

AKPsi  
Risk Prevention Program  
**Courageous Leadership Module**  
**Case Study #2**



**ALPHA KAPPA PSI**  
*The Professional Business Fraternity*

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Alpha Kappa Psi is recognized as the premier developer of principled business leaders.

It's mid-way through the fall term of your junior year. You live on campus in a residence hall and you joined Alpha Kappa Psi as a first year student. You're recalling the days of your pledging when you learned of AKPsi's core values and the vision of the fraternity: *To be recognized as the premier developer of principled business leaders*. At the end of last term, you were elected as vice president of membership and throughout the summer you reimagined the recruitment process for the chapter. You looked online at the akpsi.org website and found some great resources including a values-based recruiting program and webinars on leading with integrity, courageous leadership, and why do you lead. Each of them seemed to have a common thread: *using your values to make decisions*.

Upon implementation, the new ideas you thought of during the summer months worked brilliantly. The recruitment of 30 new, outstanding brothers had occurred this fall term; doubling any previous efforts. They worked so well all 30 individuals had each passed all of the quizzes and interviews. The Court of Honor and initiation are set for the following weekend.

This weekend though, you are staying on campus and just lounging about doing homework and catching up with friends. You and a couple of brothers make your way to the campus bookstore to browse the racks. Upon entering, you see one of the pledges, Ethan, who is with his boyfriend. Ethan doesn't see you or the brothers enter the bookstore. The boyfriend, as you and the brothers you are with have come to learn can be abusive – verbally and sometimes physically.

At that moment, Ethan asks his boyfriend about how he looks in a particular jacket he tried on. The boyfriend responded with "You look terrible. You're fat and everyone can see it doesn't fit you. Why would you even think to try on something like that? You need my body to wear that type of jacket." The boyfriend then walks over to Ethan and yanks it off him and then throws it in his face.

What you see next surprises you. Unknowingly to you, a couple of the other pledges had walked into the bookstore as well. They also witness the incident and walk over to Ethan. They console him, but they also start confronting the situation. They don't attack the boyfriend for what he did; instead they ask other customers what they think of Ethan and how he looks in the jacket. They seek out positive thoughts and vibes for him. When the incident is over, Ethan is grateful for the intervention.

1. Having witnessed the event unfold, what is your course of action?
2. How would you have approached the situation?
3. How did the pledges show courageous leadership?
4. What lessons can you take away from this and teach the chapter and future pledges?