**Interview Transcript with Leo Lei (Self)**

**Informant:** So today is November 3rd, 2017. I will be the informant for this good luck/ bad luck superstition. Right now I am in Bildner. My name is Leo Lei.

A little bit about my cultural background. I was born in Shanghai, China and moved to the U.S. when I was 4 years old. And then, I’ve lived in Baltimore, Maryland since then. I currently go to school at Dartmouth College. I am a sophomore studying economics and government.

The good luck/ bad luck superstition I am about to share is something that my parents have always told me and its basically related to cleaning the house during the time that is Chinese New Year. And so, my parents have always dusted and cleaned the house days leading up to Chinese New Year, and then when I asked them why this was instead of doing it on Chinese New Year, they told me that dusting with a broom on the start of a new year would be like dusting away the good fortunes or the wealth that year would bring. And so my parents always made sure that me and my brother always cleaned up our rooms before Chinese New Year.

And so I think the cultural interpretation for this is that Chinese New Year is a celebration of good tidings to come, and so if one were to sweep during this time, he or she would probably sweep away the good tidings that were meant to come with the new year.

I interpret this as a sign of homeopathic connection because the same applies to a dirty and unkempt room where a dirty and unkempt room would manifest itself on the person who lived in that room, resulting in disaster and misfortune for the new year.