

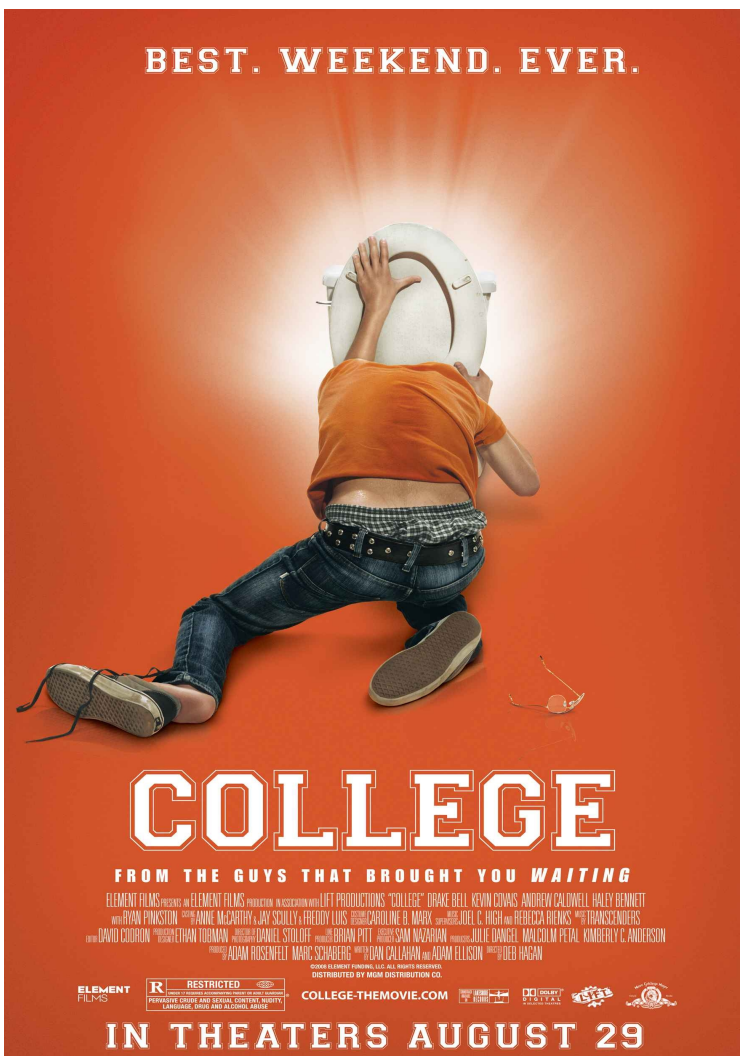
Between 1968 and 1978 life at college underwent a radical change. The change was captured in 1978 in National Lampoon's movie: *Animal House*. Since then, Hollywood has produced many college-themed movies extolling the life of sex, alcohol, drugs, parties, fraternities, lying, cheating, and rude behaviour. Here is a short list: *Slackers*, *Road Trip*, *College Road Trip*, *Real Genius*, *The Freshman*, *American Pie* (1-4), *PCU*, *Back to School*, *Van Wilder* (1&2), *Old School*.

**YOU CAN LEAD A  
BOY TO COLLEGE  
BUT YOU CAN'T  
MAKE HIM THINK.**

~ Elbert Hubbard

# COLLEGE

(Rated R for pervasive, crude and sexual content, nudity, language, drug and alcohol abuse.)



Most incoming university freshmen were born in 1990. For them:

- Burma has always been Myanmar and the Hubble Space Telescope has always been in orbit.
- There has always been only one Germany and never been a Berlin Wall.
- The Soviet Union has never existed in their lifetime.
- They have known only two U.S. presidents.
- A fax is as outdated as a telegram or a carbon copy.
- That computers have windows has always made sense.
- Google has always been a verb.
- Bar codes have always been on everything.
- *The Phantom of the Opera* has always been playing on Broadway.
- They have never experienced the reality behind the words: typewriter, station wagon, Eastern Airlines, or "Here's Johnny!"
- For most of their lives United, Delta and/or Northwest Airlines have been bankrupt.
- Smoking has never been permitted on flights.
- "Coffee? With cream or sugar?" It has never been that simple for them.
- Most gas stations have never fixed flat tires or checked your oil, but have sold fresh cappuccino.
- Young women's navels and boys boxer shorts have always been in view.
- Sara Lee has always made underwear.
- Television stations have never concluded the broadcast day with the national anthem.
- Professional athletes have always competed in the Olympics.
- Microsoft Office, the worldwide web and laser surgery are older than they are.

## A FRESHMAN PRIMER

The transition from high school to college has many unexpected consequences. Some students go to college expecting the four best years of their life, finally “free” to do whatever they want whenever they want. Most don't know what they are getting into.

### Moral Assault

According to a [UCLA survey](#), thirty-eight percent of incoming freshman attending **Catholic colleges** said abortion should be legal. As seniors, fifty-two percent said so. That drift is more prevalent at secular colleges. Views on pre-marital sex, adultery, homosexuality, drunkenness and cheating show the same shift away from the ten commandments.

### Abortion

White, unmarried, Christian, college-age women are the most likely demographic to have an abortion in the United States. (Forty-five percent of U.S. abortions are given to this group.) A Feminists for Life study showed ten percent of college women become pregnant. Ninety-eight percent of the pregnancies end in an abortion. This is not a fact colleges publicize. The choice between a college education and abortion plays out differently than most young women think it will.

### Drinking

Students under 21 are prohibited by law from purchasing alcohol in the USA. Twenty percent of

college students don't drink. Eighty percent do. According to a recent [survey](#) forty-four percent of U.S. college students engage in binge drinking. Students more likely to binge drink are white, young and live in a fraternity or sorority. The percentage of binge drinkers was nearly uniform from freshman to senior year. More than half the binge drinkers, were **frequent** binge drinkers, that is, they binged three or more times in a two-week period. For many incoming freshmen, this will be their first exposure to rampant, pervasive drunkenness.

### Sexual Assault

When parents send their daughters off to college, few think they may return home as victims of an attempted or completed rape. The [statistics vary](#) for many reasons but the U.S. Department of Justice reports that a woman has a one in seven chance of being raped during her four years of college.

### Stopping Church Attendance

According to multiple studies sixty percent of high school seniors who were attending church weekly in May will cease attending church by January of their freshman year at college. Nearly seven of ten incoming American freshmen lose their faith in their first year of college.

### Run? The Wrong Conclusion

In some cases fleeing moral danger is the right response. In others we are called to enter the fight. In all cases, ignoring moral danger is foolish. Parents and youth workers must not fail in preparing high school graduates for what they are about to encounter living on campus. They need to be informed on what is coming. They need to be prepared to respond. By so doing they may save many other students from tremendous heartbreak, moral decay and intellectual confusion.

## Lies & more lies & statistics

- The Freshman Fifteen (6.8kg) (weight gain) actually averages about six pounds.
- Two-thirds of American high school graduates go directly into college.
- The average 2008 college graduate has debts of [\\$21,000](#).
- After adjusting for financial aid, [the amount students pay](#) for college has gone up 439% since 1982. Public universities cost \$15-20K per year. Private ones cost \$30-50K
- According to the American Council on Education the majority of parents believe a college education is so important that they will do whatever it takes to ensure their child gets one.
- Steve Ballmer and Bill Gates (Microsoft), Richard Branson (Virgin), James Fenimore Cooper (author), Michael Dell (Dell), Shawn Fanning (Napster), David Geffen (Dreamworks), Leo Tolstoi and Jesse the Body Ventura all dropped out of college.
- It pays to cheat. Pre-written college term papers are available [here](#).

OF COURSE THERE'S A LOT OF KNOWLEDGE IN UNIVERSITIES: THE FRESHMEN BRING A LITTLE IN; THE SENIORS DON'T TAKE MUCH AWAY, SO KNOWLEDGE SORT OF ACCUMULATES.

~ Dr A. Lawrence Lowell