

INTERSECTIONS OF HAZING: THE HIDDEN HARM



INTERSECTIONALITY WITH MENTAL HEALTH

This can include depression, suicide, poor grades, withdrawal from activities, and shame. This harm can persist into adulthood and undermine a person's well-being.

Sometimes because of shame or self-blame, we do not hear about the psychological effects of hazing. As a result, these cases do not make the news or get reported like physical harm. Yet, mental health's role in hazing can be long-lasting and traumatic for the victim and their families.

Visit hazing.sewanee.edu for more information.

WHAT IS HIDDEN HARM?

Hidden Harm is a phrase used to describe the effects of previous trauma. These hidden harms can be both physical and psychological, and they can have a long-lasting impact on the individual. Hidden harms can manifest from various past experiences – war, abuse, hazing, violence, families with alcoholism, and other sources.

INTERSECTIONALITY WITH PREVIOUS LIFE EXPERIENCES

We don't know about another individual's ultimate harm of hazing. Someone who just joined an organization or team could have life experiences making them highly susceptible to severe repercussions of hazing. Hazing can be physically and psychologically harmful to even perfectly healthy individuals. Mix hazing with past trauma, and the damage can increase exponentially. Consider the following experiences students can bring with them to college:

- Depression or other mental health issues
- Victim of sexual assault
- On medication for a mental health disorder
- Has been abused physically or emotionally
- Comes from an alcoholic family
- Has seriously considered or attempted suicide
- Any of these, and more we can't imagine, could put someone at a higher risk of being re-traumatized by hazing