Death in Black and White: Death, Ritual and Family Ecology

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Abstract

"Death in Black and White takes a behind-the-scenes look at contemporary funeral practices to discover what similarities and differences exist between African American and European American cultures' experience of dealing with death. The author charts the divergent origins of such rituals of mourning from pre-colonial Africa and Europe to the time in which these cultural traditions came into contact during the period of American slavery, and the degree of fusion and variation that persists up to the present day. Based on a foundation of cultural theory and scholarship, the author explores a variety of issues related to race, culture and death ritual practices by immersing himself in the rich narratives and sources of information gleaned from his in-depth interviews with funeral directors, corporate funeral home representatives, clergy and individuals who have recently lost a loved one. Additionally, he has observed numerous funeral and burial services and cemetery landscapes, and has examined federal and state public policies surrounding burial and disposal, as well as other forms of death-related discourse. Ultimately, the book describes how death rituals both manifest and reinforce different cultural identities, and suggests that perhaps, it is through the experience of death that we might find the most enduring possibilities for promoting greater cultural understanding by maintaining rather than eliminating such differences." -- Jacket
DEATH RITUALS: SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION & COMMUNICATING BELIEFS Nina A. Villena College of Mass Communication University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City A research paper submitted to Dr. Joey Lacson, Graduate Studies Department, College of Mass Communication, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City in partial fulfillment of the requirements in Social Construction 2nd semester, SY2010-2011 CONTENTS Part One Introduction 1 Focus. The basic format of death rituals and celebrations in provinces are as follows: wake, vigils, burial, nine-day-novena, 40th day and death anniversary. Family members should wear black or white, colors are prohibited. Widows are seen wearing black attires for the whole year. Death Addict - Death is a Hell of a Drug. Home Forums > Bloodlust > Photos >. [Child Death] Black and White dump thread Discussion in 'Photos' started by Airbornemama, May 12, 2017. Random Thread. Damn right, in society, we have this romantic or dignified view of death but time and time again proves there's nothing romantic about it dealing with it firsthand. I guess the only thing that constitutes as "romantic/dignity" is being surrounded by your family dying old drawing your last breaths, but hey it's only a theory! Death Theory! PowerDrill, Aug 7, 2017. PowerDrill, Aug 7, 2017.