The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20050116191724/http://www.heal-online.org:80/hiddenlake.htm

HIDDEN LAKE ACADEMY

DALILONEGA, GA

Your [HEAL's] assumption that Hidden Lake Academy is an abusive facility is correct, in spite of the fact that they are expensive ($5,400 +/mo) and have 'licensed' staff.

Among other abuses that former participants have alleged, they apparently:
*Accept teens in violation of the ICPC.

*Diagnose teens during interviews with prospective parents, based on the parents observations.

*Limit the teens access to parents and forbid contact with other family members.

*Screen incoming and outgoing mail.

*Do not allow teens access to a public phone or allow unmonitored communications.

*Perform restraints in violation of their statement against such.

*Have a limited calorie diet for teens who are on "restriction", which technically could go on indefinitely.

*Require teens to clean the grounds, make trails, dig ditches, and pick up trash as punishment.

*Operated for 7 years without a license as a traditional boarding school while advertising to the public as a Therapeutic
College-Prep Boarding School; and stating at their website that a portion of the monthly tuition may be covered by
medical insurance and that monthly tuition may be tax deductible. They are not listed with the Office of Regulatory
Services as a Residential Treatment Center.
http://www2.state.ga.us/Departments/DHR/ORS/

*They are not listed with the DOE as a private school:
http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/_dbs/schools/private.asp?u_SystemID=693

*While HLA is listed as a Educational Agency with Special Purpose at Ga Accrediting Commission
http://www.coe.uga.edu/gac/index.html

*They are not listed as a member of SACS, which is mentioned on their website

http://www.sacs.org/reports/membership/Proceedings_Accredited_SEC_GA.html

*Opened an unlicensed Wilderness Program and professed that it was not a boot camp, yet until recently, the majority
of employees were ex-military who did not possess credentials or experience working with teens or families.

*They violate many of the state regulations set up to protect patients rights and safeguard against abuse.
http://www2.state.ga.us/Departments/DHR/ORS/

*While HLA doesn't state that they are associated with CEDU, they use CEDU terms and similar techniques such as
"peer groups, rap, bans, fall-out, etc". Their name has been mentioned in association with CEDU.
http://www.strugglingteens.com/archives/1994/10/np03.html and
http://fornits.com/wwf/viewtopic.php?Sort=&topic=2826&forum=9&start=10

*The original Headmaster at HLA who was a former CEDU employee went on to help start another east coast facility
which had problems with CPS for not possessing a license and for abuse alleged by a former employee.
http://old.valleyadvocate.com/articles/swiftriver.html

*The owner of HLA is an Educational Consultant and only refers to his programs. http://www.educationalconsultant.net/About%20us.htm He funded the creation of an industry association-NATSAP
http://www.strugglingteens.com/archives/1999/4/news01.html which opposed legislation designed to protect 'escorted' teens.
http://www.strugglingteens.com/archives/1999/7/seen03.html

The fact that they list homosexuality as a 'problem' is curious, as many who have met the owner believe him to be a homosexual,

To read experiences of participants, parents, and ex-staff, visit:
http://amazingforums.com/forum/BS4/forum.html and:
http://www.fornits.com/wwf/viewtopic.php?topic=5722&forum=9

If you were abused or had your rights violated at Hidden Lake Academy, please e-mail your personal testimonial to us so we may post it as a warning to others here. E-mail testimonials to: heal@heal-online.org

HOME