

Ain't Nobody's Business

Old-time song and jazz tune; Widely known and recorded. **DATE:** 1882. "Nobody's Business But Out Own" by C. T. Dockstader; 1911 "Nobody's Bizness But Mine" and "Tain't Nobody's Bizness buy my Own" in JOAFL collected by Howard Odum. **RECORDING INFO:** Earliest recordings: Bert Williams 1919; Sara Martin December 1, 1922 on OK 8043. Billie Holiday; Jimmy Witherspoon; Earl Johnson; Frank Stokes; Ike And Tina Turner Mississippi John Hurt; Billie Holiday; Ella Fitzgerald; Uncle Dave Macon; Bessie Smith; Riley Puckett; **RELATED TO:** Cocaine Done Killed My Baby; Champagne Don't Hurt Me Baby; **OTHER NAMES:** Nobody's Buiness If I Do; It Ain't Nobody's Business; Tennessee Jubilee; I Ain't Nobody's Bizness If I Do; Ain't Nobody's Business; **NOTES:** Gus Meade in 'Country Music Sources' p. 499 attributes the source of this song incorrectly to Will Skidmore's 1919 version but it was clearly published earlier and appears in JOAFL in 1911. Two of the early recordings are based on the arrangement by Porter Grainger and Everett Robbins, which was copyrighted in 1922; Sara Martin-December 1, 1922 [OK 8043] and Bessie Smith-April 11, 1923 [Co A3898]. Porter Grainger and Everett Robbins "Tain't Nobody's Biz-ness If I Do" is clearly a rewrite of traditional material. Since the spelling is the same as the published in 1911, lyrics from the JOAFL, it is quite possible they took that title and slightly changed the lyrics. A more likely source is "Nobody's Business But Out Own" by C.R. Dockstader in 1882 (see Version 3). It was performed by the Dockstaders in blackface. The last two lines are: "If we don't hang the cranks, put an end to their pranks/Why it's nobody's business ut our own." Published by J.W. Pepper, Philadelphia in 1882, Dockstader's song (although in a longer song form) is very close to the 1911 Odum version and the classic 1922 Porter Grainger and Everett Robbins versions.

Some-times I ram - ble Get drunk and gam - ble No - bo - dy's

6 bus-ness if I do _____ It's no - bo - dy's bus - ness No - bo - dy's bus - ness

13 No - bo - dy's bus - ness if I do.

C
Sometimes I ramble

F
Get drunk and gamble

C **G**
Nobody's business if I do.

C
CHORUS: It's nobody's business,

F
Nobody's business

C **G** **C**
Nobody's business if I do.

Some of these mornings I'll wake up crazy
Kill my wife and save my baby
Nobody's business if I do.

CHORUS:

Morphine's gonna run me crazy
Cocaine's gonna kill my baby
Pretty girls gonna cause me to loose my mind.
CHORUS:

When she rides in a Ford machine
I buy the gasoline
Nobody's business it I do.

That's where my money goes
To buy my baby clothes
Nobody's business if I do.

She rides in a Cadillac
Oh boy she makes the jack
Nobody's business if I do.