**Questionnaire/ interview transcripts**

**Interview Subject:** Subject A

For purpose of transcription, answers are shorten to be able to read smoothly. Additionally, Subject does not will to have any audio/photo/or real name on website.

**Interview**

**Karin: K & Subject: S**

**K:** Hi, Subject A thank you so much for allowing me to interview you for my project. You are my first subject. Don’t be nervous just answer whatever comes up in your mind. Let’s begin.

**S:** Your welcome, I’m glad to help. Ok…

**K:** Ok. We are talking about rice, I just want to find out some of your family shopping habits and rice eating preference through this short interview. Hopefully this will be about 10-15mins, don’t be nervous, please.

**S:** ok, I’ll try my best. I hope I can help you out.

**K:** It’s alright anything will help at this point. So let’s start with the 1st question.

**S:** Alright.

**K:** So. Tell me about yourself. How many family members are in your household? Whom are they?

**S:** Well, I live with 3 people in my house. My parents and my little brother.

**K:** In your family whom does the cooking and the shopping?

**S:** My parents mostly does the shopping. We tag along, they take turns shopping sometimes together.

**K:** Thank you for the details. (Smile)

**K:** Do you eat rice or rice products in your household? Why or why not? What kinds of products?

**S:** We eat rice daily. Mostly white rice.

**K:** Oh, so you guys eat rice every day. That’s good.

**K:** When you go shopping, where do you prefer to go?

**S:** We go to T&T, Foody Mart, and No Frills, Costco. Depending on what we need, we go to ones close to the house.

**K:** Ok, that’s good to hear.

**K:** How often do you purchase rice products? What kind and about how many times a month or year (approximately)?

**S:** We buy big bags of rice, it normally last 2 months or so. I’m not sure which brand, but we eat the white long ones.

**K:** Ok thank you SUBJECT A. White long grain rice. That’s helpful.

**K:** How often do you eat rice on a weekly basis?

**S:** We eat steamed rice daily. Mostly at dinner at home. We rice for breakfast/ lunch sometimes.

**K:** How about other rice products?

**S:** We like to eat other rice products, too. Like short grain, wild rice, sushi (counts as rice, right?)

**K:** Hahaha SUBJECT A, Sushi has rice in it. So “yes”. You eat sushi rice. (smile)

**K:** What kind of rice do you buy and why? Are there any specific brands?

**S:** We don’t really have a brand or type, we just buy generically what we like to eat.

**K:** Oh, ok. That’s interesting. Is price a big issue for you when choosing the brand or type of rice you buys? Why or why not?

**S:** Well, I guess it would be. We buy big bags of rice to eat daily. We don’t really buy rice when it’s on sale because we don’t always eat the same brand. We like to mix it up a bit, try new things. But we would like to save money when we can so we buy the cheaper one when we need more rice at home.

**K:**  Oh, that’s great! Thanks for letting me know. I do the same things sometimes. (smile)

**K:** Do you remember the first time you every made rice? How did you do it? Is it the same as you make it now?

**S:** Well, my parents normally steam rice in the rice cooker. So when I moved out for college, I had to make my own rice. It was learning to make it right by trial and error, each time adding different amounts of rice and water.

**K:** Why do you and your household eat rice so often? What are some of the reasons? If you could list a few reasons and have them explain a little.

**S:** My parents grew up eating rice every day, and so did we. We eat it because it’s a must have at the dinner table and goes along well with our meals. We really love eating rice.

**K:** Is rice a staple food in your family? Why or why not?

**S:** Yes, I believe it is. We eat it often and it is mostly always served with our meal.

**K:** If could eat just one starch item for the rest of your life what would it be? (examples could be rice, flour, bread,wheat,etc) Why would your choice be rice or why not?

**S:** I’m not sure. It’s hard to choose. Can I say flour?

**K:** sure, I guess. But why flour? Rice flour or just flour?

**S:** I guess wheat… not rice flour but maybe. I just think there is so much food you can make with flour, like noodles , pizza, buns etc.

**K:** Ok, that’s not a problem. Flour is a good starch staple too.

**K:** So, ok. Do you think rice is important to Chinese culture? And your family? Why or why not?

**S:** I think it important. For me, because it’s like a tradition, we cherish it as being part of our culture. And rice is not bad to eat. We eat it a lot.

**K:** What does eating rice mean to you?

**S:** I think I answered it already. We cherish eating rice as a tradition and part of our culture. I think it’s important.

**K:** Do you ever get bored of rice?

**S:** Yes. Of course, I do. We like to mix it up at our house, but we are also in Canada. We can escape junk food and pizza and western food is good too. We can always eat rice the next day.

**K:** What kinds of rice dishes do you make? And what is your favourite?

**S:** I would pick friend rice. It’s easy to make, and you can really add anything to it.

**K:** Name some of the products that are made of rice. Why did you choose these products?

**S:** Fried rice at restaurants, rice crackers, snack chips. I’m not sure, there is a lot. I just remember a few that my parents buy because my brother likes to eat snacks.

**K:** Do you think rice important part of Chinese culture? How about here in Toronto? Or in China perhaps? Are there any differences or similarities?

**S:** I think it is important, because other cultures also eat rice and have rice dishes in their meals. I’ve never lived in China, I was born here. So I’m not sure. But I feel like there would be similarities because rice can be a universal food but there would be different variety and ways of making it.

**K:** Wow, thanks SUBJECT A that was a lot of insight. So next question.

**K:** Was there a time you remember where rice was not in the home or dinner table? When and why?

**S:** Rice was always at home and always there when we want to eat it. We never run out at home, we get more when it looks like we are running low.

**K:** What about rice makes it so important or interesting to have in the house? What does that mean to you?

**S:** We like to try new things. So at home we have so many different varieties of rice, and sometimes we eat different types of rice for health reasons, such as brown rice is better for health. Also we like to eat rice that taste good and has good texture…

**K:** Interesting. Taste and texture of rice is important.

**S:** yeah. I guess it would be since we eat it a lot.

**K:** Are there any other uses for rice other than food? Why do we (chinese) use it so much?

**S:** Uh. We use raw rice to hold the incents up when we use it to prayer on the alter ( Buddhism). And maybe to use it to dry phone from water damage. Is that ok?

**K:** Yes, Subject A. It’s fine. It’s interesting which uses you picked. Those are the ones I guess you tried. Right?

**S:** yeah. Sorry. That’s all I can think of right now.

**K:** It’s ok. We are almost done. We’ve talked about rice. Is there anything else you would like to tell me about rice?

**S:** No, I think you are good.

**K:** ok, just a few more. What are your thoughts about this interview? Have I gotten enough information about rice and the Chinese culture here in Canada?

**S:** It’s good. You asked a lot of questions.

**K:** Oh, sorry. I didn’t overwhelm you did l?

**S:** No, it was ok.

**K:** Alright. We are done! Thank you so much for answering all my question.

**S:**  You’re welcome. It was nothing much. I was really nervous, sorry.

**K:** It was a lot of help and I was nervous, too. Don’t worry about it my voice probably sounds weird. (Laughter) Thanks.

**S:**  Ok then.

THE END OF RECORDING/ INTERVIEW/QUESTIONNIARE