

Collection Summary

ID Number: CS 287

Title: Heaven's Gate

Extent: 3 Folder(s)

Span Dates: 1997-2002

Language: English

Geographic Location: San Diego, California

Abstract: This collection consists of a print out of web pages about the community, in addition to newspaper and magazine articles.

Historical Notes: Marshall Herff Applewhite and Bonnie Lou Nettles met in 1972 in Houston and eventually began to teach that after their physical deaths they would ascend to heaven in a spaceship. Using such assumed names as The Two, Ti and Do, and Bo and Peep, they began to gather following that eventually peaked at around 200. For many years the movement was nearly invisible, its members staying in communal seclusion; during those years Nettles died. In 1992, the group became public again, publicizing its beliefs through advertisements and a website. In 1997, in a house in which they had been living communally in a suburb of San Diego, California, Applewhite and 38 others committed suicide, believing that they would ascent to a level beyond human. **Sources:** Miller, Timothy. *The encyclopedic guide to American intentional communities*. 2nd ed. Clinton, New York: Richard W. Couper Press, 2015. pg. 201.

Selected Search Terms

Subjects: Communal living; Collective settlements; Housing, Cooperative; Collective farms; Commune; New Age movement; Cults; Heaven's Gate (Organization); Millennialism; Unidentified flying objects

Administrative Information

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Contents	Date	Container	Folder	Location
"Hale-Bopp Brings Closure to Heaven's Gate." http://www.tracenet.org/heavensgate/index.html	2002	Filing Cabinet	Folder 1	Filing Cabinet 13-D
Newspaper Articles (Evansville Courier, March 27 and 28, 1997), Clipping: People Weekly, December 29, 1997), Handwritten Notes, Dr. Donald Pitzer, March 1997	1997	Filing Cabinet	Folder 2	Filing Cabinet 13-D
Magazines: U.S. News and World Report (April 7, 1997), People Weekly (April 14, 1997), Newsweek (April 7 and April 14, 1997), Time (April 7 and April 14, 1997)	1997	Filing Cabinet	Folder 3	Filing Cabinet 13-D