

I think that if I had to rely on just the textbook and other reading materials to explain the problem of college binge drinking, I would not be able to do it. Living it myself I saw many of the prevalent and persistent problems the textbook describes. I went to a catholic college so sexual assaults never happened but guys were emotionally abusive to their girlfriends. I was the friend who always got the call. It was sad to watch a few of the guys I went to college with become full blown alcoholics by sophomore year. I remember the guy next to me in Global Studies class drinking grain alcohol out of a Snapple bottle at 11am on a weekday.

This problem of college binge drinking is ongoing strictly because it's culture. The mentality is this is what you do when you go away to college, we have forever to live, we have allot of energy, once we hit the real world we wont be able to do this anymore, etc. All kinds of mental associations are made with binge drinking. A strong man drinks a 12 pack in 3 hours (I did, big mistake) or an entire bottle of Dewar's Scotch in a day. (I didn't) Ability to drink large quantities = strength. Women don't binge drink to be accepted. They do it to hide other problems going on underneath. Even in college a guy did not like a woman who drank this way unless it was his girlfriend who he got drunk with.

To college students it's the only extracurricular activity and this is what "adults do". If a student does not take part they will not have any friends at all. My college failed to provide alternative activities unless it was hockey or basketball season. Awareness was never taught and responsibility was never encouraged. This has been an ongoing generational problem because the university and colleges are set up this way. Off-campus housing becomes party houses. If you lived in a dorm it was a zoo. Parents think they are sending their graduated high school student away to school "to grow" and become independent so therefore it's universally accepted at home. Part of it is the parent's fault because they did it, too. When their kids carried on the tradition, they carried in on seven times worse.