

Children's Exposure to Popular Music

Media & Children
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Questions For the Class



- What is your main source for accessing music?
- How many hours a day do you listen to music?



“In terms of both sheer amount of time devoted to it and the meanings it assumes, it is music, not television, that is the most important medium for children.”

-Keith Roe

Children and Music

- Popular Music helps children:
 - deal with loneliness
 - In their process of identity formation.
- Music preference often times helps children to achieve group identity and integration into youth culture.
 - Do a lot of your friends listen to the same music as you do?
 - How much did music play a factor for you as a child in shaping who you are today?
 - Do you think it's changed over the years for children growing up today?

Children and Music

- 1990 study by Roberts and Henriksen showed that more than 80% of children in grades 7th to 11th would rather take music with them to a desert island as a top 3 choice, and music was the first choice by more than half.
- According to American Academy of Pediatrics, a 2005 study showed that 85% of children ages 8-18 listen to music on a daily basis.
- American youth listen to music from 1.5 to 2.5 hours of music a day.
 - Data showed that the prevalence of listening to music in adolescence is higher than that of watching television.

Children and Music Lyrics

- Over the years lyrics have become more explicit.
- Streaming music has made it easier for children to access explicit songs and lyrics.
- Parents are generally unaware of the type of music children are listening to due to streaming, downloading, and headphones.
- According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, 17% of male adolescents and 25% of female adolescents expressed that they liked their favorite songs specifically because of the lyrics.
- Studies have also shown a link to behavioral changes in children according to the type of music they listen to.

Children and Music Lyrics

- According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, men who listened to misogynistic lyrics showed increased aggressive responses towards women, as well as negative views towards women.
- In many different genres of music women are often referenced as “bitches” or “hoes.”
- Genres that showed the most lyrics degrading women were metal, rock, rap, hip-hop, and R&B

Children and Music Lyrics



Children and Music Lyrics



Children and Music Videos

- How many of you watch music videos?
- How often would you say that you watch them?

Children and Music Videos

- Music videos combine two media that are appealing to children (television and music).
- Study showed that 75% of children in grades 4th-6th watched music videos with 60% of those who said they watch them regularly.
- Many of today's popular music videos glorify violence, substance abuse, and the objectification of women.
 - All of these have shown to influence behaviors and attitude of young viewers
- Many of the music videos that we see today by male artists show fully clothed men and half naked women dancing around them.
- Female artists also wear little clothing in music video as well as performances on stage.
 - How do you think this impacts children's behavior towards themselves and others?

Children and Music Videos



Resources

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