Klan Rallies in the American South: The Next Generation

[Abstract]

Dianne Dentice

*Stephen F Austin State University, denticede@sfasu.edu*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/sca](https://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/sca)

Part of the Sociology Commons

**Tell us how this article helped you.**

**Repository Citation**


[https://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/sca/17](https://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/sca/17)

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Anthropology, Geography, and Sociology at SFA ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Publications by an authorized administrator of SFA ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact [cdsscholarworks@sfasu.edu](mailto:cdsscholarworks@sfasu.edu).
Klan Rallies in the American South: The Next Generation [Abstract]

From its inception in the post-Reconstruction South, the Klan has been a controversial subject for social researchers. Through a long history of change and adaptation, Klan activity continues, although on a much smaller scale than in its heyday during the 1920s and 1930s. Contemporary Klan groups still embrace many of the same rituals and traditions that were introduced during earlier eras. This paper is an investigation of Klan rallies in Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Ethnographic research that included observations of four Klan rallies and one Klan congress reveals that rallies link the past to the present and provide an important networking mechanism for retaining and recruiting members and integrating children into racist Klan culture. The experience of freedom that the Klan rally affords its participants locates them in a liminal state that becomes part of their everyday reality and unites them as a group.