STATEN ISLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PHOENIX



JOURNAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

VOLUME

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NUMBER

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SPRING 1975

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What is history? It's everything men and women have ever done - building, loving, fighting, working, owning, leading, betraying, raising children, killing, healing, reating. Every human activity has an historical dimension. Every human activity takes place in time. It grows out of previous events and out of the beliefs prevailing in the society. These are all historical factors, and how they interact in a particular event or case is history. Seeing this interaction is active, not passive; it's like detective work. The past, whether it's last week or thousands of years ago, has to be put together. As history teachers and students, we are detectives, searching the past in an effort to reconstruct society as it was and discover its relation to our present.

The Department of History and history students want to share our discoveries of the past with you. It is to this end that this Journal is dedicated. In it we will publish articles of historical interest written by students and faculty of the Department of History. Our students have often demonstrated the ability to do excellent research on a variety of topics. This Journal was conceived as an outlet through which their exciting discoveries about the past might be shared with the college community-at-large.

The essays that appear in this Journal have been selected for their high quality and because they reflect a variety of viewpoints that do not necessarily represent those of the faculty of the Department of History.

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