

EXAMPLES OF HAZING

Depending on the circumstances, these activities have been construed as hazing by the courts, inter/national organizations and/or institutions of higher education. Such actions are **required** or **implied** as conditions for inclusion in or exclusion from the group. They may be perpetuated by an individual or a group.

Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of what could/would be considered hazing. It is simply to be used to demonstrate examples.

Physical

- Requiring sit-ups, push-ups, runs or any form of physical exercise
- Any action which could be perceived as inflicting physical abuse/harm to an individual (e.g. paddling, application of foreign substances, burning, blowing smoke in eyes, induced vomiting, denial of food or water, etc.)
- Forcing, requiring or endorsing consumption of alcoholic beverages or any other drug.
- Requiring the ingestion of any substance (e.g. water, spoiled food, noxious fluids, etc.)
- Requiring members to be tattooed or branded.

Mental

- Verbal harassment including yelling or screaming at potential members, including line-ups.
- Psychological harassment or intimidation in any form.
- Deception and/or threats contrived to convince the new member he or she won't be able to join the organization.
- Threats to life and limb for attempting to report hazing or any crime or for consideration being given to depledging.

Humiliation/De-Humanization

- Requiring the carrying of any item (e.g. rocks, shields, musical instruments, etc.)
- Requiring any type of personal servitude (e.g. running errands, cleaning apartments/houses, doing laundry, etc.)
- Morally degrading and humiliating activities (e.g. requiring members to wade in the lake/river, to count bricks, act like animals, scrub floors with toothbrushes, to be nude, etc.)
- Individual interrogations not consistent with legitimate testing for information (e.g. line ups).
- Requiring the wearing of apparel that is conspicuous and/or not normally considered in good taste.
- Requiring the wearing of clothing or jewelry of any type that separate the new members from the general membership. (Note: The wearing of uniforms, gear or membership badges by new members only is prohibited. New members may

wear these items as long as all members of the organization are also wearing them simultaneously.)

- Requiring members to walk, run, mark, etc. in formation or in line.
- Requiring members to greet others with specific greetings, chants, riddles, songs or rhymes.
- Expecting participation in any activity in which the full membership does not participate.
- Requiring members to enter the house or building through a side door or entrance not normally used to enter.
- Requiring new members to recite phrases or greetings or yell when entering or leaving a house or building.
- Work parties without the participation of the full organizational membership.
- Withholding basic human rights from members (e.g. ability to speak/communicate normally, drive, sleep, use a cell phone, study, bathe, choose what to eat/drink, etc.)

High Risk Activities

- Scavenger hunts, treasure hunts, road trips or any other such activities when not done for information gathering purposes consistent with educational purposes of the organization. Kidnaps and ditches are specifically prohibited.
- Assigning or endorsing pranks such as borrowing or stealing items, painting property and objects, composite raised or harassing other individuals or groups.
- Endangerment. (Any activity where there is the potential for danger , e.g. tying legs together, blindfolding when not done for legitimate fraternity rituals, exchange of bodily fluids, exposure to the environment, drinking excessive amounts of fluids, etc.)

This list by no means covers all activities and actions that can be and are considered to be hazing. Should you have questions whether a specific action is hazing or desire clarification of any of these items, please contact the Office of Student Conduct, 564-3282.

From the SUNY Plattsburgh publication, "Hazing: A Trust Betrayed"