of his/her new-found empowerment. Another responsibility for educators would be to prepare students for peer collaboration by instilling in them the idea that creating video is like creating art—and that it should never be regarded as too precious to revise or improve. Without such preparation, some learners may become frustrated and reject peer feedback that could have actually helped them improve their message.

In addition to Friedman's perspective as instructor and video producer, the other participants in her video also share some personal insights on their work. Sylvia Kind describes how her art represents stories, both known and unknown, which define and express identity. She also explains that she sees identity as something that is negotiated and constructed between people, rather than just existing as a self-contained or "inherent" entity. Sylvia's art includes elements of (both) remove, as you have 3 things listed! herself, her loved ones, and her

classroom community. It is about both what "is" and what "will be". She envisions a class full of story dresses and a thousand teachable moment seeds, and much of her work is intended to express the fact that people who are labeled as "disabled" should be regarded more as "different"— rather than "disabled" or "distorted."

Roger Dane explains how he and his classmates were able to "put [themselves] again the switch to first person is confusing in another person's shoes" by creating puppet characters that were based on an ancestor's (or foreigner's) value system. By doing so, they could experience and express another person's perspectives on difficult issues. The puppets represented opinions that are unacceptable today and, by doing so, made it possible for students to critically examine those opinions, try to determine their origin, and perhaps learn something valuable about themselves.

In general, all the participants in the vignette seem to agree that technology and art— which are both tangible and visible entities—provide us with representations of some of life's key intangible and invisible entities: our personal identities, other people's identities, the tension between these identities, and our culture(s). By representing, or giving voice to, the invisible intangibles, art and technology provide educators with essential tools for creating "knowledge-building communities."

Note to Jennifer: This thing is about 700 words and Alex said it should be 500. My original version was only about 500, but I hadn't yet addressed the question about the artists' approaches and dilemmas, so I inserted paragraphs 5 & 6. I don't think they are as important as the other paragraphs. I wonder how strict Alex is about word counts?

Anyway, thank you for any comments or suggestions!

Alex, I really like the analysis you have done. It has a good flow to it and touches on all the important ideas. I like the addition of paragraphs 5 and 6 as they do add that discussion on the other artists. I hope that Alex is not too strict on word counts!

I would suggest removing the first paragraph completely as it takes up words and really does not serve any great purpose. From your title page, one would know what you are about to discuss.

I added a few commas here and there instead of the parentheses you had. I find that parentheses are more of an aside note whereas the points you had were important. I hope you find my suggestions useful! This is an awkward process with which I have had NO experience! Another learning experience I guess!