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afa ORACLE

THE RESEARCH JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FRATERNITY | SORORITY ADVISORS

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2, FALL 2012

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1 ASIAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S PERSPECTIVES ON HISTORICALLY WHITE SORORITY LIFE: A CRITICAL RACE THEORY AND CULTURAL CAPITAL ANALYSIS

JULIE J. PARK

This study examined 18 Asian American women's attitudes towards sororities at a predominantly White institution in the south. I use cultural capital and critical race theory frameworks to explain how immigrant identity and social class intersect with race to perpetuate racial divisions in historically White sorority life (HWSL). Participants identified two primary reasons for the lack of racial diversity in HWSL, the role of immigrant families and social class, both of which can be viewed as race-neutral explanations for why HWSL "coincidentally" remains divided by race. However, I demonstrate how race intersects with both immigration and social class to perpetuate social divisions in HWSL, resulting in complex insights for why such groups remain predominantly White in composition. 1

19 A VALUES-BASED LEARNING MODEL TO IMPACT MATURATIONAL CHANGE: THE COLLEGE FRATERNITY AS DEVELOPMENTAL CRUCIBLE

TIMOTHY H. REUTER, ELGAN L. BAKER, MICHAEL V. HERNANDEZ, & DANIEL A. BUREAU

The period of late adolescence and early adulthood is a critical time during which individual identity is developed. One fraternity recently implemented a developmental process that facilitated identity maturation within its members by emphasizing self-awareness and reflection. Utilizing a learning model as the core component of all aspects of its programming, the fraternity conducted research to determine the impact of its learning model on the development of self-awareness. This article provides data from three years of implementation that documents significant increases in this critical developmental competency.

37 A MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN UNDERGRADUATE FRATERNITY/SORORITY INVOLVEMENT AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

LARRY D. LONG

This study explored the relationship between potential time commitments of fraternity and sorority members and academic performance. A secondary analysis of data collected using the Fraternity/Sorority Experience Survey revealed statistically significant relationships between cumulative grade point average and chapter involvement, engagement in academic activities, part-time work, and alcohol use. Chapter involvement, engagement in academic activities, and part-time work were positively associated with academic performance. Alcohol use was negatively related to academic performance. Implications for practice include establishing a culture of academic achievement in fraternal organizations, minimizing the use of alcohol, identifying and approaching academically at-risk members, and establishing initiatives to support the academic achievement of fraternity members.

AN ASSESSMENT OF PANHELLENIC SORORITY MEMBER MEAL CONSUMPTION PATTERNS

BLAIR MIZE AND MELINDA VALLIANT

The purpose of study was to determine sorority members' frequency of meal consumption versus meals offered in sorority houses at a flagship university in the south and to compare the Body Mass Indices (BMIs) of sorority members who consumed less than six (<6) meals to those who consumed six or more (≥6) meals/week at their sorority houses. Another object of this study was to note the relationship between frequency of sorority meal consumption and adequacy of sorority members' diets in relation to MyPyramid. The sample consisted of 72 Panhellenic sorority members ages 18-22 year old at the time of participation. All members completed a "Questionnaire of Eating Behaviors" and a 24-hour dietary recall. Weight, height, and number of servings consumed of each MyPyramid food group were recorded. Members consuming ≥6 meals/week at their sorority houses had greater mean intake of each food group and lower mean BMIs than those consuming <6 meals. According to the results of this study, structured meals and meal times may help sorority members maintain a healthier weight.

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Oracle: The Research Journal of the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors advances the study of college fraternities and sororities through a peer reviewed academic journal promoting scholarly discourse among partners invested in the college fraternal movement. The vision of Oracle: The Research Journal of the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors is to serve as the premier forum for academic discourse and scholarly inquiry regarding the college fraternity and sorority movement.

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SUBMISSIONS:

Oracle: The Research Journal of the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors accepts submissions focused on articulating research involving fraternity and sorority members at the collegiate, alumni, inter/national organization, and volunteer advisory levels. Manuscripts should be written for the student affairs generalist who has broad responsibility for educational leadership, policy, staff development, and management. Articles on specialized topics should provide the generalist with an understanding of the importance of the program to student affairs overall and fraternity/sorority advising specifically.

Research articles for Oracle: The Research Journal of the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors should stress the underlying issues or problems that stimulated the research; treat the methodology concisely; and, most importantly, offer a full discussion of results, implications, and conclusions. In the belief that AFA readers have much to learn from one another, we also encourage the submission of thoughtful, documented essays or historical perspectives.

Visit <http://afa1976.org> for more detailed submission guidelines.