

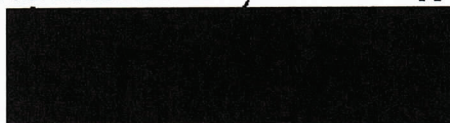
I'm so relieved to finally see people recognizing what a terrible place Hyde is. The person who has already filed a report seemed pretty comprehensive, but I wanted to share some of my personal experiences.

I was there back before the gym was fully built while on the punishment program called 2-4 which stood for 24-hour isolation (although it lasted far longer than 24 hours, as I've seen kids on 2-4 for weeks). This meant being pulled out of academics, and sent to do manual labor while we were supposed to "reflect" on what we did wrong. This meant gathering rocks out in the field in order to make the gym building process smoother. This meant cleaning all the buildings and sitting in silence instead of attending actual academic classes we NEEDED because the education was poor to begin with. The entire school was basically aware of why you were on 2-4. You had to walk in a straight line with your head down, and you were not allowed to speak to anyone unless a proctor (another student) or a teacher addressed you first. Additionally, if they felt like your particular 2-4 group had a bad attitude, you'd be punished with a full blown military workout, something you already woke up at 5:30 to do. If you curse, you get a 5:30. If you're not in dress code, 5:30. Are you noticing a pattern here? And of course, if you were the athletic type that excelled in sports, this was little to no punishment for you. The athletes were ALWAYS preferred. I should also add before that gym and track went up, we did POW crawls through the dirt and the mud in the rain if the proctor "deemed it necessary." The athletic coaches at the time were some of the biggest bullies I've ever encountered. Best of luck to those of you that are out of shape or not athletic, you'll be considered the bottom of the barrel. The coaches' bullying did far more harm to me than any student did. And believe me, there's no shortage of bullying at Hyde.

If you forgot your homework, my history teacher had us do laps around the building IN DRESS CODE. This meant no sneakers. Try running laps in heels. This was especially difficult with their sexist bullshit, "Manners Monday," when girls had to wear skirts or dresses. Hello, where the hell is your space for trans-women or trans-men? The entire time I was there I felt a homophobic vibe. Very few people felt comfortable enough to come out. I had a history teacher freshman year that took us out to do push-ups on chunks of ice we had to find. In addition to being on 2-4, I was also a proctor at one point. I literally had to knock one of the bathroom stalls in because a student was missing and it turned out she was slicing her wrists to try and kill herself. I saw blood dripping on the floor and threw myself against the door. Right after she got into the care of faculty, I literally passed out. My floor mates had to drag me back to my room because I was unconscious and nauseated. And no, I didn't receive medical attention. The medical attention at all times was pathetic, and Lorna K. Murdock should be ashamed she's still working there. I hope you read this and know you've caused most kids to get worse, not better. Someone sits outside to check your name off for meals which are mandatory. Miss a meal? You guessed it: 5:30 military workout. Nice way to deal with students who struggle with eating.

Also, mental illnesses and chronic illness were, and still are, demonized at Hyde. In pain? That's just weakness leaving the body. Horse crap. Not only was Hyde the reason I blew out both of my knees, but I was later diagnosed with two chronic illnesses which were easy explanations for why I was having a difficult time. I also had an auto-immune disease which Hyde thought could be controlled by a pill, just like everything else. I was sick for the majority of the time I was there. My mental illnesses weren't being addressed and I saw other people with personality and mood disorders just get sicker around me.

If you have an eating disorder, it's 2-4 for you. If you're caught purging: 2-4. Realize they're putting many MALNOURISHED people through MILITARY workouts. I almost died from my eating disorder after I graduated. I finally got the care I needed, and I still struggle to this day despite the fact that I'm a grown adult. I have no doubt if these issues were nipped in the bud early, my health wouldn't be as





poor. Do you have any idea how humiliating it is to walk through the cafeteria with the rest of the 2-4 line, with EVERYONE knowing you have an eating disorder? When you come to Hyde you literally give up any modicum of privacy.

The teachers act as therapists, facilitating family therapy and acting as guidance counselors. THE PROBLEM IS THEY'RE NOT TRAINED. THEY'RE MATH AND SCIENCE TEACHERS. So you have this thing that's called "Discovery Group" which is a mix between check-in therapy and home room. So many times I had emotions and traumatic situations pulled out of me because "honesty is the best policy." Could the teachers help with my past history of physical and verbal abuse and rape? NOPE. It was like pulling my insides out and leaving them on the floor. Very few (if any) staff are licensed enough to be dealing with the trauma lots of kids have going on there.

School on Saturdays is ridiculous and so is a mandatory school performance. What Hyde tries to do is pull itself together as a community. Only years outside, after the whole awful situation, do you realize the damage. It truly is a cult-like mentality, and this is from someone who graduated. And when you're no longer in such close proximity to people that get what Hyde is, a real feeling of isolation starts to set in. I bombed in college because Hyde doesn't let you take a year off to try and get your shit straight. You're forced to apply to college. Hyde likes to refer to people who break the rules and don't turn themselves in as "dirty." I don't know about you, but I don't EVER want my children thinking they're "dirty" or "unclean." This is on-par with a caste system in a third world country. The more you shame a child, the deeper the trauma will grow and the hotter the anger becomes. By the way, at least half of my class graduated "dirty." So if you think you're churning out the leaders of tomorrow by "cleansing them," you're wrong.

It's a very hush-hush school. I remember myself and some other girls TRYING to get pregnant just so we could get out of there, if only for a little while. You have to ask yourselves, if you have students committing suicide after graduation and YOUNG GIRLS WILLING to RUIN their entire lives because Hyde is so unbearable, are you really doing the right thing?

Hyde will probably continue to walk just barely on-the-line of legal. When I was there I certainly had questions about how it could be legal, but then again, my age was the age of "let's institutionalize our children." Like Redcliffe Ascent and Outward Bound, Hyde is a place that can permanently damage a person's psyche. I urge anyone who reads this to NOT send your children there, ESPECIALLY if they aren't mentally, physically or emotionally well. This is the opposite of what kids need. Hyde is all about knocking down confidence. When I left I didn't have a shred of self-love in me. I think it's telling that the bulk of the staff I had interactions with aren't there anymore. Because rest assured, if they still were, I would take zero issue naming names except for Pete Gregory and Charles Fraser. Both of these men were bullies involved heavily in sports and both are people to watch out for. I don't know what I would have done if I had either of them for "Discovery Group." I also have a message for Mark Duethorn: Your talent is going to waste here. Both you and your wife are good people and have helped many people immensely. The fact that you're still working here both concerns and disturbs me. You know right from wrong, and you should have left some time ago.

I'm 100% dedicated to HEAL and helping anyone anywhere I can. I truly believe together, we can finally hold Hyde for what THEY'RE accountable for.