

Greek life at Arizona State is supposed to be about helping the community, building lifelong friendships, and a way to get involved with the school. All of these positives of greek life distract the students from some of the negatives from greek life such as hazing. Fraternity members use hazing on the new pledge of students and know they can get away with it because the students will do whatever it takes to join the fraternity . Hazing has taken a great program and made it unsafe for students. Fraternities are finally starting to get caught for the way they have been treating their pledges. One fraternity being ASU Kappa Sigma, where hazing led a pledge member to be hospitalized and diagnosed with diabetes due to hazing.

Universities all over the country offer a form of greek life. “Greek life” is a social organization that students can join. Joining a fraternity or sorority is a very popular choice for a lot of students and can benefit them in many ways. However, there tends to be many negative aspects of Fraternities especially at the beginning of the school year. “Every year, college students are injured or killed during events associated with hazing. Often, violence, heavy drinking and humiliation are part of the rituals students endure to gain acceptance into a popular group on campus. At times, sleep deprivation, nudity and sex acts also are involved.” (Ordway, 2017) Hazing is usually an issue that is untalked about and has little to no consequences. College students are at a very vulnerable stage in their lives and to have to go through horrible and traumatic experiences just to impress the other members and to get accepted into the fraternity is unacceptable. Universities do everything in their power to express their feelings on hazing and the consequences that the students will endure, however hazing on and off campus is done without anyone knowing which leaves the students in a dangerous state if anything were to happen.

Everyone goes to college excited and ready to start a new chapter of their lives. College is supposed to be a place where you find who you are, for a lot of college students it is difficult to find out who they are when they are going through hazing. Greek life hazing is a more prominent problem than people think. According to the University of Dayton, “ 55% of college students have been through some type of hazing.”(Dayton 5). The statistics show how relevant a problem with hazing is on college campuses. Hazing includes physical, mental and emotional abuse, which puts many college kids at risk. Mental and emotional hazing is something that tears down students' spirits and makes them question who they are and who they want to be. Physical abuse is what is more of the headliner for hazing. Some of these students are ending up in the hospital or emergency room after performing what is obligated for them to do in order to prove themselves to their superiors. Once they have proven themselves to their superiors they can be seen as a brother or an equal to the other students in their greek life chapter.

Since October of 2020, ASU's Kappa Sigma Fraternity chapter has been suspended for their hazing on pledges on potential members. An example of their harsh hazing was back in fall of 2018, “Pledges were forced to put a combination of different hot sauces, or pickles marinated in hot sauce, in their underwear, run over three miles, assume plank-like position with only elbows or toes on the ground over 500 times and eat M&M's off a floor on which people had vomited, urinated and defecated” (Borst, 2021). This example is just one of many things pledges were forced to do. Almost all frats have a week called “Hell week” where the things they have to do are far more worse than any other week. One pledge named Leventhal was hospitalized after hell week took place. In the hospital he was diagnosed with, “a "likely fatal diabetic coma due to his enormously elevated blood-sugar level," ...He also suffered chipped teeth, "dangerously severe weight loss" and a disease caused by fungus called thrush,” (Borst, 2021). This is

extremely dangerous and very unnecessary for a college academic club. This is just one example of how hazing in fraternities and how it is affecting students' personal safety

Many pledges join sororities and fraternities in search of friendships that will last throughout life. However, quite a few young people get caught in life-threatening situations because they are not aware of the commitments to which they are swearing themselves. Many members of these organizations say that they haze to show honor, loyalty, and respect to the tradition of the organizations. But is that so? For example, a brother started to see that they would treat him differently after being a brother for a week. "I was called an instigator, a troublemaker, and most memorably, a "cancer to the organization"(Shlank 5). It is crazy to think that even after being accepted for who you are, it won't matter at the end because they will see that you aren't one of them.

In conclusion, hazing is a very big problem at most colleges including ASU. Hazing has left ASU students hospitalized and dead. Hazing is a problem that we as a community need to look out for and protect our students from. Without a solution to college hazing, many more students will be abused from greek life.

Hazing has been an ongoing problem in greek life for many years. At times, the results of hazing in fraternities, has been life altering. Providing mandatory counseling sessions for students who participate in greek life will help students voice their concerns and thoughts in a safe place. Also, the counselor can have insight to the safety and secrets in the fraternities. With the counselors knowing what is going on and how to talk to all of these students it can create a safe environment for all of greek life and encourage more students to participate in greek life.

Providing a counselor for fraternities and sororities has not yet been done. Other schools provide counseling for their students, but no school provides counseling specifically for greek

life. A counselor makes around \$4,403/ month / counselor or \$48,519 - yearly counselor. Arizona State could provide a few counselors for just sororities and fraternities so it wouldn't be too cost effective but still giving greek life students someone to talk to. It will take around 3 months to interview multiple licensed counselors which can be done over summer. If this project made a difference with hazing in fraternities and sororities then other universities could start to partake in it.

The benefits of fraternities and sororities being able to sit down and talk to someone about what they are experiencing and witnessing hazing can help ASU get a better understanding on exactly what the problem is. This helps the community by allowing college students to speak up about a problem freely without the fear of backlash and help ASU work through the problem. Giving the community a better sense of safety. Along with being able to speak freely without fear, this will encourage students to speak up about everything and be more secure because of it.

From the results on our survey, the community believes that this could be beneficial but also a waste of time. Around 40 percent of students would attend a meeting with a counselor in person and the rest was split between zoom and not attending at all. When asked if students would still be involved in greek life if there was a counselor 56 percent said yes, 18 percent said no, and 25 percent said maybe. 49 percent of students believe that counselors will not reduce or get rid of hazing in greek life. Overall this survey provided us with a better understanding of what college students, that are involved in greek life, are thinking. We believe some greek life students are still scared to speak up.

Other consequences for hazing are usually limited to only a short suspension for the fraternity or only a few students being held accountable for their actions. Getting counselors available for students involved in greek life will make the students feel like they have a place to

go to share their feelings and make other members of a fraternity feel less inclined to haze new members of any sort. This is better than other options also because other options are very temporary and end up making no change. As said above, current consequences are some form of suspension, but while on suspension there may still be hazing going on. So if we can provide counselors to work through all of these experiences with, it will be highly beneficial.

Having counseling for greek life students is necessary to end hazing in greek life and to ensure that students have a safe living environment. Getting the funds and counselors will take about 6 months. It will take about 6 months for the reason to interview licensed counselors. Having counseling in greek life will benefit all participants involved for multiple reasons. For starters, these students are in college and are probably stressed out as is, so having someone to talk to will help take away the stress and build back up a clear mindset. Another reason this method is beneficial is that fraternities and sororities will stop hazing if they know people are going to find out. Counseling in greek life is a change that should have been made a long time ago. It would have helped save students lives, literally and figuratively.

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