



# Know the signs. Know you have a voice.

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The 2018 National Hazing Study by Dr. Elizabeth Allan and Dr. Mary Madden found 55% of students participating in clubs, organizations, and sports teams experience some form of hazing. However, only 5% of students actually recognize they have been hazed.

Additionally, the same study found students more often perceive the positive outcomes of hazing than they perceive the negative. This can be especially true when certain types of hazing behaviors are not recognized as hazing such as sleep deprivation, personal servitude, or restricted communication. Whether the behaviors are subtle, harassing, or violent, they are all considered hazing. Knowing the signs can help create an environment where all members take ownership and responsibility to prevent hazing within their chapters and organizations. Know the signs. Know you have a voice.

- **What is surprising about the information in these studies?**
- **What did you find most relatable to you personally and why?**

## Recognizing Hazing

- **What are some examples of subtle hazing? Harassing hazing? Violent hazing?**
  - Subtle hazing examples: social isolation, name calling, expecting certain items to be in one's possession at all times.
  - Harassing hazing examples: verbal abuse, humiliating acts, sleep deprivation, personal servitude.
  - Violent hazing examples: forced or coerced alcohol or other drug consumption, assault, illegal activities.

Sigma Nu Fraternity defines hazing as:

*... any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips, lineups or any other such activities carried on outside or inside the confines of the chapter house; wearing, publicly, apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; late work sessions which interfere with scholastic activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution.*

*The willingness of any individual to participate in any hazing activity does not excuse any hazing violation.*

- **What is the importance of the last line of the definition – *the willingness of any individual to participate in any hazing activity does not excuse any hazing violation*?**
  - Mention below if not already stated:
    - Voluntary participation in hazing does not make it acceptable
    - Engaging in hazing is wrong, regardless of the participants' willingness

- 84% of Sigma Nu members recognized that a person's willingness to participate does not negate an activity from being hazing (EverFi, 2017)
- **Why does hazing go against what Sigma Nu stands for?**
  - Mention below if not already stated:
    - There is no love or honor in mistreating someone
    - Founded against hazing
    - Hazing tears apart brotherhood
    - Fraternity membership is about building someone up, not tearing them down
- **What can our chapter do to support hazing prevention in our community (e.g. support National Hazing Prevention Week activities)?**
- **What can you, individually, do to make new member education a fun, yet safe, experience?**

## **Resources**

**HAZING PREVENTION.ORG**

[HTTP://HAZINGPREVENTION.ORG/](http://hazingprevention.org/)

**ANTI-HAZING HOTLINE (888-NOT-HAZE)**

[HTTP://FRATERNALLAW.COM/CONTACT/ANTI-HAZING-HOTLINE/](http://fraternallaw.com/contact/anti-hazing-hotline/)

**SIGMA NU ANTI-HAZING INITIATIVE**

[HTTPS://WWW.SIGMANU.ORG/COLLEGIATE-MEMBERS/ANTI-HAZING-INITIATIVE](https://www.sigmanu.org/collegiate-members/anti-hazing-initiative)

## **References**

Allan, E., & Madden, M. (2008). Hazing in view: College students at risk. Initial findings from the National Study of Student Hazing. Retrieved from <http://www.hazingstudy.org>.

EverFi (2017). GreekLifeEdu Survey One (n=3,364).