

Directions:

1. Mark your confusion.
2. Show evidence of a close reading. Mark up the text with questions and/or comments.
3. Type a one-page reflection in Google Docs and Save it in your AoW Collection
4. Name your document- YourName_AoW #11 (example- John_AoW #11)
5. Your reflection will be organized into paragraphs

Hazing in Schools Gains National Attention

Source: Thaisi H. Da Silva/ PBS NewsHour/ December 06, 2011

Hazing—comprised of humiliating tasks expected of someone joining a group – is on the rise in the United States, and recent incidents in Massachusetts and Florida show that these acts of bullying are degrading and often dangerous.

Studies show that hazing is affecting a younger demographic. The University of Maine reported that 47 percent of students have experienced hazing even before starting college.

Hazing activities are generally considered to be physically or emotionally abusive, and sometimes dangerous. While alcohol use is common in many types of hazing, other examples of typical hazing practices include: acting as a servant, sleep deprivation and restrictions on personal hygiene, being yelled at or insulted, being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating clothes in public and physical beatings. Hazing may also include consumption of vile substances, as it did recently at a Massachusetts high school.

High school hazing and athletics

Last summer, two Andover, Massachusetts High basketball players claimed that two older teammates urged them to play a game called "wet biscuit" while at a team summer camp. The loser apparently had to eat a cookie covered in a bodily fluid.

Although the hazing took place last summer, news of the incident didn't surface until recently in the North Andover Eagle-Tribune, Steve Gibbs, the former director of the camp, called the alleged incident "disturbing and reprehensible."

Seven students have reportedly been kicked off the basketball team. Two team members were expelled and seven others have been suspended.

A life lost due to hazing

Hazing has also come under much scrutiny after Robert Champion, a student from Georgia who was a drum major for Florida A&M University (FAMU), died after a football game on Nov. 19 on a bus parked outside an Orlando hotel.

Champion had reportedly been punched by a small group of band members on the bus as part of a hazing ritual, then vomited and passed out. When others on the bus could not revive him, they called for an ambulance. He died a short time later at a hospital.

A criminal investigation is under way, as well as a probe into whether warnings about hazing were ignored.

Four students have been dismissed for their role in Champion's death and 26 band members were dismissed. Four separate investigations have been ordered, including one by Gov. Rick Scott, who asked the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to step in, and one by the university president.

Meanwhile, the marching band has been suspended indefinitely.

Stopping hazing in high schools

While many colleges and universities in the United States have anti-hazing rules, very few high schools have the same, according to the group stophazing.org. The organization suggests hazing be incorporated into anti-bullying activities and peace clubs, and that students, parents, teachers, coaches and administrators discuss misconceptions about hazing at the beginning of every school year.

Reflection Ideas

- What was the most interesting thing you learned in this article? Explain.
- Find a passage from the article and explain why it grabbed your attention.
- Do you believe hazing is as common as this article suggests? Explain.
- What do you believe would be the best way to get rid of activities and actions which are considered hazing? Explain.
- Why do you think groups and clubs use hazing? Explain.

Hazing in Schools Gains National Attention- Reading Questions

Directions:

- Read **Hazing in Schools Gains Nation Attention**
- In complete sentences answer the entire question
- These questions are due at the beginning of class on Wednesday, January 04, 2012

1. According to the article, what are some typical examples of hazing activity?
2. Of the examples listed above, which do you believe is the most common? Explain your answer.
3. According to the article, what happened to Robert Champion? Explain your answer.
4. Do you believe hazing incidents like what happened to Robert Champion occur often? Explain your answer
5. Why do you think groups and clubs use hazing? Explain your answer.