

A family tragedy inspires social worker and Reading native to write book

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When Rachel Negrón, daughter of Jose "Joey" Negrón was born. Negrón had no choice but to revisit the memories of when his first son, Zachary Alexander died. In 1995 his son fell from a window of an apartment from the seventh floor.

Negrón was single and 19 years old when the tragedy happened. He never received therapy after the tragedy. The wounds caused by the death of his son never were cured.

Joey's titled book "1ZERO9" came to fruition after encountering the numbers 109. The first occurrence was two years after the death of his son, a friend of Negrón had a tattoo on his calf that had the numbers 109. For Negrón's friend 109 represented his crew of friends. 1ZERO9 means life and death to Negrón.

"They were always small things like watching the clock and the time would be 1:09. I would go to the corner store and would see a candy bar on sale for \$1.09. I would constantly wake up night after night at 1:09 in the morning. My daughter was born at 1:09 in the morning. It was too much for being a coincidence. Although the death certificate says that my son died at 1:22 in the afternoon I believe that he died at 1:09 in the afternoon "said Negrón.

Negrón's daughter was born in the year 2004. In the year 2003 he began to see the number 109 everywhere. In Negrón's book explains some of these moments.

Mainly the book deals with how Negrón's son and daughter are connected with the numbers 1ZERO9. In the book it comments that when showing his daughter the photo of Zachary, the girl greets the picture and speaks to the photo as if she knew Negrón's deceased son.

Negrón comments on things that he did when he was not a father of a daughter, such as going to a club of naked women. Now, being a father of one daughter Negrón takes into account that the women who dance in those sites are the daughters of somebody.

In the book it describes the death of his son was not a result of an accident, but teenage immaturity and negligence. There are many things that Negrón would do differently. "As a young person I did not think about many things and what could change my life in the future. I was a teenager living in the now, but I should have thought about my future as well. You live and learn. One of the things that I would have done differently is that I would have used protection," indicated Negrón.

Soon, Negrón will be celebrating five years of marriage with his wife, who is the mother of his daughter. During the pregnancy there were many preoccupations. There was the possibility that the girl was born with health problems. When Negrón's daughter was born she had to receive an operation, because the trachea was not connected to the stomach. During these difficult moments is when Negrón thought about his son and revisited the tragedy in his mind.

When writing the book many of those memories left finally. The book has some vulgarity and sexual content, but the book mirrors many teenagers' lives today, especially those who live in urban areas. "There are graphic paragraphs, but each paragraph has an educational value. Negrón claims, "I was not going to sugar coat my life. I wrote it as it happened," emphasized Negrón.

Locally the book can be obtained in Borders and/or can be ordered online at www.BarnesandNoble.com, Target.com, Borders/Amazon.com. Look for Negrón to utilize book within the Berks County Area and surrounding areas. For more information on Joey Negrón go visit his website www.1zero9.com or myspace.com/JoeyNegrón.