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# Better Yesterday or Today? Music through the Ages

## By: Baylee Carter

Music has changed dramatically over the past 20 years. From Tupac Shakur to Justin Bieber, the music world has flipped and flopped into a completely different category and style. Instead of spiritual notes hidden behind beats and lyrics, music now relies on fashion, attributes, and image. On the contrary, during the nineties, artists focused on putting message and voice across to the people.

For people that do not listen to old-school hip hop or rap, every song has a meaning that it focuses on. There are many rappers from the early nineties that will go down in history with no doubt. But one that stands out, and who is one of the most famous, is Tupac Shakur.

Tupac was born in New York City in 1971 and made his debut on the rap scene in 1991 in the United States. His music was about growing up surrounded by violence in the inner cities, dealing with racism, social problems, and towards the end of his career about the bi-coastal hip-hop rivalry that swept across the U.S. In 2010, he was named one of the best sellers in the world reaching over seventy five million albums sold worldwide. His music was so powerful because it related to so many people going through the struggle at this time in the world.

Tupac was one of the best of the best because not only did he rap, but he sang, wrote his own lyrics, and most importantly, his message was heard. He was a skilled artist with poetic lyrics that a majority of people could relate to. Hence, why he is so famous and still has fans. His beats were never too loud or too fast, always perfectly soothing or expressing the tone. Whether his songs were about people getting shot or

things never changing, his music always put the grooves in their hips, and the smile on their faces.

As we all know. Justin Bieber was discovered by talent manager Scooter Braun coming across his cover videos on YouTube. His debut album My World came out in November 2009 going platinum in the U.S. He was the first artist to hold seven songs from his debut on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Justin is no doubt talented, and has won all kinds of awards to prove it. But the real difference is the music. The pop star has songs focused primarily on love and girls. His fan bases are mostly young females from ages 6-18 and his style is from a middle-class suburban era. However he often mimics the "rap" style wearing baseball caps, baggy jeans, and flashy sports sneakers.

Because of Justin's debut, as well as catching all the eyes of young girls and other celebrities, people have grown to dislike him. They believe that he is talented, but he is sending out the wrong message. He does not have songs about growing up harsh, or growing up poor. He never lived the hard life that most artists, especially rappers, did. Some rappers support Bieber, such as Ludacris, and have recorded tracks with him. Others won't even give reporters the time of day to comment on him.

"Tupac was one of the best of the best because not only did he rap, but he sang, wrote his own lyrics, and most importantly, his message was heard."





# Do You Think Violence Should be Eliminated from Movies and Video Games?

## By: Sebastian Rusic

Violence in movies and video games, or any source of interaction with this theme, is seen as an instigator for more violent acts and aggressive behavior in real life. These visual entertainers are being blamed for shaping the unwanted evil that is found in our society. Is that fair to say? Of course not! The one at fault isn't the movies or video games but the irresponsibility and lack of control of the human being.

Evil is something that lurks around every corner of our world. Malice can be found in the hearts of many. Instead of preventing the chaos and actually cleaning our cities from this wickedness, we put the blame on other's shoulders. We blame the bigger industries like the movie and video game industries, because they use violence to create entertainment, which everybody seems to enjoy. Higher ranked citizens like politicians decide to fault them for instigating the anarchy and chaos in our society when in reality it is our own fault. Self control exists for a reason but apparently many people seem to ignore it.

Movies and video games are not the root of the problem. People seem to blame technology when they lack information to blame something else. People who lack a conscience always act without rationalizing the consequences of committing heinous acts of violence. However, who is at fault is the foolishness and idiocy of the person for not being able to distinguish between what's right and wrong. Something that is obvious is to distinguish between reality and fiction. If you can't comprehend that, if you're just going to imitate any unpleasant violent act you see, then I am afraid you are not mature enough to watch movies or play video games. One basic rule that needs to be learned is to not get carried away, and reflect that such "gadgets" are entertaining devices we use to escape from reality. We are not meant to reenact the violent acts that we have witnessed.

"Instead of preventing the chaos and actually cleaning our cities from the wickedness of violence, we put the blame on media and technology."

Factors that do instigate violence are a history of childhood abuse, irresponsible caretakers, mental problems/illness, problems instigated by impoverished conditions, and terrible social relationships that coerce a person into making the wrong decisions. It's all of matter of who you are friends with, how they teach you, and how your environment and upbringing changes your behavior into a more aggressive and violent one.



That is one of the main factors contributing to why people are more prone to violence, whether it's lack of education or mistreatment when he/she was an infant or turmoil in the social part of his/her teenage years. Those are the real causes of violent behavior, and these barely touch the myriad of reasons (such as those mentioned above)

In the end, I believe violence shouldn't be censored nor eliminated from movies and video games. Furthermore, getting rid of them would diminish their entertainment value and people would lose interest for these industries. Just imagine how boring and monotonous games and movies would be without action, without that door that allows us to escape from the drudgery of reality.



The Unexpected Barca and the Surprising Milan

By: Jessica Duque

Wednesday, February 20th, when half the world was betting for Barcelona FC victory, AC Milan came about with a surprising 2 to 0 win. The 2 to 0 away loss is rare in the recent Champion's league history of Barcelona, and never before has this team's generation been forced to raise the score for the return game. It will be a challenge, but the Azulgrana are up to everything.

With a very debatable handball of Cristian Zapata interfering with the first goal, the referee did not bother to stop, and Prince Boateng mercilessly approached the net with a powerful strike. And although the victory would be justified by this imminent handball that was never called, Milan played smart against a powerful Barcelona who always has much to show.

Back on the fast break, AC Milan obtained the best chances to reach the goal. The key part of the strategy to beat Barcelona was to limit their opportunities on goal. The only way to do this was to keep players back in defense, therefore depending merely on fast breaks out of half court steals.

Minutes later came a triple pass goal. Starting from a goal kick to M'baye Niang who beat Puyol in the box, worked the ball to the middle where El-Shaarawy dinked the ball to the side to Sulley Muntari who came sprinting to slam a first shot for the 2 to 0 in the 81 minutes.



Now Milan heads to Camp Nou with a significant advantage no one thought they would gain. Barcelona was always stuck, unable to put the ball behind the defense. "Lack of invention" say critics.

With no shots on goal, Barcelona kept the ball up at the midfield without creating any chance for scoring. They had much more ball possession but put the ball to sleep between passes.

Barcelona's players admit their mediocre performance, but they also have stated that the game doesn't stop here. "We trust ourselves," says Leo Messi.



## Kitty for Adoption

Stray, female, well-fed, friendly, and playful!

If interested,

\*call +584248956267

\*email melissar080@gmail.com

\*Ask for: Melissa Rodriguez

"They had much more ball possession but put the ball to sleep between passes."



# Dear Alfie:

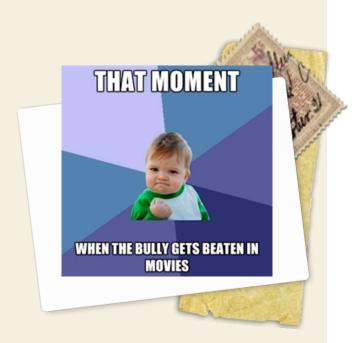
There is someone who makes me so angry I want to beat them up. I am always told violence is not the answer. What should I do then?

Well fella, the solution is to make that someone respect you in the least violent way possible. Always, ALWAYS, talk things out first. If the counterpart doesn't respond to positive nonviolent reinforcement and things start to get out of control, sometimes- albeit rarelyit's necessary to respond physically in self-defense. Typically, you have to let your contender know that you are, by far, above that and that you will not lower yourself to the levels of solving a problem through the use of inhuman and almost animallike actions. If the situation reaches its boiling point to the point of being uncomfortable and disruptive, you have to simply turn the other cheek and walk away. It doesn't matter if you are called names and embarrassed in public. You have dealt with this situation the right way. Things will eventually calm down and the other guy will learn a lesson and leave you alone.

There are some- although very few- situations when the use of violence is appropriate. One example is if a person does not learn the lesson through peaceful communication and keeps bothering you. Usually, bullies or people who just like to bother others are like that because they have never been bothered or physically or emotionally harmed

in their past, therefore they do not see the impact it has on the others. In other words, for whatever reason, they tend to lack empathy. There is always the guy that is used to beating up smaller or physically weaker people, but once they mess with someone that is not truly afraid of them and is willing do "kick their butt," they regret everything they have done because they realize how it feels to be bullied, for example, like in the TV show "Bully Beat Down." Some cases take this extreme.

Another classic case is if the bully is younger and you are just afraid of harming them in a way that you will later regret. Due to the fact that their minds aren't mature enough yet, talking is ineffective but you can't hit them or fight them because you would end up killing them. What to do? In this case I've always thought that you have to act in a violent way so they react. Speaking for your self is key in this case. Let the other person know you are not afraid to fight but never with the intentions of fighting. My point is, the solution is never violence but if the situation requires it, it is a fair tool to use only under mature and wellthought principles.



"Speaking for yourself is key in this case. Let the other person know you are not afraid to fight but never with the intentions of fighting."

## THE CARIBBEAN CHRONICLE

How can I get an older girl/boy to like me? Or any girl/boy...period?

Don't even try! Just kidding. This is a topic that is sometimes awkward or uncomfortable to address due to the fact that getting a girl or a boy to like you is usually out of your hands. It all depends on what the other person thinks about you and what the first impression was. For example, if you acted maturely enough and controlled yourself to avoid silly and childish behavior, there is most likely still hope. The point I'm trying to bring is that seeking love is not the right way. Often, the more you look for it, the further away it goes. Sometimes the best thing to do is this: if you are a boy, give the girl her own space. You have to make her feel respected but not idolized. If you are a girl, talk to him and show him that you exist because most times guys can be really blind. Always be there for him, but vet don't be too "all over him" because he might not take you seriously and eventually he'll view you as his "safe shot" and use you, which isn't what you deserve. The idea is to make the person want to

know more about you. You have to keep him interested so don't give away too much initially. Another thing: do NOT change the way you are for someone else. Don't ever change your style or put on globs of makeup. It is not worth it. If the person does not value you the way you are, then is not the shot to take. You have to show what you are worth and why the other person should like you. The main concept being evaluated is to not be boring, childish, fake, or a lunatic in relation to that special someone if you really want him/her to like you. Hope is the last thing to lose. I've seen some cases where it works and both end up being happy, thankful, and excited about the relationship. If none of this works and the person is superficial, then... Don't even bother!

"Seeking love is not the right way. Often, the more you look for it, the further away it goes."





This is the time to enjoy good food from many different cultures around the world!! You'll be able to try delicious foods ranging from North America to Asia!!

But it's not only the food, there's also a performance created by each grade which resembles the culture of the country they chose. Some will dance, some will act, and much more!

This wonderful event has it all!
Delicious foods from distinct cultures,
performance created by the students'
hard work and dedication, seeing
different cultural themes in one place,
it's something that will guarantee joy to
your heart.

This magnificent event will take place on April 18th in the Gecko Dome at around 11:00 a.m. and will end at roughly 1:30- 2:00 p.m. It'll cost around 50 bsf. Make sure to come by and enjoy yourself internationally!







# Woe is the Woman

## By: Melissa Rodriguez

In only a few days, the first female president of South Korea will be sworn into the position. She advocated her belief in effective cost cuts and tax reduction in order to boom business in the country, a plan that seems full of promise. If countries with much lower economic status and lower technological advancement can elect a female president, then why can't a world leader like the USA?

Hilary Clinton raised a lot of commotion when she ran for president in 2008. Serious dilemmas arose, such as the question of how Bill Clinton would influence her term as well as the verse in the Bible discouraging the society that allows a female leader. These among numerous other criticisms effectively squashed her chances of winning from the beginning.

But when it comes down to it, a female president will be just as effective as any of her male opponents. If anything, a change like that could bring completely innovative ideas to the political table. After all, every single president from George Washington to George W. Bush has been a white male—not much diversity to say the least. A woman, just like any unique individual who can come onto power for the first time, may have different views on matters and therefore leads in a new way. Still, not everyone in the United States is welcoming to change.

A survey (<a href="http://www.kchblog.com/?p=318">http://www.kchblog.com/?p=318</a>) showed that 45% of polled Americans do not believe their country is ready for a female president and that 32% of Americans would not consider voting for a woman as president.

However, none of these, in my own opinion, should be explicit, unchangeable opinions that are applicable to all women. It simply does not take into account the individual merit of a particular female candidate, and cannot be extended to all women in politics. Even religion, a huge part of people's actions and views, should not be included in their decision during presidential elections. Some verses in the bible that discourage female authority are:

Woe to the wicked! Disaster is upon them! They will be paid back for what their hands have done.

> Youths oppress my people, women rule over them. O my people, your guides lead you astray; they turn you from the path.

> > (Isaiah 3:11-12)

And:

Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

(1 Tim. 2:11-15)

These are cautionary excerpts that discourage a society from instilling a female leader. However, these should not be considered when voting because times have changed so much throughout the centuries, and the world is more socially accepting. Religious views need to adapt to these changes.

The United States, extremely progressive in many ways, still seems unready for a female president. Perhaps one day, they will follow the example of South Korea and the 16 other countries (<a href="http://womenshistory.about.com/od/rulers20th/a/women\_heads.htm">http://womenshistory.about.com/od/rulers20th/a/women\_heads.htm</a>) that value women as true equals to men and have elected them as presidents, and choose a woman to represent their nation.





# The Writer's Corner

# Game of Horse Baylee Carter

A game of horse

Determined my fate to write this bit

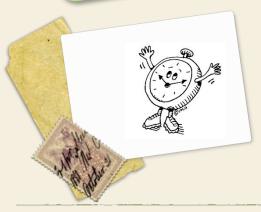
For such a dear friend

That I will surely see again

Just like a Texas sunset laying out across the bay

Just like a Possion of the gutter for another woman I threw you to the gutter for another woman And I regret it gravely And I regret it gravely But I don't want to lose your friendship and it runs through my mind daily All the ways I can ruin it And the little ways I can mend it And the little ways I can mend it Because you are a brilliant polished apple That will never rot

I har will Hose as I deal with the knot I hardly can consider myself loose as I deal with the knot The constant reminding of the way I tied it The constant reminding of the way I tied it Although now it is not what I sought Although now it is not what I sought But will find a way to unravel it





### In the Hands of the Clock

Sebastian Rusic

The young seed starts growing and it starts noticing,
Time is cruel with him, giving him no mercy,
Subjected to a world of giants he cannot comprehend,
That child he used to be is now gradually fading

The freedom he possessed now vanishing into shadows,
The ignorance he once held to is being cleared by reality,
Those closed eyes that once brought him bliss
Are now open to bring him distress

Like Peter Pan, a never aging boy,
But only in his mind because his body disagreed,
Judged by intolerant titans because of his ways,
They say the body should grow, and the mind as well

The clock still ticking,

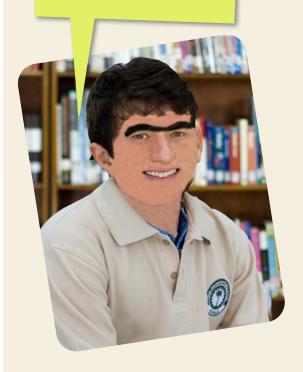
And the man still preserving that essence inside,

Because it's something that brings him hope and glee,

But time will catch up to his mind soon enough



# Who am 9?



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Sudoku

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