Create a Concept Map for Your Research Question

The concept map will help you brainstorm your research question and identify concepts and keywords to use when you search for information. You may already know something about your research topic – use the keywords that come to mind. You may be adding more keywords as you read more about the subject of your research. The following online library resources will help you to get background information on many topics and find synonyms and related keywords:

- CREDO reference - reference materials in various formats.
- CQ Researcher
- Merriam-Webster Online – dictionary and thesaurus
- Opposing Viewpoints in Context

1. Write or type in your research question and circle the keyword or keyword phrases.

   Are online social networks eroding privacy?

2. Write or type in keywords essential to your question. Think of synonyms and alternative keywords. Add boxes if needed.

   Keyword I and alternative keywords:
   - social networks
   - social networking
   - social media
   - Facebook
   - Twitter

   Keyword II and alternative keywords:
   - privacy
   - personal space
   - personal information

   Keyword III and alternative keywords:
   - erode
   - interfere
   - violate
   - breach