

When Rites Become Wrongs

Hank Nuwer's powerful program illustrates the dynamics of hazing in language geared to today's undergraduates using examples from athletics, Greek life, professional sports and occupational incidents.



The premise of this talk is that students need to set high standards personally and as members of student groups. Through examples, the audience will learn that hazing violates the principles that make his or her own organization unique, memorable and valued. A member of a Greek fraternity while a student at Buffalo State College, Nuwer points out the redeeming features of Greek life and athletics as well as meltdown areas. His talk also addresses problems associated with alums who advocate hazing; renegade chapter members; and faculty who fail to see the positive aspects associated with student involvement in athletics and Greek life. He ends the program with suggestions on alternative initiations as a substitute for hazing-type initiations.

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Nationally known author/journalist Hank Nuwer has written more extensively about hazing than any other person and appeared on more TV news programs than any other scholar whose expertise is hazing research. He appears regularly on all the major TV news networks including NBC Nightly News, CNN, ESPN, and ABC's 20/20. His articles have been published in the New York Times Sunday Magazine, Human Behavior,

American Legion and Harper's. His books include The Hazing Reader, Broken Pledges (which was made into an NBC-TV movie), Wrongs of Passage, and High School Hazing: When Rites Become Wrongs. He was a consultant on the NCAA survey of athletic hazing practices in colleges and was recently featured in documentaries on hazing for cable channel A&E and on PBS National Public Television.

"Hazing" refers to any activity expected of someone joining a group (or to maintain full status in a group) that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate.

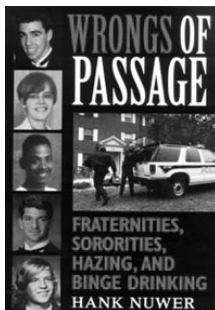
What audiences have said about Hank Nuwer's program:

"Thank you for your dynamic presentation on anti-hazing, filled with very current issues concerning hazing. The Greek students who attended appreciated that you addressed hazing using a worldwide point of view. Often the Greeks are the ones that are blamed for hazing, but it does happen in other groups too."

Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

"Your program was exciting and very educational...You really opened some eyes. It is only through quality educational programs like yours that fraternities will be able to survive."

Lehigh University student and fraternity member



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