

So, you want to be an RA?

~~Office of Resident Assistants~~ Illinois State
University

Background To Research

- I was an RA at ISU for three semesters
 - positive aspects
 - negative aspects
- RA's attitudes at the time when I was an RA

Research Question

- What are the attitudes of Resident Assistants towards University Housing Services?

Sample

- 5 participants
- 3 RAs
 - 10 semesters combined
- 1 Assistant Resident Hall Coordinator
 - 4 semesters
- 1 Resident Hall Coordinator
 - 8 semesters

Themes

- ⦿ Are RAs adequately compensated for their work?
 - All but one participant believed that they were not.
 - All RAs mentioned the benefits as their reasoning for taking the job.
 - “I see the RAs as first and foremost as educators and I guess any educator would tell you there is no compensation for that job.” RHC
 - “ I personally don’t think its enough. One of my fellow RAs calculated all the amount of time that

Themes cont...

◎ Student first?

- “ Student first doesn’t mean that you get to slack on your job because you got stuff to do...”RHC
- “They say that but they don’t mean it...” RA Lilly
 - All of the RAs interviewed echoed this sentiment.

Results

- ⦿ Financial reasons for becoming RAs
 - Is it worth it?
- ⦿ Most important part of the job
 - RAs view versus UHS
- ⦿ Time management
- ⦿ University Housing services doesn't honor student first policy

Recommendations

- ◉ Higher pay
- ◉ Less busy work(programming, BBs, DDs)
- ◉ More time to spend on floor
- ◉ No Thursday meetings