

LIVE YOUR OATH DISCUSSION GUIDE

Prior to hosting the discussion, you will want to do the following:

- Thoroughly review this discussion guide, question prompts and official answers to the questions posed.
- Identify a facilitator for the meeting. This can be your chapter advisor/chapter counselor, Fraternity & Sorority Life staff member, faculty advisor, or member of the executive board. Your chapter may find it helpful to utilize an advisor or campus staff member to help guide the conversation.
- Research your campus' policies on Title IX, consent, sexual assault and sexual misconduct. When examining your campus' policy on consent, pay specific attention to the role of alcohol, and ensure you understand whether the campus uses a "No Alcohol", "Intoxication" or "Incapacitation" standard in evaluating claims of sexual assault/misconduct.
- Decide on a location for the discussion. Reserve a "smart classroom" on campus or have access to a projector and WiFi connection. If your chapter facility is not conducive to this discussion due to technology limitations and/or space, then we encourage you to hold this meeting outside of the chapter facility. This may also aid helping your members take the topic seriously. The use of a projector will also allow the facilitator to demonstrate to those in attendance how to access the policies for reference and to educate the chapter on how to find them. Print, or send out in advance, the discussion questions for the meeting.
- Ensure you have enough printed copies of the discussion questions for individuals to share or have own copy.
- Ensure you have enough printed copies of the "I Took an Oath" cards for each individual in attendance. If possible, please print in color.
- Identify the space you will take the photo of the group holding their "I Took an Oath" cards and the member who will be taking that photo.

Hosting the discussion:

- Since you will have access to WiFi and projection (i.e., "smart room" on campus, equipped chapter facility, etc.), play the video for the entire chapter.
- Upon completion of the video, have the facilitator process through the discussion questions ensuring that the answers provided (see below) are shared with the group. *NOTE: Please ensure that the facilitator has a printed copy of this discussion guide for use during this hosted session.*
- Please ensure that you have already researched where to find your campus policies regarding consent, the role of alcohol in consent, sexual misconduct and Title IX rights for all parties. Share those policies and ensure all members of your chapter understand them.
- Upon completion of the discussion questions, lead a conversation as to how your members can begin to keep each other and your guests safe in our facilities and at our events. *Please come up with concrete action steps and work to ensure all chapter members agree to them. Remind the group that it is everyone's responsibility to ensure the safety of our communities--not just those members serving in chapter leadership positions.*

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- Please ensure that you have researched in advance the support resources available to victims/survivors of sexual assault/misconduct and students accused of sexual assault/misconduct **both** on campus and within the community. Share those with the group for future reference.
- Encourage your chapter members to post the LiveYourOath video to their social media accounts so that other fraternity men and sorority women outside of SigEp and Alpha Delta Pi can benefit as well.
- *Please* remind members that living their Oath is more than just signing a card and placing it on social media, it's a true commitment to living the values of our organizations every day.
 - ◆ For Alpha Delta Pi: Reference the Creed of Alpha Delta Pi.
 - ◆ For SigEp: Use Virtue, Diligence and Brotherly Love.
 - ◆ For other fraternal organizations: Reference your creed or values.
- Before you leave for the #LiveYourOath photo, pass out the "I Took an Oath" cards so that everyone can write their name on the cards.

Taking the photo:

- If you are taking the #LiveYourOath photo with the ADPi/SigEp chapter on your campus, head over to meet them; if not, gather your sisters/brothers at the predetermined photo location.
- Please ensure that all members, their faces and the I Took an Oath cards can be seen in the photo.
- Post the photo to respective social media outlets using #liveyouroath.
 - ◆ For SigEp Use Only: Be sure to tag Sigma Phi Epsilon (official) on Facebook, @officialsigep on Twitter, and @officialsigep on Instagram with the #LiveYourOath.
 - ◆ For ADPi Use Only: Be sure to tag Alpha Delta Pi on Facebook, @AlphaDeltaPi on Twitter and @AlphaDeltaPi on Instagram with the #LiveYourOath.
 - ◆ For other fraternal organizations: Be sure to tag your organization on social media with the #LiveYourOath.
 - ◆ Encourage your sisters/brothers to reshare the photo to their social media outlets.

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1. What is consent? What were the components discussed in the video? Consent is the voluntary, positive agreement between participants to engage in a specific sexual activity that cannot be compelled by threat, force, coercion or deception. Consent cannot be given if the other person granting it is underage, mentally incapacitated, intoxicated or under the influence of other drugs.

2. Whose responsibility is it to obtain consent? How do you know if consent has been received?

It is up to both parties to obtain consent; the responsibility does not solely fall on either party. You know you have consent when you have a verbal confirmation from the party that you are with that they want to engage in a specific sexual activity.

3. As we think about the role alcohol plays in consent, does anyone know our campus policy? See what answers emerge. Share with the group the campus policy you found in advance. If your campus policy is in alignment with the “Incapacitation Standard”, then remind the group of the indications of incapacitation referenced in the video.

Some indicators of incapacitation may include, but are not limited to:

- Lack of control over physical movements
- Being unaware of circumstances or surroundings
- Being unable to communicate for any reason

4. What are examples of the behaviors/actions that could constitute sexual assault, and/or sexual misconduct?

Some examples of sexual assault:

- Inappropriate touching
- Vaginal, anal or oral penetration
- Intercourse that you say no to
- Rape
- Making someone watch a pornographic movie
- Making inappropriate sexual comments

Some examples of sexual misconduct:

- Exposing genitalia to another person(s)
- Having sex in the presence of another person who has not given consent
- Sending a nude selfie to another person without consent
- Having sexual intercourse in a public place

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5. What can we do to ensure the safety and security of our members when we are out? At events? In general?

- Ensure that all sober monitors are educated on what to look for - it's more than just having sober people present.
- Ensure that all chapter members are educated on how to intervene, or A.C.T (Ask for help, Create a distraction or Talk Directly), when/if they see a questionable situation.
- Discuss the fact that intervention is not limited to our own brothers/sisters, rather we need to be prepared to intervene, or A.C.T., when we are out with friends no matter who is involved.
- Determine, as a chapter, what is and is not OK in regards to “hooking up” and in what situations/scenarios is it expected that someone should intervene.

6. How can we be most supportive of someone in our chapter who has been sexually assaulted? Or accused of sexual assault/misconduct?

First, remember that this is a human being who, regardless of the situation, has gone through a potentially traumatic event. It is our job to listen and support; not to give advice or counsel. Refer the person to the counseling center if they wish to talk about what happened in a confidential space. Remember that any information about the incident is not yours to share. If you are in a position where you must report an incident; i.e., resident assistant, community assistant, etc., ensure that the sister/brother knows that is the case. Ensure that you are following our organizational policies and procedures by notifying the Chapter Advisor/Chapter Counselor. Otherwise, there is no reason why we should discuss the matter with others--it's not our information to share inside -OR- outside our organization. Please also remember that when/if the brother/sister wants to talk to you, they will. If the person comes to you immediately after the incident, ensure you get her/him to a safe space and assist her/him in obtaining medical attention, if needed.

If someone in the chapter is accused of sexual assault/misconduct, then it is important to remember that she/he needs support. It is necessary that you follow the standards/judicial processes for our organization accordingly, including contacting our chapter advisor/counselor to report the information. Additionally, we will ensure that she/he is aware of their rights in the university's process, if reported. In order to ensure that an individual action does not become a chapter issue, there is no reason why we should discuss the matter with others outside of an official college/university, police or organizational investigation proceeding. Depending upon how the campus defines “retaliation” in cases involving Title IX and/or sexual misconduct cases, discussing the incident(s) and/or individual(s) involved with others, on social media, etc. could result in action taken against the chapter. One additional item of note, if the complainant (individual who filed a report) is also involved in fraternity/sorority life, then we caution you against acting differently towards the other involved organization, as well as the individual. Again, these actions could be considered retaliation towards the complainant.

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Finally, remember that the journey to healing for a victim/survivor is just that, a journey. She/he may not feel they need to seek out counseling, or other support services, in the short-term. She/he may feel like she/he has everything “under control”. However, if our sister/brother begins to act differently withdraws, or is overly social, we may want to check-in with her/him about how she/he is doing, including recommending talking to someone.

7. ***Facilitation Note:*** *These questions can be done as a “Crossing the Line” activity with one side of the room being true and the other false. If your meeting space is not conducive, you can do this as a sit down/stand up activity. Once individuals have settled into their respective location to indicate their decision, then read the answer provided as the second bullet point below the question prompt. To get started, read the instructions below aloud to the group based upon how you have determined to facilitate the activity given your space (sit down/stand up vs. moving within the room):*

Instructions: Think about/listen to the statement as it is read aloud. If you believe the statement is true, move to the right side of the room (or you may be asked to stand). If you believe the statement is false, move to the left side of the room (or you may be asked to stay seated). If you are unsure, move to the middle of the room (or you may be asked to squat).

Facilitation Note: *You may want to check to see if your campus has published Campus Climate Survey results. If so, you may want to share your campus numbers. Some campus results reflect higher percentages (i.e., one in four, one in three, etc.) and some reflect lower percentages (i.e., one in six, one in eight, etc.). This may help illustrate the importance of the issue on your specific campus. You may also wish to share information related to the GLBTQA community, depending upon what is available.*

- One in 12 men will report being sexually assaulted at some point during their lifetime.**
 - False: Also, contested in some publications, the research shows that one in 71 men – or almost 1.6 million – have been sexually assaulted during their lives.

Facilitation Note: *Read the scenario aloud, asking the group to consider the questions following the scenario. Ask for volunteers to share their thoughts. Once 2-3 responses have been offered, read the provided answer to the group.*

If time permits, you may want to do this section as a small group activity. In that instance, assign the groups one of the two scenarios to read and report back to the larger group their overall thoughts. Once each group has offered their response, read the provided answer to the group.

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8. John and Jane have been "hanging out" together for the last few months. Neither of them wants a commitment. They both just like having sex with one another, especially when they've been drinking. John brings Jane home after partying, carries her in and puts her down on the bed. He gets them both undressed and they have sex. Was the sex consensual?

- a. Again, in order for consent to be given, it must be able to be taken away. Depending upon the state/campus, even one drink could render someone unable to give consent. Alcohol can impair judgement and decision-making which impacts one's ability to give consent. Based on this description, it would appear that Jane is exhibiting signs of being beyond drunk; she is seemingly incapacitated. The fact that Jane could not walk on her own and does not seemingly have the ability to undress herself, Jane does not appear to be in a position to give consent; and, even if prior consent was given, she is no longer capable of affirming that consent.

9. John and Jane are in class together and sit next to each other. Jane touches John frequently when they talk in class. Jane gives John her cell phone number so they can study together. John, finding Jane flirtatious, texts her a nude pic and says, "What do you think?" Did John have consent to send Jane the pic?

- a. Jane needs to consent to the receipt of the nude pic; and, there is no indication that John ever asked Jane. Just as consent must be given for each and every activity, so too, does it need to be given for the receipt of sexually explicit content.

Facilitation Note: *Prior to the discussion, identify the section of the college/university website featuring resources for victims/survivors. You may want to put that up on the screen, if available, as you wrap-up the discussion. Remind everyone about the resources available if they or someone they know is a victim/survivor of sexual assault:*

- National Sexual Assault Hotline: They can call 800.656.HOPE (4673) to be connected confidentially with a trained staff member from a sexual assault service provider in our area.
- Reporting Options for Survivors on campus: Campus student conduct office, Title IX Coordinator, and/or Dean of Students; campus law enforcement, public safety, or security office; campus counseling center, health center, and/or sexual assault survivor services center; local law enforcement; and/or local hospital.

Facilitation Note: *Remind the group that is always the survivor's/victim's decision as to how involved she/he wishes to be in the process regardless of if a report is filed.*

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Please share with members that living their Oath is more than just signing a card and placing it on social media, it's a true commitment to living the values of our organizations every day.

For Alpha Delta Pi: Reference the Creed of Alpha Delta Pi.

For SigEp Use: Virtue, Diligence and Brotherly Love.

For other fraternal organizations: Reference your creed or values.

Thank everyone for coming and challenge them to think about ways that they as individuals, and the chapter can do a better job of living our oath in the area of sexual assault/misconduct prevention.

Preparing for Photo: Instruct everyone to write their name on their "I Took an Oath" cards and head outside, or wherever you are taking the #LiveYourOath photo.