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Activity: Media

Music and crime

Learning objective

At the end of this activity you should be able to:

- understand how music may encourage crime through the promotion of consumerism.

Watch the following clip and in pairs answer the questions below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LiCo_uUD2SY

1. How and when did hip-hop emerge in America?
2. Where did it begin?
3. How do today's hip-hop artists differ from those of previous decades?
4. What messages did the lyrics in hip-hop convey?
5. How do the messages in modern day hip-hop differ from early lyrics and what are they about now?
6. How do hip-hop videos portray artists?
7. What is the impact of this on fans of hip-hop?
8. What does the quote at 4 minutes 40 seconds in the clip suggest about the impact of hip-hop on youth culture?
9. What is the effect of fans wanting to look like their hip-hop idols?
10. What kinds of item are the hip-hop artists promoting?
11. What might be the negative consequences for young people of their desire to consume the products promoted by hip-hop?

As well as music encouraging crime, artists themselves may be criminalised. If you would like to know more about this, see the article below for details of how drill artists have been sentenced for performing a song.

<https://www.theguardian.com/music/2019/jan/31/skengdo-and-am-the-drill-rappers-sentenced-for-playing-their-song>