

## Rap - A Different Language?

Ibrahim Kacmaz<sup>1,a\*</sup>, Stefan Gutsche<sup>2,b</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sintzelstr. 11; 92637 Weiden i.d.Opf., Germany

<sup>2</sup>Weidingweg 30b; 92637 Weiden i.d.Opf., Germany

<sup>a</sup>ibo290191@googlemail.com, <sup>b</sup>s.gutsche@gmx.net

\*Corresponding author

**Keywords:** Impact of Language, Rap Music, Diversity, Youth, Indexing.

**Abstract.** The music genre of rap is often criticized for its vulgar language and use of discriminating terminology. Similarly, the negative impact of this music, especially on youth and the young minds is questionable, especially since this seems to be the primary listener group targeted by the musicians. In this analysis, several lyrics are reviewed with a particular focus on the use of provocative or extremely secular usage of terminology.

Methodology of this analysis is based on surveys conducted with the listenership of rap to gain insights into the perception of this music genre in the general population. Furthermore, interviews are conducted with critics of rap and supporters / musicians of this music genre. The triangulation of the topic is rounded off with external sources.

Based on the findings, different terminology and its meaning is examined and discussed, in particular what this terminology actually means to youth and how it is different from the meaning the public might holds. While it seems undisputed that parents / guardians have the responsibility to guard youngsters against violence in language and look out for their best interest, often times they are not aware of youngsters' music consumption or the content of it.

In conclusion, a critical review of rap and its sometimes apparent discriminatory content is offered.