Bad” Taste in music

**Name**

**Institution**

**Date**

1. **Start your essay with a concrete example of what you believe is considered bad taste in your own artistic genre (not television).**   
   Our view on matters in life says a lot about ourselves as individuals, in this essay, the aim is to understand the broad idea of “Bad” Taste in music. Music is the art of emotional expression through sounds, in my opinion, the lack of that emotional expression is the key to a bad song. This expression can be done through lyrical construction to convey a message across to the audience, whether it is the hardship in life, a broken heart, or happiness. However, in modern rap music, these seems to have faded. For example, Lil Pump’s Song Gucci Gang, the lyric consist of “Gucci gang, Gucci gang, Gucci gang, Gucci gang Gucci gang, Gucci gang, Gucci gang (Gucci gang!) Spend ten racks on a new chain My bitch love does cocaine, ooh. I fuck a bitch, I forgot her name.” Modern rap like such degenerates hiphop and fail to stand up to the great legacies of 2pac or Biggie Smalls, saying the same lyrics repeatedly along with cheap rhymes seems like simply an easy way to make a song memorable, and so catchiness is the only contribution to it’s popularity. I personally do not hate the song, but if a person were to say his/her favourite song is Gucci gang, or favorite music genre is Modern rap, specifically mumble rap, it bad taste.
2. **Use Bourdieu’s distinction theory (include omnivore theory) to explain why you consider your example bad taste.**

According to **Bourdieu’s distinction theory**  it suggests that the high volumes of the cultural capital in the society like education and social assets usually determines the taste of the society. For example a society which has more educated people will have a different taste from the society which has the least number of the educated people. people with very minimal capital usually accept this taste. People with very low capital most of the time are not able to access cultural capital and this is mainly because they lack various means by which they can do this. Some tendencies like the test of the music, food and art are taught to the children and this directly affecs their taste. For instance children of this present generation prefer a certain type of music compared to other music. Different tastes among different children helps them to guide the children to the appropriate social poostions. Also according to **Bourdieu’s distinction theory**  if a man or a woman encounters a new culture which belongs to another social class then he/she may feel provoked in one way or another. Therefore “taste” is an important aspect in the society. This is mainly because tastes helps to determine the class fractions. This clearly indicates the bad taste in music because there is a fraction in the society that like a certain music while another farction of the society does not like this music. Also according to **Bourdieu’s distinction theory**  it suggests that the cultural tastes of a ruling class usually dorminates the different tastes of the other social classes that are present in the society. many different types of omnivoreness have been discovered in the society. These different forms of omnivoreness in the society allows us to see the different status of the association between the cultural hierarchy and the consumption in the society.

1. **In addition, briefly characterize the kind of people (social groups) who are likely to agree with you and those who will probably disagree. What does your answer tell us about social stratification?**The kind of people who likes this sort of song would be age ranged from around 15-23. People who appreciates mumble raps like such would. This age group like hip hop because for some hip hop usually represents the struggles that they are facing in the society. This is the main reason why these age group like hip hop. Some people in this age group like hip-hop mainly because of the production methods which the view it as unique because it has poetry set of the beat. Another main reason why young people like hip hop music is because hearing the beat helps to break the monotony of the suburban life and this mainly helps to give the these people a sense of identity. The most recent research shows that most people beyond the age of 30 years dislike hip hop. This is mainly because music influences our tastes of music as we age. Naturally as we grow older we have different experiences. The entertainment industry in most of the countries is youth driven. This is the main reason why most of the hip hop singers usually target the youths. So many factors have changed the way people interact with the hip hop music. Some rappers like the soujia boy was a youth when he gained the international recognition. Social stratifaction is a form of the social inequality. In most of their societies its members are usually arranged in terms of superiority or inferiority. Social stratification usually involves dividing the society into different strata of layers and most of the time it involves hierarchy of the social group. For example the society can be divided into two: the people who like hip hop music and the people who like hip hop music. This clearly indicates that the members of a certain layer have a common identity.
2. **Which type of viewing or listening style as described by McCoy and Scarborough fits best with your example of bad taste?**

There are so many listening styles described by McCoy and one of them is the **Appreciative listening. This means that a person listens to something so that he/she can enjoy the music. It is important for a person to focus on the appreciative listening and avoid engaging in other communications while listening. This will mainly help one to focus solely on the sounds. The second type of listening is the critical listening and this mainly involves hearing what someone is saying and at the same time identifying the key points. This will mainly help to solidify your opinion. For example, in a debate most of the people engage in critical listening and the main goal of this is to analyze what the speaker is saying and determine his/her agenda. The third type of the listening strategy is the relationship listening and this skill is important because it helps us to deal with different people. This listening style is important because it helps to solve a particular conflict that can occur in the society. The last type of listening is the discriminative listening and this is looking at the past words so that one can detect the underlying message.**

1. **Try to link the symbolic display of (bad) taste to the theories of Goffman.**

Performance refers to all the activities that an individual does infront of the observers. The observers mainly observe if the perfomer has some negative behavior or something of the sort. These bad behaviours are usually brought about by the bad taste in music. For instance hiphop music can instill bad behavior in young people. the perfomers mainly deliver impressions to other people. These impression according to Goffman can helps to communicate information that helps to reveal the identity of the actor. Also according to Goffman the setting of the performance mainly includes the location and the intreractions in which the performance usually takes place. Different settings most of the time will have different audiences and thus the author will have to change his/her perfomances in each setting. Also according to Goffman there are mainly three regions in our day to day lives. Each of these regions has an effect on the performance of the individual. These three regions are the front stage, backstage and the off-stage. The front stage is where the artist usually perfoms. Most of the time the hiphop artist behave in a manner so as to attract young youths because these are their target members. The actor knows that he/she is being watched and therefore he/she acts accondingly. In the backstage region the actor may behave differently. This is where the individual truly gets to be herself/himself. The offstage region is where the actor meets the audience members independently.

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