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Front Matter & Table of Contents

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afa ORACLE

THE RESEARCH JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FRATERNITY | SORORITY ADVISORS

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1, SPRING 2013

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vi INTRODUCING THE RESEARCH REPORT

1 **ATTITUDES AND BELIEFS OF HETEROSEXUAL SORORITY WOMEN TOWARD LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL CHAPTER MEMBERS**

DANIEL C. NEUMANN, MARK A. KRETOVICS, & ELISABETH C. ROCCOFORTE

The authors explored the attitudes and beliefs of heterosexual sorority women toward lesbian and bisexual members at an urban, mid-western, private research university. The authors used a researcher-developed tool consisting of fifty-four Likert scale questions reduced to eight factors to provide evidence of measurement validity. A key finding of this study was that sorority women viewed themselves as very accepting of lesbian and bisexual members and held the belief that same-sex attraction in women is not immoral or inconsistent with their sorority values.

16 **WEIGHT MATTERS: AFRICAN AMERICAN SORORITY WOMEN SPEAK UP**
ROBIN ARNSPERGER SELZER

Seidman's (1998) Three-Interview Series was conducted with eight African American sorority women to explore history, details, and meaning of their body image. These themes were identified: Weight Trumps Everything Else, Family Criticism and Comparison, How I Look in Clothes, Intra-cultural Understanding of Black Women's Bodies, Health Awareness, Media Responsibility, and Age. Participants made connections between sorority stereotypes and body image. Participants questioned motivation (self versus society) behind their feelings and behaviors. Participants wanted to help others achieve body image acceptance. Findings challenge the notion that African American women are "culturally protected" from body image dissatisfaction. Implications for practice are discussed.

35 **SORORITY MEMBERS' VIEWS OF NEGATIVE STEREOTYPES**

BEATE WILSON AND CRAIG TOLLINI

The purpose of this study was to have sorority members identify the negative stereotypes they believed other members of the university community had of them and the extent to which they believed these stereotypes were both accurate for and damaging to their chapters. To gather these perspectives, four focus groups were conducted with thirty-six women from four National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) member sororities at a medium-sized, midwestern, public university. In addition to the findings, implications and recommendations are also provided.

SPECIAL SECTION: RESEARCH REPORT
COLLABORATION BETWEEN FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS AND
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN ADDRESSING STUDENT CONDUCT
ISSUES

A WHITE PAPER PREPARED FOR THE FRATERNITY EXECUTIVES ASSOCIATION

BRENT G. PATERSON

In fall 2011, Kim Novak, a risk management consultant and Larry Wiese, then president of the Fraternity Executives Association (FEA) and Executive Director of Kappa Alpha Order approached the author about writing a White Paper that examined collaboration between staff from inter/national fraternity headquarters, chapter alumni leadership and administrators at colleges and universities in addressing student conduct by members of a chapter. The White Paper was presented at the FEA annual meeting in July 2012. The content of this article remains largely unchanged from the original White Paper and is published with permission from FEA.

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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.