



HAZE

FACILITATION GUIDE & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FACILITATION: AN OVERVIEW

Effective facilitation involves asking open questions to generate discussion. Rather than using information-provision as a first line strategy, the facilitator is usually better off asking questions to elicit discussion, and helping the group to generate their own ideas of why the information is important to them and what they would like to do about it.

GETTING STARTED

The facilitator should begin by sharing that *Haze* touched on several very important topics that are relevant to the college experience. In so doing, the movie presented information and analysis that can be viewed from different lenses to assess the role that the fraternity, the university, and others played in contributing to death of Gordie. While the facilitator does not need to ask all of the questions listed below, s/he is encouraged to lead the group in a discussion to examine the different roles that all three entities played in death of Gordie Bailey.

The Role of the Fraternity

The following are questions that can be used to prompt discussion concerning the role of the fraternity and the fraternity system:

1. What are your general reactions to the role the fraternity played in the death of Gordie?
2. What should the fraternity have done ahead of time? Which individual fraternity officers are most liable?
3. What specific things could fraternities do to make sure that people are safe if they choose to drink?
4. When did the events “cross the line”? Why?
5. What role did tradition play in the incident? Why?
6. What prevents fraternities and sororities from responding to individuals who are in need of care? Why?
7. What type of alcohol and hazing culture is prevalent at Virginia? What do fraternities and sororities do to reduce the likelihood of such an incident? What *should* they be doing?

The Role of the University

The following are questions that can be used to prompt discussion concerning the role of the university:

1. What role did the university play in the death of Gordie?
2. What did the university do well? What could the university have done better?
3. How should the university deal with fraternity drinking?
4. One interesting thing about college drinking is that college students (and even faculty and staff) tend to overestimate the number of other students who drink heavily. Why do you think that is?
5. What University policies and resources exist at Virginia to reduce dangerous drinking?
6. What is the alcohol culture at Virginia? If you drink, why do you drink?

The Role of Friends

The following are questions that can be used to prompt discussion concerning the role of friends:

1. What about those friends who were with Gordie that night? Clearly, no one wanted this to happen, but what could they have done to prevent his death?
2. How would you define “peer pressure”? What are some of the positive things that can result when people follow the crowd? How about some of the more negative aspects?
3. What’s your policy around caring for friends who have had too much to drink?
4. What are some of the signs that a person has had too much to drink, or maybe has reached their drinking limit? What would you do?
5. What prevents individuals from taking action in situations such as these?
6. What are some of the signs that a person might be at risk of alcohol poisoning? What would you do?
7. Have you ever had to monitor a friend’s pulse to determine his or her medical condition? What would you do if asked to do so?
8. What are some of the things that you do to keep yourself safe when drinking?

“WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?”

Following a discussion of the roles of the fraternity, the university, and friends, the facilitator should then pose the questions of “Where do we go from here?” and “What can we do as an organization to ensure a safe and healthy environment?”

Based on time and the size of the group, the facilitator can keep the group together or split the group in two. In either case, the facilitator should instruct the group that they are now going to brainstorm techniques and ideas to address some of the issues they outlined earlier.

The conversation should address two areas: 1) what fraternities and sororities can do to prevent an alcohol related incident from occurring and 2) what individuals can do to prevent an alcohol related incident from occurring.

The following are suggested responses that can help generate ideas for the group(s):

What can fraternities and sororities do?

- Demonstrate strong leadership
- Develop and enforce sensible policies that discourage heavy drinking
- Ban the use of alcohol in initiation rituals
- Provide alcohol-free living options
- Train all members to recognize and act on the signs of alcohol poisoning
- Educate members on legal obligations related to alcohol, parties, and hazing
- Enforce safe party practices (e.g., use a designated guest list, check IDs at the door, use an outside vendor for alcohol service, have food and nonalcoholic beverages, require designated drivers and sober monitors)
- Discourage drinking games, “pregaming,” and other practices where members might be encouraged to drink large amounts of alcohol
- Enforce consequences for those who violate fraternity alcohol policies

What can individuals do?

- Make drinking decisions that are right for you (including, for some students, not drinking at all)
- Know how much alcohol it takes to put you at a given BAC, given your weight and gender
- Refuse to engage in practices that put you and your friends at risk
- Use strategies to limit your rate of drinking (e.g., pace your drinking, drink more water, alternate non-alcoholic with alcoholic beverages)
- Use strategies to change the way you drink (e.g., avoid drinking games or shots of alcohol)
- Use strategies to reduce your risk of harm (e.g., use a designated driver, make sure that you go home with a friend)
- Learn to recognize and act on the signs of alcohol poisoning

WRAP-UP

Thank the group for their participation; offer to compile and share the suggested techniques/action steps the group developed. Invite anyone to share final thoughts or reactions to the movie.

Be a lifesaver, help a friend in need...



If you suspect alcohol poisoning or have concerns about an alcohol related injury, **seek immediate medical care**. Delaying medical evaluation and treatment can be life-threatening.

If the person has passed out:

- Roll him/her onto left side & prop head up
- Stay with the person until sober help arrives
- Monitor breathing – *Blood Alcohol Concentration could still be rising* →
- Call 911 if indicated

Symptoms of alcohol poisoning (PUBS):

If you see **ANY** of these symptoms,
call 911 immediately!

- **Pulse:** Should be between 50 and 140 beats per minute, not irregular
- **Unresponsive:** Doesn't respond to a firm pinch.
- **Breathing:** Should be at least 9 breaths/minute, not slow and shallow
- **Skin:** Shouldn't be cold, clammy or blue

Emergency Room Procedures

- Clinicians at the U.Va. Emergency Department and at Student Health DO NOT notify police or university officials in the event a U.Va. student is seen for an alcohol-related incident.
- Parents or guardians are NOT notified by clinicians without student permission unless a situation is deemed life threatening or the student is under the age of 18 and requires parental consent for treatment.
- Any 911 call from Grounds WILL result in automatic University Police response. The officer's primary emphasis is care of the student. Follow up investigation will take place only in exceptional circumstances.
- There is NO charge for ambulance services in Charlottesville.