

## **C.O.R.E. Coalition for Ongoing Rave Excellence**

*A volunteer group working on projects affecting the rave community.*

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# **CORE's Recommendations for Organizing a Safe Event**

## **Security**

- ◆ We recommend that security staff is equipped with radio communications, especially for larger events.
- ◆ Hire enough security to keep the line moving quickly. Have security outside monitoring the line up. If possible, provide a roped off area to contain and control the line up.
- ◆ Have security patrol the parking lot throughout the night; this is what the public sees, and where negative things can easily occur. Limiting "in & out" privileges will minimize loitering, noise and overall visibility of the event.
- ◆ Security can be assertive without being aggressive. Security should be encouraged to treat everyone with the utmost courtesy and respect. Allow event guests to sleep or rest.
- ◆ Have a disposal system for any illegal substances that are confiscated. (i.e. Flushing the substances into toilet with the guest + 2 witnesses or calling the police for disposal, etc).
- ◆ Call police if an altercation occurs within an event, rather than just throwing them out to continue their fight outside.

## **Health and Safety**

- ◆ You have a responsibility to promote maximum safety and security at your events.
- ◆ Ensure access to drinking water, at no charge.
- ◆ Where possible, have a separate room or an area where guests can rest, cool down and/or talk.
- ◆ Provide adequate ventilation and if possible, have a designated smoking area.
- ◆ Be aware of and adhere to fire regulations.
- ◆ Provide qualified first aid attendants, e.g. St John's Ambulance or EMS.
- ◆ Provide adequate toilet facilities. If possible, keep these areas clean and supplied with enough toilet paper & soap. Provide garbage bins throughout the venue.
- ◆ Provide a concession with a good supply of bottled water, fruit juice and some high-energy snack foods.
- ◆ Make sure earplugs are available for those who may prefer them.
- ◆ It is highly recommended that no alcohol be sold at the event.

## **Customer and Public Relations**

- ◆ You are providing a service and the guests are your customers. Treat them with the first class service you would like to experience yourself.
- ◆ Provide coat and bag check where possible. This is a helpful security measure.
- ◆ Provide a way for party goers to give you feedback on the party (email, website, message board, suggestion box, etc.)
- ◆ Please consider the impact of your event on the surrounding community. Respect the location, always make sure venue is returned to previous condition, outside and inside.
- ◆ Honor your contracts with the venue, DJs/musicians, paid staff etc.
- ◆ If you do not wish to clean, hire cleaning staff.

# CORE's Recommendations for Event Guests

## Peace

- ◆ Keep a low profile in the area surrounding the event, we don't want to disturb the area in any way or aggravate neighbors' peace. A complaint with the police can shut a party down.
- ◆ When leaving a party, leave the area of the party peacefully, quickly and very quietly. Remember, a party can be shut down due to someone playing a car stereo in the parking lot! This has contributed to losing many venues.
- ◆ Please do not litter in the parking lots.

## Love

- ◆ Be open-minded to other people's ideas and styles. Be accepting of people's differences. Accept other people's opinions, choices of lifestyle or fashion.

## Unity

- ◆ Watch out for your friends and others, make sure they're drinking enough water (about 500 ml per hour) and resting when necessary.
- ◆ If someone appears to be in trouble, contact staff or security.

## Respect

- ◆ Treat the venue with utmost respect, please clean up after yourself! Use garbage cans when available.
- ◆ Find out if the party has provided access to basic 1st Aid and/or a booth for harm reduction. They should have Band-Aids, ear plugs etc.
- ◆ Remember to eat well-balanced meals, get adequate sleep, and drink a lot of water. In other words, keep yourself healthy on a regular basis.
- ◆ Don't abuse drugs.
- ◆ Don't sit in the middle of the dance floor.

## Responsibility

- ◆ Be aware of the affects and consequences of taking illicit drugs; both on yourself and the community. Become informed, visit websites such as
  - ◆ AADAC <http://www.aadac.com/flash.asp>
  - ◆ RaveSafe <http://www.ravesafe.org>
  - ◆ Dancesafe <http://www.dancesafe.org>
- ◆ Don't drive if you're overtired or impaired. Being overtired is a form of impairment.
- ◆ Bring enough money to purchase water, snacks and bus /cab fare after the party.
- ◆ Never leave drinks, refreshments or personal property unattended.
- ◆ Find out where the first aid attendants can be found in case of an emergency and learn where all the fire exits are.
- ◆ Support responsible promoters. Expect quality and safety from the promoter. It is your responsibility to make sure you get it. You have dollar power. Your numbers can make or break a party. You can make promoters accountable by giving or withholding attendance... "be a smart shopper".
- ◆ Voice your concerns and let the promoters know what was positive about the party and what needed to be improved. Give feedback to promoters in a constructive manner.
- ◆ Learn to question everything around you. Evaluate the reasons you have for attending raves. Are they positive? Helpful? Negative? Self-destructive?