Title: Black Spirituals and Hip-Hop/Rap Musical Genres: A Pathway to Explore Daily Assaults on the Personhood of African-Americans

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1) Introduction: Daily Assaults on African Americans
   a) Thesis: we contend that music provides “a pathway or corridor to explore daily assaults on the personhood of African-Americans” and we hope to provide evidence of these daily assaults by exploring two musical genres: black spirituals and hip hop music
   b) Define Personhood - define theologically based on Genesis 1:26-28: imago dei; implication of this passage – all people to be treated with dignity and respect

2) Cultural Hermeneutics –Black Spirituals & Rap Music Gives Voice to “daily assaults”
   a) Introduction to cultural hermeneutics
   b) Test cases: Black Spirituals and Rap Music
      i) Brief history of Black/Negro Spirituals, major predecessors and players, etc.
      ii) Brief history of rap music, major predecessors and players, etc.
   c) Listen to and discuss music

3) ‘Damning Aftermath’: The lingering consequences and unintended consequences of daily assaults on the personhood of African Americans.

4) Conclusion: going forward to (un)make violence or minimize assaults on the African Americans

5) Group Discussion: Questions and Answers

Bibliography


