

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

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