

Colorism Through Music

14 Items

This resource explores how colorism is perceived in music.

What is colorism?

- ▶ People being discriminated or oppressed based on their skin tone
- ▶ Lighter skin deemed as more acceptable than darker skin
- ▶ prejudice or discrimination against individuals with a dark skin tone, typically among people of the same ethnic or racial group.



COMPLEXION KENDRICK LAMAR LYRICS

YouTube

ARTISTA: KENDRICK LAMAR ALBUM: TO PIMP A BUTTERFLY FECHA DE LANZAMIENTO: 2015 GENERO: RAP

In this song, Kendrick Lamar tackles the idea of colorism and refers to the fact that European beauty standards are more preferable in most cases which includes lighter skin. He also reverts back to the idea of slavery and how the lighter skinned people were supposedly the ones who were in the house while the darker skinned people were put to work in the fields.



Spice - Black Hypocrisy (Official Lyrics)



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Spice - Black Hypocrisy (Official Lyrics)

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🎵Artist:🎵Title:🎵Label:🎵Distributed By:

In this song, Spice, talks about how lighter skin seen as superior and darker skin seen as inferior. She reiterates the fact that you should love the skin that you are in no matter what color you are. She starts to demolish the idea of colorism and states how Black people are colorist towards their own peers. She also mentions how some people feel the need to bleach their skin in order to fit to beauty standards and feel prettier.



Ismael Rivera - Negro Bembon



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Ismael Rivera - Negro Bembon

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English translation:

They killed the black bembón

They killed the black bembón

Today you cry night and day

Because to the black bembón

Everybody wanted it

Because the black bembón

Everybody wanted it

And the police arrived

And they arrested the bully

And one of the police

Who was also a bembón

Bad luck

To do the research

Bad luck

To do the research

And they know the question

What did he do to the bully

Why did you kill him?

Say the reason

And they know the answer

What the bully gave him

I killed him

For being so bembón

The guard hid

I bembó and told her

That's no reason

In this song, Ismael Rivera talks about people could be killed solely based on the fact that they are black and darker skinned.

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Mr Vegas - Colorism (Official Video)

YouTube

2018 MV MusicColorism - Lyrics They have no love for their brothers and their sisters They will sell you out for one slice a pizza Then they wannq burn out K...

In this song Mr. Vegas discusses how lighter skinned people are deemed superior because of their skin tone and how darker skinned people are not seem in the same light. He also reverts back to slavery and how his ancestors had to deal with the same ideals.



Why black people discriminate among ourselves: the toxic legacy of colorism

 the Guardian

You cannot separate the often painful stereotypes of colorism from misogyny and the sexual exploitation inherent in American slavery. To combat it we need to speak about it

This article above discuss why Black people categorize themselves and oppress each other in the form of colorism and the stereotypes that come along with it. It brings awareness to just how harmful these stereotypes and discrimination within the community can be. It also sheds light on how colorism is reflected in other forms of media other than music.

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