

FOLKLORE INSTITUTE ARCHIVES COMPUTER PROJECT
COVER SHEET FOR COLLECTED ITEMS

PLEASE FILL OUT ALL ITEMS MARKED WITH *. ITEMS NOT MARKED ARE FOR ARCHIVES USE. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE ASK YOUR INSTRUCTOR.

1. Sequence Number: _____
2. File Code: _____
3. File Number: _____
4. Subject Code: _____
- *5. Date of Collection: _____ (as close as possible)
6. Hand Index: _____
7. Motifs: _____
- *8. Major Subjects (murder, ghost, etc.): A child ghost
- *9. Specific Subjects (names, places, etc.): G.R.C. ,
Indiana University
- *10. Name of Informant:
- *11. Age of Informant: 22
- *12. Sex of Informant: Male
- *13. Occupation of Informant: Teacher
- *14. Religion of Informant: Catholic
- *15. Ethnic Group: White-American
- *16. Birthplace of Informant: Indianapolis, Indiana
- *17. State and County of Collection: Indiana, Monroe
- *18. City of Collection: Bloomington, Indiana
- *19. Contextual Place Name Reference: G.R.C., Indiana University
- *20. Collector's Name:

Legend: A girl of approximately nineteen years of age, living in G.R.C.; a dormitory on the campus of Indiana University was pregnant and decided she wanted an abortion. Since she didn't have the money to have the abortion correctly; she decided the only way to do it would be a self-induced abortion. She performed the abortion with a sharp object which was very painful. Not knowing what to do with the remains of the fetus, she threw the remains of the fetus into the john. Now as the legend is told at certain times on the floor where the remains were disposed of, a voice of a small child is heard coming from the john. Also it has been said that a small child has been seen lingering around the john.

The legend was passed on to me in the fall semester of 1970. in my dormitory room at Willkie Women's Co-op. There were several kids sitting around telling ghost stories, legends, etc. and this particular legend stick in my mind. The informant whose name is [REDACTED], resides in Indpls, was born in Indpls, he is twenty two, Caucasian, his nationality is American, his occupation is school teacher, and his religion is Catholic. My name is [REDACTED] my home is Greenwood, Ind. my age is twenty, my race is Caucasian, my nationality is American, my occupation is student, and my religion is Methodist.

This legend that was told to me was not one out of the ordinary. A legend is usually about some ghost, a haunted house, or some out-of-the-ordinary phenomenon; this particular legend pertained to the ghost of a child. This legend is one that would most likely be told on a college campus because it has to do with a college co-ed and a child ghost in a dormitory; so therefore, the legend would be told to the college-age group.

I don't believe that the legend pertains to either sex because I feel that as in most cases legends are not oriented to be told just to one of the sexes. This legend could be told when a group of college-age kids are in a group and someone says he or she read an article about a strange phenomenon involving a ghost. Then one by one usually each person has a legend he or she has heard or possibly as in my informant's case has had a personal experience with a GHOSTLY experience.

As in my informant's case he believed in this legend due to the fact he said he had heard the child's voice. I don't really believe in this legend or any other legend; but I do enjoy listening to the different legends. I think this is a general feeling among most people; that they too enjoy listening and also telling legends, but they are not firm believers of the legend. This feeling is due to the fact that a majority of these legends are never documented.

This legend was told because there was a group of kids gathered and ghost stories were being told and this individual wanted to add to the conversation and he wanted to be involved and feel a part of the group. Also since the informant was a firm believer of the legend he told he wanted everyone else to believe the legend. Possibly the legend was told in order that it might be the "scariest" and it might have given the informant satisfaction for having told the "scariest" tale of them all.

I believe that legends are very interesting and an important part of everyone's folklore. Legends have been a part of our way of life and will continue to be so as long as life exists.