

Citadel Administration
Board of Visitors
Citadel Alumni

Recognizing that there has been and probably still is a culture of hazing at the Citadel, there is a way to facilitate change and a way not to. A true leader earns the respect of his team/cadets and maintains morale. The current methods being used to change culture are in direct conflict with the Citadel's goal of producing men and women who are leaders. How can you teach & produce honesty, respect and integrity when there is inequity in the system?

An atmosphere of fear will not teach leadership, cadets will not interact with other cadets to teach leadership. Currently, cadets do not want rank or any role that will put them responsible for freshmen-it's simply too much of a risk.

The system has gone from one extreme to the other where hazing was tolerated to where minor infractions are blown out of proportion & called hazing when they are not. How can cadets teach a freshman when adjusting a salute is hazing? A freshman openly talking back to upperclassmen when the upperclassmen attempt to correct them for chewing gum is what you get from the extreme paradigm shift. It's very obvious with that example that freshmen are not being taught or lead. Upperclassmen cannot and will not attempt to "lead" those under them under the current atmosphere.

Rather than coming in like a bull in a china shop, would it not be more effective to teach by example. At present, punishments are not correcting behaviors but teaching cadets that they want nothing to do with freshmen. Would it not achieve the goal of leadership to combine a reasonable amount of tours with required counseling/leadership education and retain the cadet in their company? The cadet could then go back to their company and be required to teach/present their error in judgment to all other cadets. This would maintain the brotherhood, let other cadets learn from that mistake and promote leadership

There needs to be a serious review and assessment of current methods of leadership or the founding values will be completely destroyed. Triple digit white slips in one swoop should tell you that something is wrong and there is no way that all of those "charges"/infractions are accurate.

Again, a true leader is respected when he/she leads and people follow. Are we leading at the Citadel or whipping?

Thank you for your time