

## Ethnography Collection

### 1. **Genre:** Festival (Drinking Event)

**Title:** Power Hour

**Semester/Year:** Fall-2014

**Collector:** Allison Paras

**Informant's Name:** Adam Trask article (indirect), Blake Conway (direct)

**Discussion (Significant Details):** A Power Hour is a game where the person takes one shot of beer every single minute for one hour (60 minutes). This game has variations based on intervals of how often you take a shot and what type of alcohol you are choosing to consume. (i.e. using mixed drinks, wine, etc.) This game is almost always accompanied by a music playlist, which is customized to change songs every one minute. People either personally make these playlists or there are customized ones on Youtube and other music media outlets (i.e. 90s power hour, Disney power hour, Hip Hop power hour).

**Context:** This appears in informal environments, typically as pregames for example my friends at their house do this before going to the bars, tailgates, etc. It is creative and expressive in nature because there are customized genres of music and “rules” that people can make to follow based on the specific group partaking in the power hour.

**Text:** “This honestly is one of my favorite things to do at IU before I go out to the bars or another party because you get drunk so quickly and are listening to a good, upbeat playlist. I have never made a personalized playlist, but my friends have and they are incredible and you can never get bored because the song changes every 60 seconds! I highly recommend trying this if you haven't before.” –Blake Conway



Article written by Adam Trask (mentions in article his friend partaking in power hour): <http://theblacksheeponline.com/article/a-timeline-of-my-friend-getting-drunk-during-little-5>

YouTube Link (College Power Hour Playlist) example of power hour playlist: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAJURMNXQA>

2. **Genre:** Festival (Birthday Ritual)

**Title:** Birthday Lap Dance Tradition

**Semester/Year:** Spring-2012, Fall-2013, Spring-2014, Fall-2015

**Collector:** Allison Paras

**Informant's Name:** anonymous Indiana University females (non-consented to posting Website)

**Discussion (Significant Details):** At exactly midnight on the girl's birthday (and boy's) many people give what are known as birthday lap dances. This takes place in Greek houses, as well as known Greek houses but it is an unspoken tradition for many at IU. There is not a specific birthday where one has to give or receive a lap dance, but has been observed numerous times on IU's campus. The most commonly accompanied song with this tradition if you will is "Birthday Sex" – Jeremih. This ritual of birthday lap dances was formed socially as opposed to institutionally. It is expressive in its behavioral examples and has a shared identity of IU college students. Humor, sexual behavior, and social attention are all a result of this act.

**Context:** This is informal and expressive in that when it is someone's birthday at IU, this is a way to have an instant release of excitement and wild celebration. When it is someone's birthday (no matter the age) at midnight, typically within Greek life, but is also common among non-Greeks.

**Text:**

"It to me is like an IU ritual; it plays a part in making the birthday girl the center of attention and it hyper-sexualizes the man and makes it entertaining for the crowd because it is not common for men to be hyper-sexualized like that." – Sara Nebren

"It is an unspoken rule that girls seem to request. People are weird and need to stop doing it in my opinion because it is a very weird tradition that has been caught on. I can speak from experience that you can deny the request of receiving a lap dance if you really don't want it or feel awkward." –Maggie Hill

"I'd say, if I were to go to a fraternity all through the weekend, there would be at least one lap dance I see, it is so common now and people think its normal. If you look at it from an outside view if you don't go to IU, I could see people thinking "that's messed up." My friend was here on Thursday and she freaked out when she saw a lap dance. It was also when a girl was giving it to a guy" –Kaitlin Kerry

"I have no idea how the expected and common role for men to be sexualized and give lap dances for birthdays started here. When midnight roles around, Birthday Sex by Jeremiah is played and everyone gathers around to watch!" – Erika Young

3. **Genre:** Festival (Birthday)

**Title:** 21<sup>st</sup> Shotbook Night

**Semester/Year:** Spring-2013, Fall-2014

**Collector:** Allison Paras

**Informant's Name:** Allison Paras: my own examples of shot book pages

**Discussion (Significant Details):** A way to expressively and creatively celebrate a 21<sup>st</sup> birthday for a girl. A hand made book is made by a random person and somehow and un-uniformly put together 21 friends of the birthday girl. Each page is completely different and is hand-crafted by that one person assigned. The only criteria that is usually followed is having (the name of shot, where it is taken, who purchased it/drank with, what time it was taken, and the signature slot for the birthday girl). People use Facebook, or texting to organize this in secret and it is presented on the girl's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday shot book night. The unstated goal is to finish the entire shot book. Some people make it through the entire book, others don't!

**Context:** A way to expressively and creatively celebrate a 21<sup>st</sup> birthday for a girl. This occurs on typically the eve of her birthday or the following day. This creates a personalized group gathering brought together to celebrate the girl's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday in a artistic way.

**Text:**

