



ANTI- HAZING

Hazing is against the law, against Union's community values, and inconsistent with biblical guidelines.

HAZING DAMAGES SELF-RESPECT, SELF-ESTEEM, AND INTEGRITY.

HAZING CREATES EMBARRASSING SITUATIONS AND CAUSES EMOTIONAL STRAIN.

HAZING POSES A RISK OF BODILY INJURY OR DEATH.

Hazing Education

MYTH

Hazing is only a problem for fraternities or sororities.

Hazing is no more than foolish pranks that sometimes go awry.

As long as there is no malicious intent, a little hazing should be allowed.

Hazing is an effective way to teach respect and develop discipline.

If someone agrees to participate in an activity, it cannot be considered hazing.

With so many gray areas, it is difficult to determine whether or not a certain activity is hazing.

REALITY

Fact: Hazing is a societal problem. Hazing incidents have been frequently documented in the military, athletic teams, marching bands, religious cults, professional schools, and other types of clubs and/or organizations.

Fact: Hazing is an act of power and control over others. It is victimization. Hazing is premeditated and NOT accidental. Hazing is abusive, degrading, and often life-threatening.

Fact: Even if there is no malicious intent, safety may still be a factor in traditional hazing activities that are considered to be "all in good fun." For example, serious accidents have occurred during scavenger hunts and kidnapping trips. Besides, what purpose do such activities serve in promoting the growth and development of group team members?

Fact: First of all, respect must be EARNED - not taught. Victims of hazing rarely report having respect for those who hazed them. Just like other forms of victimization, hazing breeds mistrust, apathy, and alienation.

Fact: In states that have laws against hazing, consent of the victim cannot be used as a defense in a civil suit. This is because even if someone agrees to participate in a potentially hazardous action it may not be true consent when considering the peer pressure and desire to belong to the group.

Fact: It is not difficult to decide if an activity is hazing, if you use common sense and ask yourself the following questions:

- Does this activity add to the worth and growth of the individual?
- Would you be willing to invite your faculty/staff advisor or coach to the activity?
- Would you be willing to invite any university faculty member or administrator to this activity?
- Would you be prepared to go to court to defend the merit of this activity?
- Would you participate equally in the activity?
- Can this activity be written into your new member manual and shared with other chapters, leadership consultants, and university administrators?

If you answered "no" to any of these questions, the activity could be considered hazing, and you should reconsider it.

What is Hazing?

Hazing is a broad term encompassing any action or activity which does not contribute to the positive development of a person, which inflicts or intends to cause physical or mental harm, or anxieties or sleep deprivation, which may demean, degrade, or disgrace any person, regardless of location, intent, or consent of participants. Hazing can also be defined as any action or situation which intentionally or unintentionally endangers a student seeking admission or affiliation with any student organization.

Hazing is against the Union University Values Statement which upholds the worth of each individual student. Personal abuse is defined by the university as “any behavior that results in harassment, coercion, threat, disrespect and/or intimidation of another person.” This action may include action or statements that cause damage or threaten the personal and/or psychological well-being of a person. Inappropriate narrative on a personal blog (e.g. Facebook or Twitter) may be considered personal abuse.

“Hazing has no place at Union. As we take seriously our core values of being excellence-driven, Christ-centered, people-focused, and future-directed, we understand that hazing is antithetical to those values. Instead, let’s be a community that prioritizes the integration of new members into our student organizations, teams, activities, and larger community as a way to help them flourish.”

Dr. Samuel W. “Dub” Oliver
President of Union University



“ Union University values the intrinsic worth of every individual; this value is derived from our belief that we are all created and loved by God. Because of who God is and who we are in relationship to and with Him, we are called to treat one another with love and respect. Hazing in any form damages relationships and is contrary to our call to love and care for one another. Furthermore, hazing in any form is in direct opposition to the University’s community values. ”

Dr. Bryan Carrier

*Vice President for Student Life
and Dean of Students*

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HAZING,
POSSIBLE PENALTIES FOR HAZING, AND
HAZING ALTERNATIVES,
PLEASE CONTACT:

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