

Greek Life and Violence: What You Need to Know

Fraternities and sororities offer friendship, philanthropy, and many other opportunities to their members. However, the issue of sexual violence affects all groups on campus, including fraternities and sororities.

10 things Members of Greek Life Need to Know about Sexual Violence :

1. Fraternity men are more likely to be reported as perpetrators than men who are not in fraternities¹.
2. Sorority women are four times more likely to be victims of sexual violence than women who are not in sororities².
3. Members of fraternities are three times more likely than non-members to commit violence while drinking.³
4. When gang rape occurs on college campuses, it is often linked with fraternity members.³
5. Research shows that fraternity men who support traditional gender roles and hyper-masculine behaviors exhibit more sexual aggression.⁴
6. Alcohol is not an excuse for sexual violence, or violence of any kind.⁵
7. Alcohol can escalate abuse and cause violence to be more lethal.⁵
8. It can also be used to impair victims.
9. 90% of sexual assault on campus involves alcohol.
10. Fraternity/sorority members report higher rates of binge drinking than non-members.⁵

Greek Life: What You Can Do

How Fraternity and Sorority Leaders can help Prevent Sexual Violence:

- When collaborating with fraternities/sororities for date functions, talk with leadership about consent, sexual violence, and respect.
- Use chapter meetings to bring up discussions about consent, alcohol use, and rape.
- Show support for victims; hold perpetrators accountable for their actions.
- Do not attempt to cover up sexual violence. Part of being loyal to your fraternity or sorority is upholding high standards for your members.
- Develop partnerships with agencies on campus such as the Victim Advocate Program and the FSU Police Department.
- Provide resources to students who are in need of assistance after a victimization.
- Avoid hazing/pledging rituals, including ones that are sexually violent.



How Fraternity and Sorority Members can help Prevent Sexual Violence:

- Show support for victims; hold perpetrators accountable for their actions.
- Do not attempt to cover up sexual violence. Part of being loyal to your fraternity or sorority is upholding high standards for your members.
- If you see something suspicious, say something.
- Examine your own values and think about how your fraternity/sorority is compatible or incompatible with those ideas.
- Report any hazing, especially sexually violent hazing. This can be done anonymously, either to FSU Police Department or the Office of Greek Life.

1. <http://www.campussafetymagazine.com/Channel/Public-Safety/articles/2012/03/Sexual-Assault-Statistics-and-Myths.aspx>
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3. http://www.uvm.edu/~vtconn/?Page=v19/garrett.html&SM=search_menu.html
4. www.academia.edu/577175Bannon R.S. Brosi M.W. and Foubert J.D. Sorority womens and fraternity mens rape myth acceptance and bystander intervention attitudes. Manuscript submitted for publication
5. Associated Press. (2010). Binge Drinking, Rape are Related. Retrieved from http://www.cbsnews.com/2100-204_162-599904.html