



Hazing

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Definition:

“Hazing” refers to any activity expected of someone joining a group (or to maintain full status in a group) that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person’s willingness to participate. In the past, hazing practices were typically viewed as harmless pranks or comical antics associated with young men in college fraternities. Today we know that hazing extends far beyond college fraternities and is experienced by boys/men and girls/women in school groups, university organizations, athletic teams, the military, and other social and professional organizations.

HAZING IS ILLEGAL:

California Hazing Law

Education Code, Section 32050-32051:

California Penal Code—PC245.6

Hazing is defined in the Education Code, Section 32050, as method of initiation or preinitiation into a student organization or any pastime or amusement engaged in with respect to such an organization which causes, or

is likely to cause, bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm, to any student or other person attending any school, community college, college, university or other educational institution in this state; but the term ‘hazing’ does not include customary athletic events or other similar contests or competitions.

Violation of this law is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100), nor more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, or both.

The person against whom the hazing is directed may commence a civil action for injury or damages. The action may be brought against any participants in the hazing, or any organization to which the student is seeking membership whose agents, directors, trustees, managers, or officers authorized, requested, commanded, participated in, or ratified the hazing.

Hazing is an act of power and control over others--- it is victimization. Hazing is pre-meditated and NOT accidental. Hazing is abusive, degrading and often life-threatening.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA POLICE DEPARTMENT
601 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, California 90095
310.825.1491 ■ 310.206.2550 Fax
<http://www.ucpd.ucla.edu>



EMERGENCY: CALL 911

Even if there's no malicious "intent" safety may still be a factor in traditional hazing activities that are considered to be "all in good fun". Unexpected, serious accidents may occur during an activity. Besides, what purpose do such activities serve in promoting the growth and development of group team members?

MYTH: If someone agrees to participate in an activity, it can't be considered hazing. A victim cannot give consent to be hazed. It is against the law. 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.

Some questions that can help you decide if an activity may be considered hazing:

1. Is forced consumption of alcohol involved?
2. Will active/current members of the group participate and perform the same type of activity expected of the new members?

3. Does the activity risk emotional or physical abuse?
4. Do you have any reservation describing the activity to your parents, to a professor or University official?
5. Is there a risk of injury or a question of safety?
6. Would you object to the activity being photographed for the school newspaper or filmed by the local TV news crew?

If the answer to any of these questions is "yes", the activity is probably hazing. If you think you have been a victim of hazing or know someone who has been a victim, Contact UCLA PD at (310) 825-1491, or the Crime Prevention Unit at (310) 825-6111.

Be Prepared

UCLA Community members dialing 9-1-1 on their cell phone may be put through to the California Highway Patrol. Valuable time will be spent having to tell them where you are located, describing the emergency, and

waiting for them to contact the local police authority.

For the fastest response for emergencies on and around campus; Program your cell phone with the UCLA Police Department's 24-hour a day Dispatch number, **(310) 825-1491**.

**UCLA Police Department
601 Westwood Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90095
(310) 825-1491**

**Crime Prevention Unit
(310) 825-6111**

**The Bruin Resource Center
(310) 825-3945**

**Dean of Students Office
(310) 825-3871**

**UCLA Student Legal Services
(310) 825-0768**

**Center for Student Programming
Fraternity and Sorority Relations
(310) 825-6322**