WHO’S LEADING WHO:
BLACK COLLEGE WOMEN
VS.
HIP-HOP

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Presentation Agenda

- Session Overview
- Literature Review
- Theoretical Framework
- Discussion: Implications for Practice
- Summary & Evaluation
Learning Objectives

Participants will be given the opportunity to:

- Explore hip-hop’s contradictory relationship with young, Black women;
- Explore young Black women’s contradictory relationship with hip-hop;
- Trace the history of the Feminist Movement to the arrival of a contemporary, culturally relevant epistemology: hip-hop feminism;
Learning Objectives

Conceptualize how hip-hop feminism can be used to enhance the psychosocial development of Black college women within the context of Black Feminist Thought; and

Discuss implications for the practical application of hip-hop feminism that can be used to enhance the psychosocial development of Black women in college.
LITERATURE REVIEW
Both a music genre and a cultural movement born in New York City during the 1970s, among Black and Latino youth (Peoples, 2008).

Voice of discontentment regarding racial and economically oppressive living conditions.

Early artistic forms of creative expression included DJing, breakdancing, emceeing, and graffiti writing (Jabbaar-Gyambrah, 2007).

Multiple forms of expression (and music) within contemporary hip-hop culture (Bradshaw, 2008).
More pronounced search for identity during college-aged years (Chickering & Reiser, 1969).

Extremely visible role that young Black women occupy in hip-hop culture (Emerson, 2002; Sharpley-Whiting, 2007).

Barrage of conflicting positive and negative messages that persist in contemporary mainstream hip-hop music (Henry, Glenn, & Jackson, in press).
Young Black Women’s Contradictory Relationship with Hip-Hop

Hip-hop: The one I hate to love & love to hate.

“We must acknowledge our own role in this troubling relationship. We are enthralled by hip hop culture, and we conspicuously (and happily) consume its primary products—music, fashion, and values” (Sharpley-Whiting, 2007, p. 19).
The Black Feminist Movement

- 1800s
- 1900s
- Exposed the public’s narrow sense of women’s issues (hooks, 1984).
- Revealed the absence of gender, race, and class-bound equality in our society.
- Carved out a space for Black women to participate in the feminist movement.
Hip-Hop Feminism

- Confronting the Negativity in Hip-Hop
- The Intersection of Hip-Hop & Feminism
- New Representations of Black Womanhood
- Hip-Hop Feminism and Black College Women
  - Empowered to participate in popular culture, while strengthening a positive sense of self during their formative years.
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK
Black Feminist Thought

Complex theory with different levels that may be infused in one’s identity (Collins, 2004).

- Core themes of a Black women’s standpoint
- Variation of responses to core themes
- Interdependence of experience & consciousness
- Consciousness & the struggle for a self-defined standpoint
- Interdependence of thought & action
Can be used as a theoretical framework to assist student affairs professionals understand the influences of culture, feminism, and hip-hop.

Can be used to strengthen the identity development of young Black women by:
- Giving meaning to their shared experiences;
- Acknowledging their unique experiences;
- Providing a rationale for acts of resistance; and
- Creating a platform for a self-defined standpoint.
IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE
How can hip-hop feminism be used to enhance the psychosocial development of Black college women?

Consider the following:
- Empowering Black College Women
- Encouraging Black College Women
- Engaging Black College Women
- Enlisting Allies
- Educating Others
Summary


Thank you for attending our session.

Please provide us with your feedback!

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