The Social Impacts of Rap

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The Origination of Rap
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Rap originated from New York City in the 1970s. Rap came about when the decline of Disco became less popular. Rap starts as an experiment on rhyming words with musical beats. Rap was influenced by other genres of music such as funk, soul, and R&B. Some famous New York City rappers during the time were Notorious B.I.G, and 50 cent. Now in New York we listen to rappers like Pop Smoke, A Boogie wit da Hoodie.
Who listens to rap?

Rap music is a connection to many people who listen to it and can relate to it so well. The majority of the rap audience are teenagers between the age of 14-19. Rarely over the age of 35. The majority of the population are people of color or a part of that ethnic group and the larger amount of audience it has shows how important this genre is to us because of how relatable it can be. Being that most rappers are people of color.
This genre was chosen to show the positive side of rap. Some people portray rap as a negative aspect and gets misunderstood and judged a lot by society. Some people portray rap as a negative aspect because of what rappers rap about such as drugs, gang violence, and sex. I am creating this website to show the positive aspects of rap and show that rappers rap to show the media the reality in life. I don’t believe that these rappers are trying to corrupt the mind of the youth, I believe that they are just sharing their story and the truth. I choose this design because any color pops out with a black background and is easy to see with any color.
How does rap impact society?

Rap has shown awareness on the real issues in society, and is a great way to show the awareness when there is a large audience in this genre. This helps the youth who are going through similar circumstances as the rapper to not feel alone and motivates them to speak up about these issues and hopefully make a change. Rappers and their songs have more meaning than just talking about money, drugs and women. There spreading a bigger idea here, they are showing awareness to society issues to the working class and people of color.
About these Rappers and Social Impact:

Nipsey Hussle
A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie
Pop Smoke
A popular rapper from Los Angeles who was also an activist and entrepreneur. Nipsey Hussle was killed March 31st, 2019. His death had a huge impact in the Rap community.
An artist that shows sharing awareness on these problems in society is a rapper named Nipsey Hussle, he was about giving back to the community. In an article from the New Yorker said “He chose a Crenshaw shopping plaza where he was harassed growing up as the site for his clothing store, Marathon. He wanted the kids of his neighborhood to feel welcome where he didn’t. He instilled hope and found beauty where so many had only found despair and hopelessness, and that is itself revolutionary.” Nipsey Hussle spread awareness on racial discrimination but showed a positive way to fix it and helping the community as well so the kids in the community won't have to go through the same discrimination he did when he was younger.
About: A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie

A self proclaimed King of New York, Hightbridge rapper named A boogie wit da hoodie. His fame started around 2016 and is still popular now. His music is well known in New York, literally every teen in New York has heard or know some of his songs. His song “My Shit” was a hit in the summer of 2016 that got him famous, and ever since he's been having hit songs every year.
A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie

A boogie is known to modernize the hip hop/rap game since he sings also in his songs. A boogie is also known for having two sides of his music. One side is what we know as A boogie and he sings about his life and the obstacles he had to go through. His other side is Artist where he sings love songs about him being heartbroken. One thing I enjoy about listening to A boogie is the reason he makes these songs. In this article from Rolling stones “A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie: Lovestruck Bronx Rapper Wants to Be Your Mirror” , A boogie said “I would make a song on some vicarious shit and make you feel like that’s you that made that song. I want you to feel like, ‘Damn, this is everything that I just went through.'” . He makes his music so everyone can relate to it and feel how he feels. This is so important because it helps people not feel alone and know that other people have the same feeling too.
A boogie also gives back to his community. With all the money he makes he gives back to the kids in the community to help them pursue their education. Like in his song “4 Min Convo” he said “And Puma Just gave me a budget, I should say, “Fuck it” And give it to the schools’ cause they need it more than I need it now” A boogie did a collaboration with the brand Puma and the money he received from it he donated to schools instead of keeping it. Many kids in New York City are in poverty and the reason for that is the lack of education, by helping out kids to help pursue their education will help them in the future to get out of poverty and motivate them to continue going to school.
A BOOGIE WIT DA HOODIE HANDS OUT BACKPACKS TO STUDENTS
A famous New York Canarsie rapper is Pop Smoke. Recently, the rapper Pop Smoke had been killed from a home invasion on February 19, 2020. His death had a big impact on New York City, everyone was devastated for how soon he was gone. Pop smoke was a new artist and had just got into the game. Some of his famous well known songs are “Welcome to the Party” and “Dior” which was a summer hit of 2019. After his death, walking around New York City you will hear people blasting his songs.
Social Impact

Pop Smoke shared awareness on gang violence in his community in Brooklyn with his song. In this article “Remembering Pop Smoke, a Rapper Who Brought Brooklyn to the World” from The New York Times, they stated “His motivation, he said, came from the opportunity to provide some semblance of hope to children who “got to carry their guns to school because it ain’t safe, but they still got to make sure they get they diploma ’cause they mom could be happy. I do it for them. That’s me.”” Pop Smoke shared a lot of awareness of his past life and the traumatic events he had been through and put them all in a song. By sharing the traumatic events he had been through with gang affiliated violence, he was trying to show that this is not the life the youth should want. This was a way to show awareness of the violence and not have kids affiliated with it because it can cause PTSD as Pop Smoke stated in many of his songs.
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