

I. Abstract for describing project and purpose:

The study involves getting information about the hazing culture at Drury University with special attention to sports teams. The study hopes to be able to identify practical information about hazing for teams and coaches and also identify student types (whether within a certain sport or by individual difference variables or the power dynamic between team captains and the rest of the team) may be more likely to report hazing or engage in hazing. A copy of the survey is attached (see appendix). Theoretically, this is a first step to developing a predictive model that may help administrators identify problems with initiation rites before they arise and help scholars and others understand why initiation occurs and in with what types of student athletes.

II. Methodology

Participants will be members of sports teams. At the conclusion of the year, they may sign up to take part in the survey and do so on a computer terminal or via link to allow privacy and avoid any pressure from teammates or coaches. They will be invited to participate via an announcement made by coaches and a link sent out via the athletic directors office. Informed consent will be obtained via clicking "yes" to continue with the questions after reading some instructions. The risk to participants should be no greater than having a conversation with someone about the hazing practices and activities (or lack thereof) that occurred during the year. The survey will not identify the student athlete and will never be used, in any way, to discipline a student athlete – only to provide information to coaches, faculty and staff about the hazing environment. The survey should take no longer than 30 minutes. It will be conducted on survey monkey. Participants may choose to not answer a question at any time with no penalty.

III. Voluntary Participation

No inducements will be offered. Participants will be notified of the opportunity to partake in the study and encouraged to do so while understanding that their answers will be kept confidential and used for the purposes of understanding membership to subcultures within universities and improving the experience at Drury.

IV. Confidentiality of Data and Privacy Protection

Participants will not be asked for their names or student numbers. Students will be described in the aggregate for all publication and conference gatherings.

V. Informed Consent

A copy of the online survey is attached (see appendix)

VI. Risks to Participants

Risks to participants are not greater than having a conversation on the topic of their experience with their sports team in any given year. The answers will be kept anonymous and will never be used to discipline or take action against a student athlete or team.

VII. Benefits

Student athletes may benefit by the changes coaches and administration are able to make as a result of their answers that may lead to a better Drury experience.