

1. Collector: Jordan Miller

Informants: Fraternity Brothers

Sub genre: Bet

Handle: Monday Night Football

Context: Sitting in a friends room watching Football, four guys in the room including myself, as the Colts finish off the Giants in a not so close game.

Text:

Cliff: "TOUCHDOWN!!! Wow, just a sad performance from the Giants.

Chris: "Fine, let us consult, (Chris and Paul whisper) we'll take the task this week."

Cliff: Bold move, (Cliff and I whisper), we'll go with laundry, make sure to fold neatly.

Paul: "F. U."

Discussion: I transcribed this conversation about the ritual that my friends and I have every Monday night. Every Monday for football the same group of four guys (myself, Chris, Cliff, and Paul) bet on the spread of the game, but the losers have two options. They can both pay \$20 each to the winners, or they can take a task that the winners can choose. The only catch is that the task's value can not exceed \$20, and the task has to be completed by next Monday's game. We have done this tradition every Monday since last year, and it demonstrates a creative take on the normal version of guys betting on football. As well, if the two people who are to receive the task from the winners of the bet find the task too "obscene" then they are able to object and the task goes to a ruling of 5 non bias individuals. The task needs the majority vote to pass, and if the 5 pass it then the two still have to perform said task. The folk group is small and extends to only us 4, however it is a creative spin on the large folk group of males who bet on NFL football.

2. Collector: Jordan Miller

Informants: Fraternity Brothers

Sub Genre: Insults

Handle: Sports Video Games/smack talk

Context: We were in Matt's room, 3 of us, as I watched Matt lose to Tyler in Fifa.

Text: Matt: "Sir, you've gotta call that he was 10ft offsides"

Tyler: "This isn't even fun your so bad"

Matt: "Shut up, I beat you 3 in a row yesterday"

Tyler: "Ya, you barley won when you were Man U. and I was USA, you should feel really accomplished."

Discussion: In this conversation, Matt started off by talking to the referee "who was virtual" trying to make an excuse for why Tyler just scored. Every time someone plays a sports video game in our house, the ritual is you smack talk the other person. It can get pretty heated too in the midst of the game so the ritual has been that when the game is over you can't still be mad at your former opponent. The smack talk is all in good fun, but it is also just as much a part of the game, as actually playing it is. The folklore within this ritual comes from the creative element of how smack talk and generating "rivalry" with an opponent has evolved over time. Prior to video games people had to smack talk more "face to face" and it was while both people were truly playing the game so the insults felt more personal. Now since people insult one another's virtual performance I believe that people take the insults less personally, but at the same time I believe that more insults occur. The folk group would be males who play videogames and another element that demonstrates the folkloric component of this tradition is that there is no requirement whatsoever to smack talk an opponent during a game, its simply tradition.

3. Collector: Jordan Miller

Sub Genre: Tests

Informants: Fraternity Brothers

Handle: Breakfast

Context: 7:30 AM before 9:30AM big exam

Discussion: The idea of this ritual really isn't discussion based but it is created by what we do. Every time any more than 3 of us out of a group of about 10 who participate in this ritual, have a test in the morning on the same day, we all wake up before the test and go get breakfast at Bloomington Bagels. The tradition started fairly casually as a few of us figured out we had tests at the same time and went for breakfast, and as we did it a couple of more times, more people began to join in. We've been at 10 people for a while now, so its looking like that will be the max. number of people with us, that being said we never exclude anyone who wants to come. We do, always go to the same breakfast place every time, but the time that we go can vary, just as long as it is still in the A.M. The folklore to this ritual comes from the folkloric pressure to do well on tests and the classic rituals that students will perform to generate what they believe to be good luck. What I like about this tradition is that there is some truth behind the idea of this ritual to helping a student for a test. It has been proven that consuming a big breakfast helps stimulate the brain and jumpstart your body essentially, however we really don't do it for the scientific benefit. We do it because it was spontaneous, fun, and it gave us something to look forward to on the day of a test. The folk group is limited to the 10 of us, but there is no set rule like a previously stated that requires us to limit our group to 10 people.