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A Case For Greek Life

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A Case for Greek Life

Jett Hawk // Utah State University

Cree Taylor, mentor // Utah State University

What does Greek Life mean?

Expectations & Reality



L: J. Hawk
R. Campus Times <http://www.campustimes.org/2019/10/27/ct-spooky-the-terrible-horrible-no-good-very-bad-frat-party-line/>

Project Overview

What are the primary motivators behind Abolish Greek Life?

Is there hope for fraternities and sororities?

Methods

Female students', LGBTQIA+ students', Working Class students', and fraternity members' perspectives

Focus Areas

Reform:

- Sexual Assault
- Member Harm
- Destructive Recruitment Techniques

Benefits:

- Professional Development
- Personal Development & Support
- Catalyst for Social Change

Results I

Reality & Reform

Sexual Assault

Reality:

- More common for sorority women (Kuh)
- USU & FSL (Hewlett)

Reform:

- No means no
- Leaders set the standard
- Zero Tolerance



Chronicle of Higher Ed. <https://www.chronicle.com/article/anti-frat-protests-are-sweeping-college-campuses-this-is-how-we-got-here>

Member Harm

Reality:

- Alcohol & Greek Life
- Member deaths (Seewer)

Reform:

- Reevaluate alcohol
- Take concerns seriously



AlcoRehab: <https://alcorehab.org/alcoholism/college-alcohol-abuse/>

Destructive Recruitment

Reality:

- FSL historically (Hamilton)
- Reality today (McClure)
- Stunted development (Parker)

Reform:

- Homogeneity vs. Diversity
- Let awareness drive policy

Results II

Strengths & Future

Professional Development

Service (Bauman)

- Philanthropy
- Community Service

Leadership

- Real world experience (Kelley)
- Preparation for graduation



WSU Insider: <https://news.wsu.edu/news/2012/03/09/fraternity-sorority-members-give-15000-hours-of-service/>

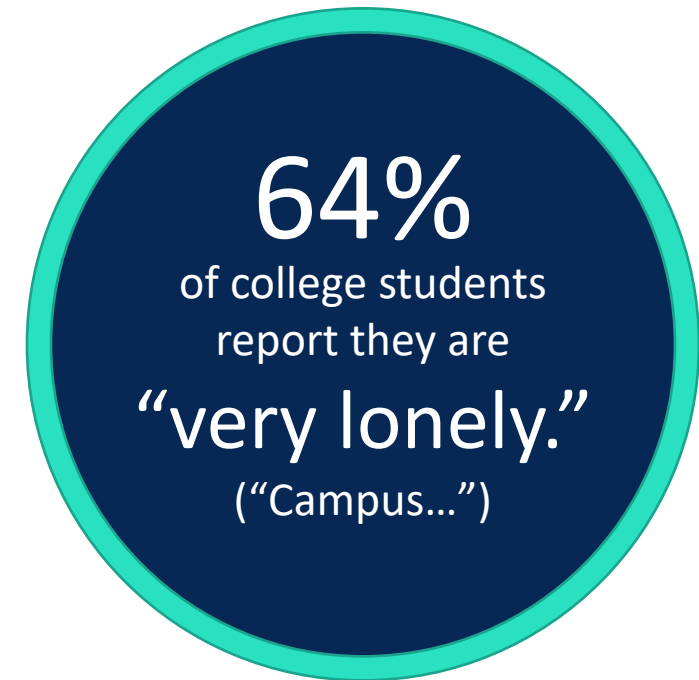
Personal Development

Friendship

- Social support
- Connections on campus

Mental Health

- All time low
- Building community (McClure)



Social Change

Upward Social Mobility

- New economic advantages
- Professional skills and networking

Changing the Narrative

- Returning to founding values
- Actions are louder

"Labor market connections through membership in a national organization facilitate job opportunities and supply increased social capital to members, capital that may be particularly important to members from lower socioeconomic backgrounds whose existing social networks would provide little assistance in the post-college labor market" (McClure, 1051)

Conclusion

So What?

Abolition should not be the answer

With purposeful and meaningful reform, Greek Life will be one of a college's greatest assets

Contact

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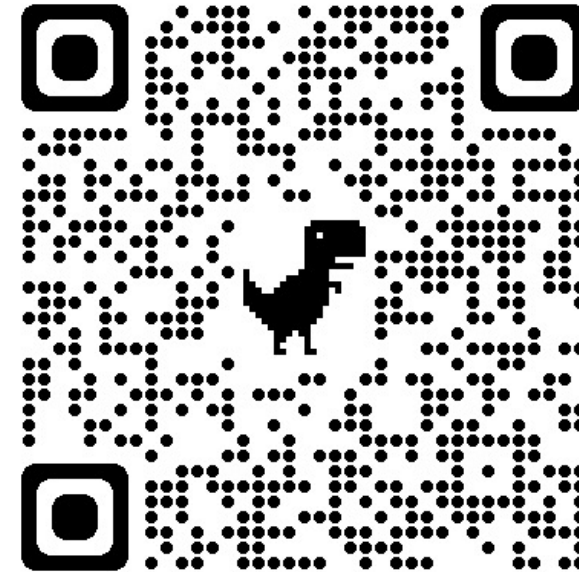
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For More Information:

Works Cited



<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yw4jmanmvoYJHOz56BVJU8tsty2mZfn3/edit>



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