Experimental Survey on Hazing Using Vignettes

C. Silas Jackson

Originally distributed between 11/30/20 through 12/8/20 Constructed in Qualtrics

Introduction

Survey Intro Thank you for your interest in this survey. The goal of this survey is to gauge WVU students' perceptions of hazing.

Your responses to this survey are anonymous. This survey will not record any identifiable information such as your name, WVU ID number, or email. Please do not provide such identifiable information in any open-ended response questions. Though your answers are anonymous, please answer each question truthfully and to the best of your ability.

This survey begins with a scenario which we ask you to read carefully and completely before navigating to the next page. After reading the scenario, you will be presented with 32 questions. Completion of this survey is estimated to take between 20 to 30 minutes.

There is no penalty for failure to complete this survey and you may stop at any time. Use the arrows on the bottom left and right of the page to navigate through the survey. You must answer every question on each page before you are able to proceed to the next page.

Should you have any questions, please contact Cheyenne Jackson at caj0023@mix.wvu.edu.

If you are ready and willing to begin the survey, please click the arrow on the bottom right.

Vignettes

Vignette 1.

Please carefully read the following scenario before continuing to the next portion of the survey.

An extracurricular student group on your campus is under investigation for hazing. Veteran group members initiated new members by striking them multiple times with a paddle. The new members were told their refusal or failure to participate would lead to them being kicked out of the group. When interviewed, each new member confirmed this event, but insisted they consented to being struck with a paddle.

Vignette 2.

Please carefully read the following scenario before continuing to the next portion of the survey.

An extracurricular student group on your campus is under investigation for hazing. Veteran group members initiated new members by striking them multiple times with a paddle. The new members were told their refusal or failure to participate would lead to them being kicked out of the group. When interviewed, each new member confirmed this event.

Vignette 3.

Please carefully read the following scenario before continuing to the next portion of the survey.

An extracurricular student group on your campus is under investigation for hazing. Veteran group members initiated new members with a drinking game. The drinking game involved consuming large amounts of alcohol in a short amount of time. The new members were told their refusal or failure to participate would lead to them being kicked out of the group. When interviewed, each new member confirmed this event but insisted they consented to participating in the game.

Vignette 4.

Please carefully read the following scenario before continuing to the next portion of the survey.

An extracurricular student group on your campus is under investigation for hazing. Veteran group members initiated new members with a drinking game. The drinking game involved consuming large amounts of alcohol in a short amount of time. The new members were told their refusal or failure to participate would lead to them being kicked out of the group. When interviewed, each new member confirmed this event.

For what is the student group being investigated?

Cheating on an exam

Hazing

Stealing money from their university

Excluding students of a certain race

What did the veteran group members do to the new members?

The veteran group members administered a drinking game.

Veteran group members and new members played against each other in a softball game.

The veteran group members struck new members with a paddle.

New members were encouraged to steal from a grocery store to show loyalty to the group.

True or false: The new members were told they would be kicked out of the group if they did not participate.

True

False

Yes
Maybe
No
From an ethical standpoint, to what extent were the actions of the veteran group members good or bad?
Extremely good
Moderately good
Neither good nor bad
Moderately bad
Extremely bad
I don't know
Do you feel the veteran members of the group deserve some sort of punishment from the university?
Yes
Maybe
No
If the veteran members of the group are punished by the university, what punishment do you feel is the most appropriate?
I firmly believe they should not receive any punishment.
They should receive a warning to avoid these actions in the future.
The veteran team members should be anti-hazing training.
The veteran members should be removed from the group.
They should be suspended from the university for 1-2 semesters.
The should be suspended from the university for more than 2 semesters.
They should be expelled from the university.

Do you believe the veteran group members are guilty of hazing?

Do you feel the veteran members of the group should be reported to the police?

Yes

Maybe

No

An action is not hazing if the victim consents.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Everyone drinks before they turn 21.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

I would recognize hazing if I saw it.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

It is my responsibility to report students I suspect are involved in hazing.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Hazing is useful for group cohesion.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Hazing can be fun.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Neither Agree nor Disagree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Hazing is a serious issue which needs to be prevented.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Hazing is dangerous.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Hazing should be Illegal.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Most student groups haze their new members.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

My university does not do enough to stop hazing.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Sometimes hazing is acceptable.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The definition of hazing is clean.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

There are no benefits to hazing new group members.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Underage drinking is not a serious issue.

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

All initiations of new group members are hazing.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Neither Agree nor Disagree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

Do you know someone who has been hazed?
Yes
Unsure
No
Have you ever been hazed?
Yes
Unsure
No
In the space below, please define hazing to the best of your ability.
What best describes your gender identity?
Male
Female
Non-binary
Other [Please specify]
What is your race/ethnicity? [Select all that apply]
White
Black or African American
American Indian or Alaska Native
Asian
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
Other [Please specify]

What is your age in years? Please use the space below to enter your age in years.
Of the following, which area of study reflects your current major or discipline at WVU?
Biological and Heath Sciences
Business and Professional Fields
Education
Humanities/Arts
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
Social Science
No Major/Exploratory
Other [Please specify]
Are you an active member of any of the following types of student organizations? [Select all the apply]
Academic or educational organization
Club sport team
Community service organization
Political or multicultural club
Religious/spiritual student organization
Social fraternity/sorority
Student government
Varsity sport team
Other [please specify]
I am not an active member of any student organization.

Which of the following best describes your student classification?
Freshmen
Sophomore
Junior
Senior/Super Senior
Graduate/Professional
Other [Please specify]
Do you have any thoughts related to this survey or hazing that you'd like to share? It so, please use the space below to share any relevant information to this survey.

Gratitude Message

You have reached the end of this survey. As a reminder, if you have any questions please contact Cheyenne Jackson at caj0023@mix.wvu.edu.

Until you navigate from this page using the arrow on the bottom right of the screen, you are still able to go back and change your response to any question. To do so, please use the arrow on the bottom left of the page. If you are satisfied with your responses, please submit the survey with the arrow on the bottom right.

Thank you for your participation.