

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

HAZING PREVENTION RESOURCE GUIDE



A PLEDGE *For*
LIFETM



BUILDING A CULTURE OF RESPECT.
PROTECTING THE **BULLDOG** FAMILY.

INSIDE THIS GUIDE

AGENDA

A roadmap for our time together.
Explore. Reflect. Act.

01



WELCOME, ICE BREAKER,
INTRODUCTION

02



HAZING, PLEDGING, AND INTAKE
UNDERSTANDING MEMBERSHIP CULTURE

03



WHAT IS HAZING? TYPES AND
HIDDEN HARMS OF HAZING

04



IMPACTS OF HAZING
INDIVIDUAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL

05



HAZING LAWS

06



INDIVIDUAL ACTION STEPS

07



INTERGENERATIONAL
COMMUNICATION

08



CONNECTING WITH
CAMPUS ALLIES



Use this guide to build understanding,
spark conversation, and
create change.





SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

HAZING PREVENTION RESOURCES

Scan the QR codes below to access valuable resources, programs, and conversations focused on ending hazing and building safer, stronger communities.



**NATIONAL HAZING
PREVENTION WEEK TOWNHALL:
LET'S TALK ABOUT HAZING
W/ BYRON HURT**



**2023 NPHW FIRST
THINGS FIRST PROGRAM**

REIMAGINING WHAT



Tradition MEANS

***Not everything passed down
is worth carrying forward.***

At South Carolina State University, tradition should strengthen community, dignity, and belonging. When a practice causes harm, fear, or humiliation, it is time to rethink it. True campus pride means protecting the Bulldog family while building new traditions rooted in respect.



THE REALITY CHECK



HOW IT FEELS TO US

- It builds unity
- It proves commitment
- It is what we have always done
- It prepares people
- Everyone before us went through it



HOW IT CAN HURT US

- Creates fear, not belonging
- Puts people at risk
- Damages mental and physical well-being
- Breaks trust
- Hurts campus culture and community



WHAT TRUE LEADERS DO

- Lead with empathy and accountability
- Choose courage over ego
- Ask hard questions
- Protect people, not harmful practices
- Build traditions rooted in respect

“

*Leadership is not about repeating what was done.
It is about choosing what should be done next.*

”



BE THE LEADER IN THE ROOM



Speak up: Your voice can open the door for change.



Ask why: If a tradition cannot be explained without harm, question it.



Listen deeply: Understand the impact, not just the intent.



Lead change: Start with small steps that shift culture.



Build the legacy: Keep what builds pride and leave behind what causes harm.



REFLECT + COMMIT



What is one tradition or practice our campus community should reconsider and why?



How will you help create a safer, more respectful SCSU experience?



Courage starts with clarity. Change starts with honest conversations.
Let's build traditions we are proud to pass on.

INDIVIDUAL ACTION STEPS

01



02



03



04



CHALLENGE THE NARRATIVE

"If a tradition causes harm, silence does not make it stronger. It makes change harder."



HOW DO I RESPOND?

Express curiosity: "Can you help me understand why this is necessary?"



OFFER AN ALTERNATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Suggest ways to build pride, trust, and connection through support, service, accountability, and shared purpose.



SHARE YOUR DISAGREEMENT

Say: "I do not think belonging should require pressure, humiliation, or harm. We can build community in better ways."



REFLECT + RESPOND

What is one way you can challenge harmful traditions in your campus community, student organization, team, or friend group?





HAZING PREVENTION FRAMEWORK

A comprehensive approach to building a culture of respect, accountability, belonging, and student safety across the South Carolina State University community.



(Allen, Kerschner, & Payne, 2018)



REFLECT + RESPOND

What does a culture of respect and accountability look like in your campus community, student organization, team, or residence hall?





TYPES OF HAZING



1. *Subtle*



2. *Financial*



3. *Physical*



4. *Psychological*



5. *Servitude*



6. *Bullying*



7. *Alcohol-related*

THE IMPACTS OF HAZING (INDIVIDUALLY)



Physical



Mental & Emotional



Academic / Social



HIDDEN HARMS OF HAZING

Hazing can affect mental health, erode trust, diminish a sense of belonging, and impact overall student well-being. These harms can result from even a single traumatic or degrading experience. At South Carolina State University, we are committed to building a campus culture rooted in respect, dignity, and Bulldog Pride.

FACTORS THAT CAN CONTRIBUTE TO POOR MENTAL HEALTH INCLUDE:



Acts of servitude or financial pressure



Hazardous conditions or treatment



Exposure to extreme weather or unsafe environments



Toxic relationships, intimidation, or sleep deprivation



Forced food or substance consumption



High anxiety situations that can trigger anxiety disorders



Pressure around body image or appearance



Sensory deprivation or humiliation



REFLECT + RESPOND

What is one way students, organizations, teams, or campus leaders can prevent hazing and promote belonging at SCSU?



STRONGER TOGETHER. RESPECT ALWAYS.



Hazing has no place at SCSU.
Report. Speak Up. Get Help.



Learn more and find resources:
www.scsu.edu/student-affairs



Need help or want to report?
Contact SCSU CARE: (803) 533-3211





Hazing can push someone past their breaking point, regardless of whether they have a known mental health concern. You may not know someone's history, and one harmful moment can have lasting consequences.

THE IMPACTS OF HAZING (ORGANIZATIONALLY)

The persistent nature of hazing in campus organizations and student groups can lead to serious harm, public scrutiny, loss of trust, and long-term consequences for the people involved. When harmful traditions are tolerated, the effects can reach far beyond a single incident and can damage the culture, stability, and reputation of the entire community.



Impacts organization recognition and standing



Increases risk, liability, and oversight



Damages trust within the campus community



Hurts recruitment, retention, and member experience



Weakens team or group culture and morale



Damages the reputation of the organization and university



SOURCES:

- StopHazing
- The Gordie Center



IDENTITY + EXPRESSIONS

Belonging. Respect. Community.



Identity is more than what others immediately notice. Visible and unseen experiences shape how we think, communicate, connect, and belong within the South Carolina State University community.



Race



Ethnicity



National origin



Nationality



Sexual orientation



Gender identity



Socioeconomic background



Disability



Education



Life experiences



Religion / Faith



And more

VISIBLE

What others may notice first.

- Race
- Age
- Appearance
- Language
- Accent
- And more

UNSEEN

What shapes our experiences, perspective, and sense of belonging.

- Values
- Beliefs
- Culture
- Family dynamics
- Life experiences
- Trauma
- Education
- Socioeconomic background
- Faith / Spirituality
- Abilities
- And more



Our identities are complex and layered.

Understanding this helps us lead with empathy, awareness, and respect.



REFLECT + RESPOND

How can a better understanding of visible and unseen identities help create a more respectful and inclusive SCSU experience?



See the whole person. Strengthen the whole community.





“YOUR EXPERIENCE. YOUR PERSPECTIVE.”

*Every experience shapes how we see belonging, leadership, and community.
Take time to reflect on your own.*



How have your personal experiences with belonging, pressure, or group expectations shaped your perspective on hazing or harmful traditions?



Reflect on your own experiences and how they have shaped your values, boundaries, and voice within the campus community.



REFLECT + RESPOND

What is one way your perspective can help create a safer, more respectful SCSU experience?





COMMON EXCUSES OR RATIONALIZATIONS FOR HAZING



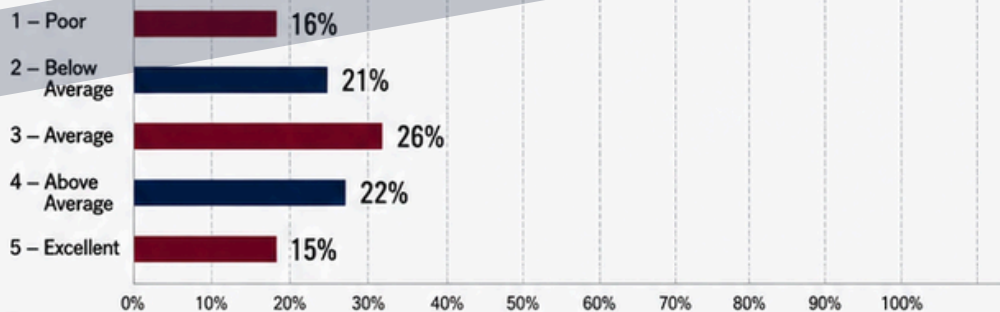
What phrases have you heard people use to justify or normalize hazing?



When students and campus leaders are asked:

On a scale of 1–5, how would you rate your knowledge of hazing?

The results were:



AVERAGE:

31%



ABOVE AVERAGE:

37%



EXCELLENT:

31%



Source: Anti-hazing education survey, adapted for campus discussion.



REFLECT + RESPOND

Which of these excuses is most common in campus culture, and how can students challenge it with courage and respect?





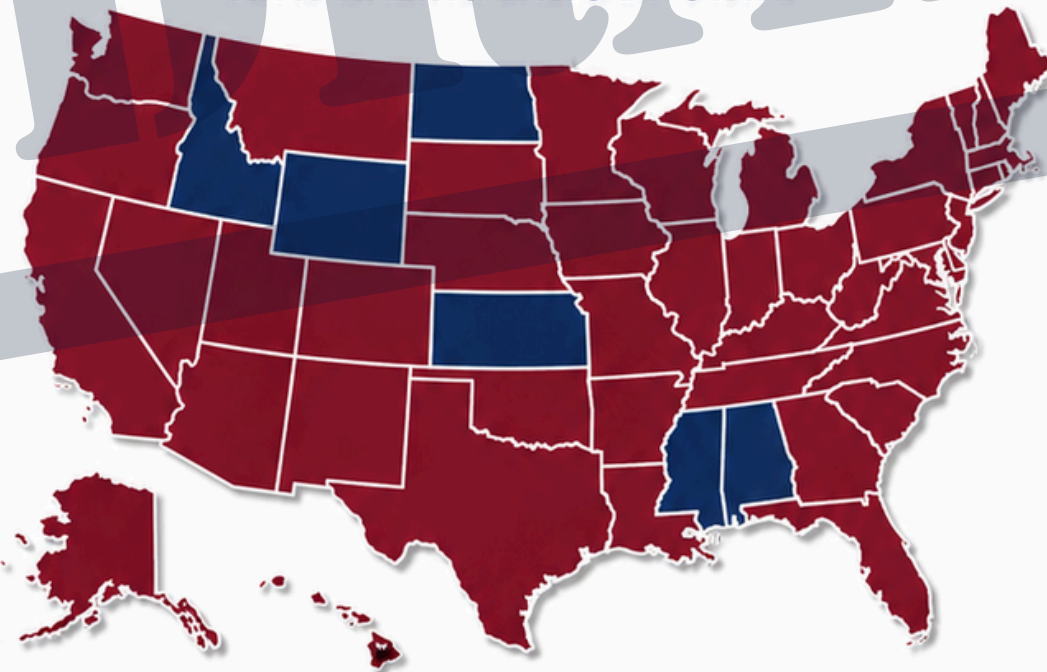
HAZING LAWS



Currently, **44 states** and the **District of Columbia** have anti-hazing laws. These laws vary in strength and scope, but all send a clear message: hazing is unacceptable. In some states, certain hazing offenses are classified as felonies, reflecting the serious harm hazing can cause.

Many of these laws incorporate ideas connected to modern anti-hazing efforts, including mandatory reporting, transparency in investigations, and education to help build safer, more respectful campus communities.

ANTI-HAZING LAWS BY STATE



44
STATES

+ D.C.
HAVE ANTI-HAZING
LAWS

 Have
Anti-Hazing Law

 No Specific
Anti-Hazing Law



WHY IT MATTERS

Anti-hazing laws help protect individuals, promote accountability, and support a culture of respect and safety across campus communities.





SC STATE
UNIVERSITY
1896

Excellence.
Opportunity.
Impact.

WE ARE
SCSU

== THE STOP == CAMPUS HAZING ACT (SCHA)

The Stop Campus Hazing Act strengthens transparency, reporting, and education related to hazing on college campuses. It helps institutions build safer communities through clearer policies, public accountability, and prevention-focused education.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND REPORTING MECHANISMS



**Report concerns to Student Affairs
or the Office of Student Conduct**

We're here to listen, respond, and support you.



**Connect with Campus Police
or call 911 in an emergency**

Your safety is our top priority.



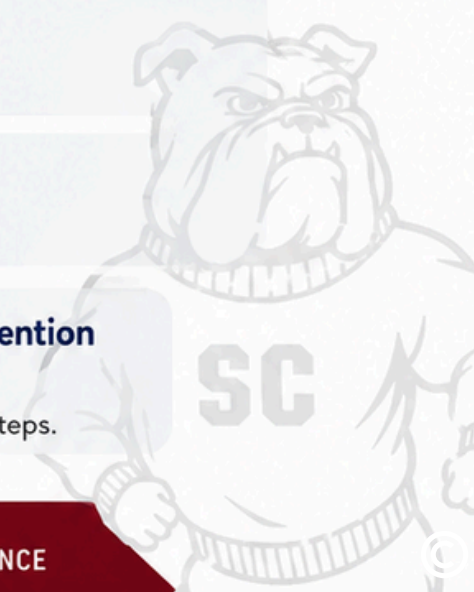
External hazing reporting information:

1-888-NOT-HAZE (1-888-668-4293)



**Learn more through campus hazing prevention
resources and student support services**

Visit scsu.edu/student-affairs for resources and next steps.



SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

COMMUNICATION ACROSS GENERATIONS

	SILENT GENERATION	Born: 1928 – 1945 This Year: 79–96 years old
	BABY BOOMERS	Born: 1946 – 1964 This Year: 61–79 years old
	GENERATION X	Born: 1965 – 1980 This Year: 45–60 years old
	MILLENNIALS	Born: 1981 – 1996 This Year: 29–44 years old
	GENERATION Z	Born: 1997 – 2012 This Year: 13–28 years old

➡ Up Next: **GENERATION ALPHA**



COMMUNICATION METHODS



Many students watch online videos to learn, stay informed, and get inspired.



Students use social media and digital platforms to research, stay connected, and engage with campus and community.



Students still value in-person conversations for important topics, mentorship, feedback, and building real relationships.

GENERATION Z REFLECTION

How can campus leaders communicate effectively with Generation Z students while building respect, belonging, and accountability?





SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

CONNECTING WITH CAMPUS ALLIES

Building Support. Promoting Accountability. Strengthening Community.

01

HONOR THE PAST, CHOOSE BETTER

Respect those who came before you while recognizing that tradition should never require harm.

02

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH CAMPUS ALLIES

Connect with advisors, faculty, staff, student leaders, and prevention partners who support safe, respectful communities.

03

IDENTIFY INFLUENCERS AND DECISION MAKERS

Learn who helps shape culture across student organizations, teams, residence life, and campus programs.

04

LEARN THROUGH CAMPUS EVENTS AND CONVERSATIONS

Engage in workshops, leadership programs, alumni conversations, and prevention-focused events that build awareness and belonging.

05

STAY CONNECTED AND SHOW UP

Attend programs, keep relationships strong, and demonstrate your commitment to a safer Bulldog community.

SC STATE
UNIVERSITY

EST. 1896

Stronger Together. Safer Together. Bulldog Community.



INDIVIDUAL ACTION STEPS

Take action. Lead by example. Build a safer Bulldog community.

01



Know campus hazing policies, state laws, and reporting expectations so you can recognize concerns and respond early.

CHECK
HERE

☐

02



Work with student leaders, advisors, campus staff, and prevention partners to strengthen awareness, accountability, and support.

CHECK
HERE

☐

03



Create a prevention plan that includes education, communication, reporting options, and consistent follow through.

CHECK
HERE

☐

04



Share ownership across your organization, team, or campus group so everyone has a role in building a respectful and safe community.

CHECK
HERE

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SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

RESPECT. ACCOUNTABILITY. COMMUNITY. SC STATE.





SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

EST. 1896



The Harbor Institute is proud to support South Carolina State University.



The Harbor Institute is an educational consulting firm based in Washington, D.C. that creates engaging educational experiences for college students, student leaders, advisors, faculty, staff, and campus communities. Our work focuses on hazing prevention, leadership development, belonging, and building safer, more inclusive campus cultures where all students can thrive.



BRING HARBOR TO CAMPUS

If your department, student organization, team, or campus office is interested in a workshop, training, or educational experience, please connect with Harbor to learn more.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

For questions about campus educational experiences and hazing prevention resources, connect with Harbor Institute directly.



OUR WEBSITE



STAY CONNECTED



202-599-2155



info@theharborinstitute.com

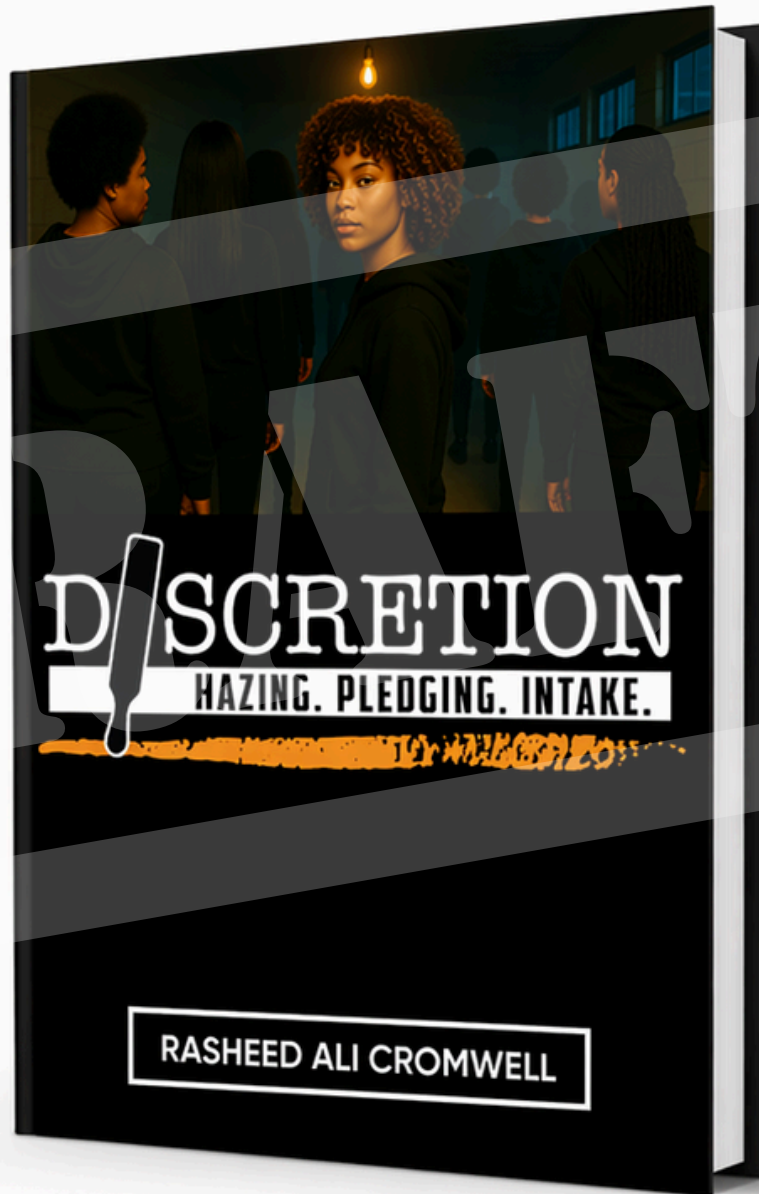


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