

"If you want to move people, it has to be toward a vision that is positive for them, that taps important values, that gets them something they desire, and it has to be presented in a compelling way that they feel inspired to follow."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"I Have a Dream"

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Morehouse College, '48

What does the University do to educate students about hazing?

SJSU offers a number of opportunities to all students in an effort to raise the level of awareness regarding hazing. These include guest speakers such as Lawrence Ross, author of *The Divine Nine: The History of African American Fraternities and Sororities*, as well as hazing workshops, and various other seminars. Copies of the University hazing policy are available online at http://www.sjsu.edu/getinvolved/soal/student_orgs/acquiring/SJSU_Student_Org_Code_of_Conduct.pdf or in the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. For fraternity and sorority chapters, there is an expectation that new member education programs will include discussions on topics such as hazing and alcohol abuse.

How are students informed of the hazing policy?

SJSU has adopted a hazing policy that is contained in the Student Organization Code of Conduct, which is available at the aforementioned web address. Every student is responsible for reading and understanding the contents of the entire Code.

Do I have any power to stop hazing?

Regardless of your connection with athletics fraternities and sororities, or other student organizations, you can help stop hazing. Becoming more aware of what constitutes hazing, and informing students of the risks and dangers of hazing are steps that will help eradicate hazing. All members of the University community share the responsibility to challenge and make known to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development acts of apparent hazing. Apathy in the presence of hazing, or acquiescence to being hazed, are not neutral acts. Individuals who participate in acts of hazing as perpetrators or victims are personally accountable under this policy, and the Codes of Conduct. If you are a new member (pledge) or an active member, simply refuse to participate in hazing activities.

What do I do if I'm being hazed?

- Refuse to participate in the activity
- Leave if necessary
- If you / anyone is in immediate danger, call 911

How do I report incidents of hazing?

There are a number of ways to report incidents of hazing or suspicious behavior. Contact.....

MySafeCampus <i>(can be anonymous)</i>	800.716.9007 or www.mysafecampus.com
Student Conduct & Ethical Dev.	408.924.5985
Student Involvement <i>for Fraternities and Sororities</i>	408.924.5957
<i>for other Student Organizations</i>	408.924.5963
University Police Dept.	408.924.2222

Students are also encouraged to speak with an SJSU faculty or staff member, who can help them find the resources and mechanisms to report their suspicions.

What is the penalty/sanction for hazing?

At San José State University, violations of the hazing policy normally result in suspension or expulsion from the University, or revocation or denial of recognition for a student group or organization. This is true even for a first offense. Individuals who participate in acts of hazing are personally accountable under this policy, regardless of the outcome of any related case brought against a student group or organization. All Greek Inter/National organizations also have guidelines concerning the sanctioning of chapters which haze, including the loss of the local chapter's charter.

Does hazing have to be physical?

Hazing can take two forms, physical or psychological. Physical hazing includes, but is not limited to, such things as forced consumption of alcohol or other substances, forced tattooing or branding, paddling, and theft or misuse of property belonging to others. Psychological hazing includes, but is not limited to, such things as sleep deprivation, creation of excessive fatigue, compulsory servitude, and severe psychological shock or humiliation.

"Never underestimate the ability of a small, dedicated group of people to change the world; indeed it's the only thing that ever has changed the world."

Margaret Mead

Barnard College, '23

Why is the University against hazing?

San José State University strives to develop mature, service-minded adults by providing an affordable, high quality undergraduate and graduate education to all students. Hazing does not contribute to this academic mission, nor does it provide or promote any cultural or educational values. The Greek community and other student organizations at SJSU strive to produce service minded, scholastic, mature individuals who are ready to step into leadership positions. Hazing does not promote leadership or scholarship, nor does it provide service to the community. Hazing is also against the law in the State of California.

References to Hazing

Policies and Laws

- State of California
- California State University
- San José State University
- North-American Interfraternity Conference
- National Panhellenic Conference
- National Pan-Hellenic Council
- Inter/National Fraternity and Sorority Affiliates

In all, hazing has no redeeming value to anyone.

Does hazing still exist?

Unfortunately, yes, hazing is still practiced in communities and on college campuses across the country. SJSU maintains a strong commitment to addressing this serious issue by continuing to educate students about hazing and its dangers. We believe that even one incident of hazing is too many.

Why do people haze?

Student organizations cite many “reasons” for hazing, including: to build character, to demoralize character, to foster teamwork, to form a common bond among new members, to prove loyalty, to carry on “tradition,” to test endurance, and to serve as a rite of passage.

What are some examples of hazing?

The following are illustrations of hazing. While this is not an all-inclusive list, it provides some common examples of hazing traditions.

- Verbal abuse
- Line-ups
- Being yelled at or cursed at by other members of the team or group
- Sleep deprivation
- Compulsory servitude
- Made/Asked to wear embarrassing clothing
- Deprived of regular hygiene practices, such as brushing teeth, bathing/showering, putting on makeup, etc.
- Forced or coerced consumption of alcohol
- Made/Asked to destroy or steal property
- Being confined to small spaces
- Being duct taped or using other physical restraints
- Physical abuse such as paddling, punching, hitting, slapping, or kicking



HAZING

Break the Tradition —
Not the Law



SAN JOSÉ STATE
UNIVERSITY

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Fraternity and Sorority Life

Division of Student Affairs
getinvolved.sjsu.edu

MYTH

A common myth is that hazing activities are confined solely to Greek-letter fraternities and sororities. This is not true. Hazing incidents occur in military organizations, many athletic programs, and numerous business, civic and social organizations nationwide. Many student organizations at San José State University conduct activities which may be considered hazing. Members and advisors of organizations may not be aware that activities planned for initiation of new members, or planned for fun, are indeed hazing.

What is hazing?

Hazing is a fundamental violation of human dignity. It is strictly prohibited at San José State University. SJSU defines hazing as “any method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or student body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily danger to any former, current, or prospective student of any school, community college, college, university or other educational institution in this state (Penal Code 245.6) and in addition, any act likely to cause physical or mental harm, to any former, current, or prospective student of any school, community college, college, university, or other educational institution; the term ‘hazing’ does not include customary athletic events or school sanction events. Neither the express or complied consent of a victim of hazing, nor the lack of active participation in a particular hazing incident is a defense. Apathy or acquiescence in the presence of hazing is not a neutral act, and is also a violation of this section.”