

**Informant:** Christopher Neil Kellam, 21 years old, Bloomington, Indiana

**Collector:** Brian Jeffrey Veerkamp, 21 years old, Bloomington, Indiana

**Title:** “Girl with no arms or legs”

**Genre: Riddle-Joke.** Riddle-jokes are “questions or propositions requiring thought to answer or solve; typically, the riddle poses a ‘trick question’ – one that is deliberately designed to trip up the respondent.” It is generally a question that is answered by the teller and intended to be funny. (see Alan Axelrod and Harry Oster, *The Penguin Dictionary of American Folklore*, New York: Penguin Group, 2000, p406)

**Folk Group:** Young Adult Males

**Typical (Performance) Context:** A riddle-joke of this nature would most typically be performed in an informal and often social setting. Since the material presented in this particular joke is relatively unsuitable for a younger audience and may actually offend a person belonging to an older or more sophisticated folk group, it is usually performed only in the presence of peers of this particular folk group. Its only purpose is to elicit a laugh from the audience.

**Transcription of the Item:**

“What do say to a woman with no arms and no legs?”

Answer: Nice tits

**Commentary:** These are usually told in party situations, during a conversation. They are intended only to make people laugh and “loosen the mood.”