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Disobedient Missionary Legend

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Stephen Lee
North Logan Utah
November 27, 2017

Mission Stories Religious Legend

Informant: Stephen Lee is my father. He was born in Hyrum, Utah. From ages 19-21 he served an LDS mission in Bristol, England. He is still a faithful member of the church to this day. He is 51 years old and currently resides in North Logan, UT

Context: I had told my dad about this project and he agreed to tell me some stories he'd heard. We realized that this particular story was one we had both heard versions of on our respective mission, even though they were in different countries and almost 30 years apart. The Story was told from memory and in a casual setting. Because of the fairly strict rules missionaries are expected to adhere to, it is fairly common for stories to be passed around of missionaries who didn't follow these rules and were punished. I believe every mission has some version of these types of legends

Text: I heard about a missionary companionship in an isolated area. So they wrote their letters to the mission president and filled out their planners for like four weeks and told their landlord to mail them, ya know, one each week, then they took off to like another country or something. And their landlord mailed them all at the same time, so they got caught.

Texture: Stephen told this story in response to a similar story I had told him had been passed around on my mission. He was excited to tell it, but didn't seem like he really believed the story. He mostly just thought it was fascinating that our stories were so similar

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