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Barrytown College is the undergraduate Bachelor of Arts degree program at the Unification Theological Seminary

## Not Just Utopian Ideas

Richard A. Panzer

November 25, 2014

**"Your new commitment must include practical action hand-in-hand with your ideals, theories and dreams... [not just] utopian ideas, your theories must be proven to be true and valid in action and practice."**

*Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, 1984 Commencement Address*

As UTS' founder told graduating students in 1984, our commitment must be to live not just "utopian theories" but to test our beliefs in practical living and to assess them for their validity and practicality. He also said, "we must develop a 'practical application' movement."

This is our commitment at Barrytown College of UTS, to examine key aspects of Unificationist ideals and to see how they can be applied *in reality, both in our personal lives and in the public square.*

Fortunately cutting-edge science has been catching up to many of the assertions that the Principle makes. Just a few months ago, the University of Denver released [a major study](#) of the relationship between marital quality and relationship behaviors before marriage. As the Principle teaches, those couples who had uncommitted intimate relationships before marriage had less happy marriages. Those who waited had happier marriages. The study also found that couples who had larger weddings had more successful marriages. (Unfortunately it did not determine if having *thousands of other couples* getting married at the same wedding was beneficial. :-)



In this context consider the sad, tragic social culture that exists on many campuses, especially in the area of male/female relationships. Most young men and women go to college hoping to make good friends and find someone special to love. Instead many [tragic situations](#) happen that scar these men and women for their entire lives. Colleges try, with little success, to intervene in such situations, without much reflection on the underlying premise about the purpose of relationships.

What will be our Founders' legacy in America? What will be our legacy as Unificationists? What will be the Barrytown legacy? I believe that, if we do our job correctly, other schools of higher education will send representatives to study what WE are doing at our institution. Several students and staff reflect on this question of legacy in the following video.



The Barrytown Legacy

We have also developed a series of ads expressing these themes that can be shared via email, or downloaded and printed.



We invite you to check out [these ads](#) and to share them if you like them as much as we do!

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If you're within driving distance of Barrytown, and are applying to college (or have a child applying to college) feel free to attend a public program on "Understanding the College Application Process" here on the Barrytown campus next Tuesday, Dec 2 @ 7:00pm. Join our 90 minute session on finding and applying to your "Best Fit" college. We'll explore the strengths and weaknesses of community college, state universities, private schools, religious-based schools & more. We'll review what SATs, ACTs, GPA, sports and volunteering do for your application and how your Financial Aid and Career Opportunities may be impacted by your choice of college. Space is limited so [register now!](#)

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I invite you to **JOIN WITH US** to ensure that Barrytown will continue to be a place for spiritual and intellectual development for new generations to come. For more information, or to apply online for the Spring or Fall 2015 semester, visit [www.Barrytown.uts.edu/2015](http://www.Barrytown.uts.edu/2015)! For more information about outstanding UTS Masters or Doctoral degree programs visit [www.UTS.edu](http://www.UTS.edu)! If you'd like to become a contributor/co-creator/co-owner of UTS/Barrytown College, visit [Giving!](#)

Sincerely,



Richard

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