

The Freshman Guide to Socializing in College

Hey freshman! Did you think socializing in college would be just like high school? Guess again! Your social life at college will be a complex ecosystem of friends and foes, do's and don'ts, and everything in between! We here at the Squelch know it can be intimidating, so we made this nifty social guide!

Situation #1:

You're at a party. All your friends are standing in a circle, enjoying their drinks... but suddenly, everyone's conversations stop at the same time! Cue awkward silence! What are you supposed to do?

Solution:

Bring up something topical. You can talk about the new Bear's Lair or the big Cal game next week! Or even mention how United States military intervention in Iraq precipitated a power vacuum that led to the brutal takeover of ISIS. Be sure to smile a lot, so people know you're having fun!



Situation #2:

Imagine you're walking down the street, and you see someone you kind of know. Eye contact has been made. What do you do now? Do you walk right past them? Do you wave? Do you try to strike up a conversation?

Solution:

Sometimes it's best to acknowledge the awkwardness. Say hi, and laugh about how situations like this can be really awkward. Most likely, he or she will laugh along with you! But before they go, be sure to remind them - social awkwardness is one thing, but it's nothing compared to the awkwardness of being subjugated by an army of bloodthirsty ISIS zealots, hell-bent on establishing a global Islamic caliphate.

Situation #3:

It's your first college relationship! She's over at your place, and things are getting pretty hot and heavy. Suddenly, she leans in and whispers, "Talk dirty to me." But you've never talked dirty before...what do you do??

Solution:

Brush her hair to the side and purr into her ear, "Dirty? What could possibly be dirtier than the destruction of the ancient palace of Ashurnasirpal the Second by ISIS militants? Just imagine - thousands of artifacts destroyed, countless histories of Nimrud smashed to dust! And you want to talk dirty? You disgust me... you dirty, dirty girl."



Situation #4:

No matter what classes you're taking, it's always good practice to attend office hours. But let's face it - talking to professors is intimidating. You're sitting alone, with your professor, in her office, and you can't think of anything to say! How do you deal?

Solution:

Remember - professors are people too. Look around for something you share in common. Say, she has a mini-golf club stashed in the corner! Mention how you enjoy mini-golfing too! In fact, you've been on a real golf course once, and that was pretty fun. But you know who will never go golfing? The thousands of refugee children displaced from their homes by the iron-fisted regime of ISIS. How could anyone possibly think about their short-game while so many innocents are fleeing from persecution? Oh, by the way, you just remembered your question. Nice!