



Coming of Age the RITE Way: Youth and Community Development through Rites of Passage

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- Proposes practical strategies for supporting new designs that link youth and community development.
- Discusses how rites of passage are used in therapy with adolescents and their families.
- Features a narrative style that synthesizes historical evidence of rites of passage with literature on concepts related to a psychological sense of community.
- Includes a dynamic, interactive companion website with additional resources for readers.

Description

Coming of Age the RITE Way: Youth & Community Development through Rites of Passage addresses the absence of community-oriented rites of passage. This book is distinguished from others in that it combines almost fifty years of scholarship and practice to examine

the concepts of rites of passage and sense of community, as it exists in literature and life. It focuses on the reciprocal relationship between rites of passage and sense of community and ways for it to impact the development of children and the health and adaptability of their community.

This text raises and answers some of the most fundamental questions facing parents, schools and communities; How do we raise our children to be resilient, self-reliant, capable adults who are competent and with compassion that is manifested in civic engagement for social justice? The book sets forth guiding principles and clear methods for putting into practice a whole systems approach to youth development through rites of passage. The approach involves connecting and enhancing environments and building competencies, which promote the positive development of children and youth in their families, in their schools, among their peers in their community and with a strong connection to the natural world. It provides extensive narratives and case studies to illustrate how a framework of rites of passage is used to weave a common language throughout the community and links techniques for youth development with prevention, identification, intervention, and treatment and strengthens the fabric of community support.

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Author Information

David Blumenkrantz, PhD, MEd, LADC, is the co-founder and executive director of the Center for Youth & Community, Inc. and the co-designer of the Rite of Passage Experience© (ROPE®). He is the author of "Fulfilling the Promise of Children's Services: Why Primary Prevention Efforts Fail and How They Can Succeed" (Jossey-Bass, 1992), along with numerous articles about youth and family issues for professional journals, newspapers, and magazines. His blog "The Rite Way" has been syndicated by Social Justice Solutions and is frequently reposted.