



Fraternization / Improper Relations

TASK: Define and discuss Fraternization & Improper Relations

CONDITIONS: Question and discussion based training

STANDARDS: Understand what fraternization and improper relations are.

REFERENCE: AR 600-20, DA PAM 600-35



Fraternization / Improper Relations

Who does this apply to?

- Relationships between Army personnel (Active or Reserve Soldiers)
- Relationships between Army personnel and personnel of other military Services
- The term “officer” includes both commissioned and warrant officers



Fraternization / Improper Relations

The Army prohibits all unprofessional relationships that:

- compromise the chain of command
- cause partiality or unfairness
- involve the improper use of rank for personal gain
- are exploitative or coercive in nature
- create an adverse impact on discipline, authority, morale, or mission accomplishment
- relationships that present the appearance of violating any of these standards may also be prohibited



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Different types of prohibited relationships

- Business Relationships
 - business relationships between officers and enlisted personnel are prohibited.
- Personal Relationships
 - Dating, sharing living accommodations, and intimate or sexual relationships between officer and enlisted are prohibited.
- Gambling
 - Gambling between officers and enlisted personnel is prohibited. **There are no exceptions**
- Social and Family Relationships
 - Associations between officer and enlisted that occur in the context of community organizations, religious activities, athletic teams and events, unit-based social functions, or family gatherings are not prohibited.



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Accountability

- In any relationship the senior person (by rank) is generally in the best position to terminate or limit the relationship
- All service members, however, may be held accountable for relationships that violate this policy.

Commander's Options

- Wide Range of Responses
 - counseling/education
 - administrative
 - non-judicial punishment
 - court-martial
- Goal is to use response that is warranted, appropriate, and fair