How I started my own cult

BY CLAIRE NICOLAY
CRUSADER COLUMNIST

Having become bored and disillusioned with my day-to-day existence at Holy Cross, last weekend I decided to have a cult experience. Heck, we all got that intriguing email about cults on campus and in Worcester, and I’ll bet I wasn’t the only student who said to herself, “Wow! Looks like something I want to be a part of!” Right? Right? An “unaccepted religious group” it sounded so exciting and dangerous! A real change of pace. Some people go home for the weekend when they get sick of Holy Cross; I say, stay on campus! Make new friends! Join a cult!

Not really being “in the know” about how one goes about taking part in pre-existing cult activities that may be going on at HC, I came to the conclusion that I would have to start a cult of my own. Using some of the strategies outlined in said email, I proceeded to plan my night full of cult. My first step was to publicize. I mean, what fun is a cult if you don’t have any members? Then it’s just you and your cult. And a one-man cult is no cult at all.

So I spread the word, to friends and acquaintances; I told them all to stop by my room, sometime after 9:00 in the evening. To avoid negative stereotyping, I called my church a “party.” Some may call it deceptive recruiting, but I was just trying to get my numbers up. I wanted my cult to be the most popular one at Holy Cross! To encourage our group’s unity, and so that we could recognize each other while milling about on a given night, I decided to give each and every new member a bright, shiny red plastic cup. I even got stop, and useful, too! So once I got everybody into my room, and gave them all their “unity cups,” I figured we should get down to business. Time to start culting.

To make my cult a little more interesting, and distinguish it from all the other cults on campus, I decided that the members should take turns being the group leader, depending on who got rid of their cards first. This leader could order everyone else around, and force them to do things. The leader (We call this individual the “President”) was also bestowed with the privilege of making the laws of the cult, which we all had to obey until the next reign. Everyone took to this practice real well and good-naturedly adhered to the strictly enforced guidelines set forth by each President, with a few exceptions. People who did not obey the rules we punished with slander and exclusion, and called them “A—holes.”

The night was a huge success. Imagine my surprise when I ventured out the very next evening, and found an offshoot of my cult flourishing in an off-campus environment! My members were easy to recognize by our red cups, but I found it difficult to determine who the leader of this sub-group was. They even demanded that I pay a tithe when entering their “party”! Being gracious, I decided that my cult had branched out so quickly, I acquiesced with a wink.

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Amnesty International gains a voice at Holy Cross

BY ERIN KOELLING
CRUSADER FEATURES STAFF

Almost everyone at Holy Cross has probably heard about Amnesty International, but some people are not clear about the group’s mission or activity. Amnesty International is a grass-roots human rights organization that attempts to ensure that the principals set forth in the International Declaration of Human Rights are respected by governments and people all over the world. The group is the world’s largest volunteer human rights organization that attempts to ensure that the principals set forth in the International Declaration of Human Rights are respected by governments and people all over the world. It is the world’s largest volunteer human rights organization. Amnesty International is a human rights watchdog group is its appeals of human rights abuses that are of immediate concern. These appeals are distributed throughout the world in an attempt to generate international letter writing and petition efforts against human rights abuses. The group also works to ensure that the principals set forth in the International Declaration of Human Rights are respected by governments and people all over the world. It is the world’s largest volunteer human rights organization.

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For the past few years a small number of Holy Cross students have attempted to generate more interest in A.I. in order to create a more active and visible group on campus.

For more information on the Holy Cross chapter of A.I., visit their website at http://care er.holycross.edu/studentorgs/amnesty_international/, or for more information about the national branch of A.I., visit www.amnestyusa.org

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So what’s next for Fader? “I’m currently taking an electronic music class, learning more about algorithms and the music’s history. Futurum, Dadaism, sound cultures — it’s taking me in a more abstract direction, so I don’t really know what the next album will sound like. I want it to be a double disc, though, called Bi-Polar — one disc will be “positive,” with more upbeat tracks, and the other will be “negative,” with darker stuff. I’ve thought about working with an MC on a few hip-hop tracks. Please also on the agenda is shopping Bridges around to record labels and advertising companies. “Companies have shown a real willingness to use electronic music in their ads. It would be a nice way to get some exposure, though I’m a bit discouraged by the bad reputation that ads have given electronic music all sounds are constantly being proven right by ads. I’d like to think that I could offer them something a bit out of the ordinary.”

In the meantime, Silvio is constantly working on new tracks, testing them on audiences during his sets as DJ Outlander. “Usually, I’ll DJ straight from my computer using mixing software. I try to leave as much of it live as I go along. Often, no one will even notice the terrorous busy dancing and having a good time. That’s just about the best compliment my music can get.”

To get your own copy of Bridges, email Bill Silvio at wessilvio@holycross.edu. Also, you can check him out weekly behind the decks at Irish Times.

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