2023 NATIONAL HAZING PREVENTION WEEK CONVERSATION STARTER

FACILITATOR KEY

Questions to ask and points to make verbatim.

- Notes and instructions for facilitators

CHAPTER DISCUSSION

A common misconception about hazing is that it can help bring people together as a result of a shared experience. Despite there being a mountain of evidence to the contrary, this misconception is often cited as an excuse by both perpetrators and victims of hazing. Perpetrators argue that hazing is needed so that new members can earn their respect and a place in the organization. But they don't recognize that the more common outcome is that they isolate their victims and lose their respect. Victims may think that hazing will create solidarity among their new member class, but that solidarity comes with divisions between new member classes and a hierarchy that damages and limits the group's ability to build trustworthy, authentic relationships.

We all have a duty to report hazing when it occurs, but we can also do more to prevent it from happening. This can start with a conversation about what hazing is and what its negative consequences are. According to StopHazing.org, hazing is any activity expected of someone joining or participating in a group that humiliates, degrades, abuses or endangers them, regardless of a person's willingness to participate. The Hazing Prevention Network provides a list of consequences for both victims and perpetrators of hazing. What is notable is that the list illustrates that the desired outcomes, which are often cited as a benefit of hazing, do not occur and the opposite outcome is more likely. Hazing erodes the foundation of our organizations, preventing us from building strong brotherhoods, sisterhoods and communities and, ultimately, our sense of belonging.

What are your initial thoughts on the poster?

How can we build strong communities/brotherhood/sisterhood without hazing?

- Sub-rituals
- Brotherhood/sisterhood events
- Community service
- Etc.

How can we report hazing on our campus?

- Anti-Hazing Hotline: 888-NOT-Haze (888-668-4293)
- Hazing Prevention Network's Online Form: https://hazingpreventionnetwork.org/report-hazing-anonymously/

How can we report hazing within our organization?

- Pi Kappa Phi
- Zeta Tau Alpha
- Sigma Nu
- Alpha Chi Omega

What is our organization's definition of hazing?

- Pi Kappa Phi
- Zeta Tau Alpha
- Sigma Nu
- Alpha Chi Omega

What is our university's definition of hazing?

What are the hazing laws in our state?

- State Hazing Laws

How do they differ from one another? How are they similar?

Ultimately, any steps toward reduced harm and risks are steps in the right direction.

Finally, remember: Your headquarters staff is here to help. If you have concerns about specific practices that you are unsure about, we are happy to help you either improve it, find alternatives or clarify policy. There are also other resources provided below that can help if you are a witness to another organization's hazing practices.

HAZING ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

GREEK ANTI-HAZING HOTLINE
888-NOT-HAZE | http://fraternallaw.com/contact/anti-hazing-hotline/

The Greek Anti-Hazing Hotline, established in 2007 by a consortium of national fraternities and sororities. The Hotline provides an anonymous telephone line for anyone to report a suspected or recent hazing incident to one number 1-888-NOT-HAZE (1-888-668-4293) that accepts calls 24 hours a day. The Hotline connects to a dedicated voice mailbox at Manley Burke, LPA. The calls are automatically saved as audio files that are then transmitted by e-mail to the headquarters of the fraternity or sorority named in the report. This is true whether or not the reports are about one of the sponsors or another organization. In some instances, reports are about athletic teams, bands or clubs. When those calls are received, the institution where the organization is located is contacted.

REFERENCES

Hazing Prevention Network. (2023, January). Hazing Facts. https://hazingpreventionnetwork.org/hazing-facts/

Hazing Prevention Network. (2023, January). State Hazing Laws. https://hazingpreventionnetwork.org/state-hazing-laws/

StopHazing Research Lab. (2020, December). *Hazing: The Issue*, StopHazing Consulting. https://www.stophazing.org/issue