Punk embraced authenticity through self-reinvention and continues to inspire people all over the world. The 1970s and 1980s saw unprecedented urban decay, totalitarian authority, robotic daily routines and oppressive economics that punks both opposed and fetishized simultaneously. Limited prospects and an uncertain future spawned a nonconformist generation who propelled themselves forward with the mentality of having nothing left to lose—a bleak form of freedom that was seized within punk culture.

Punk made a point of toppling heroes and holding nothing sacred.

Everything that was normally supposed to be hidden was brought to the forefront, a liberation from a dismal future and a stagnant present. Things would never be the same.