

Hip Hop Evolution Pt. 4

"The Birth of Gangsta Rap"

W_____ C_____ Rap

--LA had no history or rap background like that of NY.

--W_____ C_____ music was more T_____ influenced and lyrics dealt with partying and women.

--The party scene was limited to roller rinks and small ballrooms. LA was 10 minutes from the B_____.

--2 entertainment companies sponsored parties: Uncle Jam's Army and The World Class W_____ C_____. Popular DJ's: Dr. D_____ and DJ Yella, and Alonzo Williams. Williams opened a club and Dre and Yella worked for him. This became the WCWC.

--The focus was on women and parties. They were inspired by the P_____ and Vanity 6 era. They had an image made for women appeal. The D_____'s were the stars and could sell out arenas and convention centers.

I_____ (1958)

--The early LA scene, had no real identifiable sound. It was described as aerobic music with heavy breathing.

--The look was pastels, K Swiss sneakers and perms. The West Coast dance style was P_____ and L_____ which was similar to break dancing.

--Music was secondary to the gang scene. I_____ was a Crypt affiliate. He wanted to D_____ the game he was living. He wrote raps about G_____ V_____. "If you keep those guys entertained, they like you. Even gangs had an entertainment division."

--Wrote S_____ i_____ T_____ M_____ and it becomes a gang- banger anthem. It's called a street anthem about everyday street stuff. It's reality rap, his reality. It's asked, "Is he allowed to say that???"

S_____ D

--He is I_____ T's main influence. He's from P_____ and wrote P_____ K_____ (PSK). His goal was to make a new sound and a new voice. He wanted to be funny like Comedian Redd Foxx (Played Fred Sanford on the TV show Sanford and Son and was a raunchy comedian.)

--The drums were drenched in extra reverb and echo.

--Ice T copies the tempo and C_____ of PSK only getting more G_____.

--The streets of LA were loaded with stories/idea's for songs.

--LA had 70,000 gang members and the arrival of C_____ made them all business men.

--The LA streets became more savage like with an ill dynamic, becoming more dangerous with each passing year. You could get shot standing in front of your house or sitting at a red light. Music became a reflection of the streets.

--Formed by Dr. D_____, DJ Yella, Arabian Prince, MC Ren, and E_____ E.

--Their music was S_____ and more menacing and tried to capture life in South Central LA.

(Active from 1986 to 1991, the group endured controversy because of explicit lyrics, which many viewed as being disrespectful to women and the glorification of drugs and crime. The group was subsequently banned from many mainstream American radio stations. In spite of this, the group has sold over 10 million units in the United States alone. The group was also known for their deep hatred of the LA police system, which sparked much controversy over the years.)

--**Boyz in the hood** (1988) - was Easy E's first single and the start of Gangsta rap. It was referred to as **S_____ in the M_____** Part 2. Easy E had to be talked into doing it because Dre loved his voice even though he wasn't rhythmically inclined. This song set the course for their musical future.

--**S_____ O_____ C_____** was a testimony of the repression that the streets of LA felt like for a long time. They rapped about poverty, police brutality, gang life, home boys being killed and life on the streets.

(The PMRC (Parents Music Resource Center) and Tipper Gore (wife of Al Gore) were a group of senator wives who campaigned for the monitoring of lyrics in music. They got the **explicit lyric sticker** placed on product with foul language. It was very apparent that Gangsta rap had placed fear in the hearts of Middle America, who saw their youth imitating Rap life.)

F T_____ P_____

--The _____ sent a cease and desist letter to the band about selling and performing the song.

--The reason for writing the song was because Dre was having issues with the police, many neighborhoods were being targeted with everyone getting arrested. Every weekend Dre was in J_____.

--The police was just like a G_____. Every day was a W_____.

"Nobody tells you there's something wrong with being black, you just start feelin' it."

--The D_____ Concert is stopped and the band is arrested. "You can't sing that song."

--The R_____ K_____ Beating (3/3/91) is caught on video, but the officers are not charged with beating a man approx. 40 times with a baton, breaking joints, bones, 11 skull fractures, broken teeth and kidney failure. He was drunk but not high on PCP as was widely reported. The beating is shown on CNN every 20 minutes for weeks.

On 4/29/92, the officers are A_____ of all charges and citywide riots ensue resulting in 23 deaths, 2383 injured, 7,000 fires, damage to 3100 businesses, 1 Billion in losses...

--"It's using our voice as a weapon against O_____, that's why that song holds up. Their rhymes were D_____s from the front lines.

D_____ Goes Solo

--D____ releases his classic album, The C_____ on 12/15/92 on his own D_____ R_____
Records. D____ joins forces with S_____ Knight and S_____ D_____. The album title is slang for California W_____ and the album cover looks like the cover of Zig Zag rolling papers (Also the inspiration for ZZ Top's name.)

(The album hurls insults at Easy E and Ruthless' Jerry Heller, who ripped off the group. The album went to #1 on the charts and eventually went triple Platinum.)

--The backing music utilizes old 70's style funk grooves and had bass, drums and keys. It captured the house party feel and was the music that helped LA H_____.

--Ice T "We borrowed the NY sounds and added an LA I_____, but Dre came up with a total new West Coast sound, called the G F_____. He didn't use any samples and for the first time M_____ both hip hop and R&B. The album had a huge mass appeal, where Gangsta Rap met P F_____ and it helped hip hop gain acceptance by the M_____ crowd.

--In the 20 years between Dr. D _____ and H _____, hip hop was many things----sometimes lyrically dexterous or S_____ aware, other times raucous and C_____. It was mind exploring poetry, raw biography and intelligent rebellion.

But The Chronic made it something it had never been, P_____ music. It made rappers the new P____ stars. It did this by rewriting the rules as to what a pop star meant. Hip hop turned the underground into the M_____ and the world hasn't been the same since!