***Katz v. United States* Reflection Handout**

Directions: read the *Katz v. United States* case. Then on a separate sheet of paper write your answers to the following questions:

1. What do you think of the Court’s decision?
2. Do you agree that someone who makes a telephone call to another person on a public (or a private phone) has a reasonable expectation that the content of the call would remain private?
3. What if someone had been lurking outside listening?
4. What if Katz had been yelling into the phone? The court’s decision is based on the fact that the police did not get a warrant.
5. Why should they get a warrant to listen into the phone when they know the person is breaking the law?
6. Why should the police have to ask a judge for a warrant when they had probable cause?
7. There have been recent articles about warrantless wiretapping in the name of national security. It is thought that certain government organizations have been listening to some conversations of suspected terrorists in America. Do you think the Katz case would be decided differently in today’s era with today’s concern about terrorism?
8. What if Katz was using a cell phone?
9. When you speak into your cell phone, do you expect it to be private?
10. What if you are on a crowded bus?
11. What if you are in the hallway in school?
12. What if you are in a field in the middle of a prairie?
13. What if you are in a field in the middle of a prairie but someone has planted a listening device next to you?
14. Does the person’s expectation change, or is it society’s expectation that controls?