

Transitions to College

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Explore **Question**

My group is adding a chapter to Co-ed. Since Sal and Fish's marriage was only briefly covered in the book and never really explored, we are going to write the chapter that covers this, providing insight into Sal's abortion and the stigma surrounding sex in the '20s.

Plan

To find information on the romantic life of students in the '20s I went to the Student Life Archives. I looked in particular for any information about students that had went through similar circumstances as those of Sal and Fish. I also looked for the general views on sex in the '20s, from the perspectives of the students and adults.

Observe

I found three very interesting documents that have helped me in my understanding of the subject at hand. At the Student Life Archives, I came across the Jacob Goldstein papers; although there is only a small amount of information concerning the topic at hand in the papers, the paragraph that does deal with sex on campus is illumination. Goldstein describes a case in which a girl became pregnant and dropped out of school, just like Sal. At the Student Life Archives, I also found a book called "The Campus: A Study of Contemporary Undergraduate Life in the American University," which has a brief section on the prevailing moral values concerning sex and romantic relationships; it describes how the students of the 20s had moved into their own unique culture, one that separated itself from the Puritan values of the previous generation. I found the last source in the Main Stacks of the Graduate Library, a book called "The Damned and The Beautiful." The entire book is about the new morality of the flapper generation, which includes discussions on pre-marital sex and dating on campus.