# AN ANALYSIS OF MUSIC AND ITS INFLUENCE ON ADULT LIFESTYLE CHOICES AND BEHAVIORAL TENDENCIES

by

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# Lifestyle Choices and Behavioral Tendencies

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Music can change the world.

.....Ludwig van Beethoven

Without music, life would be an error.

.....Friedrich Nietzsche

#### **ABSTRACT**

This thesis uses a secondary analysis to examine music and its influence on the behavior and lifestyle choices of adults. Data were obtained from the 1993 General Social Survey, in which information was collected from a national representative sample of 1,500 respondents. The research question poses whether the enjoyment of listening to certain genres of music was related to different lifestyle choices and behaviors of adults. The variables in the hypotheses include demographic, behavioral, cultural, and criminal justice related variables. The findings indicate that a variety of relationships exist between music and various lifestyle choices and behaviors of the participants. From the findings, one can see how a relationship did not exist between musical preference and gender, while a relationship did exist between musical preference and age, musical preference and attitudes over various criminal justice issues, and musical preference and certain behaviors/activities. Strengths and limitations of the thesis as well as suggestions for future research are also presented and discussed to conclude this thesis.

# **DEDICATION**

In loving memory of my Grandfather,

Darrell W. Smith

May you rest in eternal peace. Your life and spirit was a blessing to us all.

You will be forever missed.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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#### CHAPTER 1

#### INTRODUCTION/PROBLEM

The purpose for this chapter is to endow the reader with an overview of what is known about music and its influence on the behavioral tendencies and lifestyle choices of adults. Over the course of this chapter, substantive information will be presented that has informed the work of those scholars who have addressed the issue of music and its influence on behavior. Overall, it is anticipated that this introductory section will acquaint the reader with the pertinent information that has helped to inform the current thesis, while it will further provide the rationale behind it.

"Out on bail fresh outta jail, California dreamin. Soon as I stepped on the scene, I'm hearin hoochies screamin. Fiendin for money and alcohol. The life of a west side playa where cowards die and its all ball..." These lyrics were taken from the song "California Love" by rap icon Tupac Shakur from his 1996 album *All Eyez on Me*. The content contained within these lyrics may be rather startlingly and disheartening. However, these words may impact human behavior. For purposes of further illustration, below are lyrics contained in the musical group Tool's song "Jerk-off" from their 1992 album *Opiate*.

"But it must not be true for jerk-offs like you. Maybe it takes longer to catch a total a\*\*hole. but I'm tired of waiting. Maybe it's just bullsh\*t and I should play GOD, and shoot you myself... I should kick you, beat you, f\*\*k you, and then shoot you in your xxxxxxx head."

Musical lyrics such as those examined above are raunchy and profane. They are also in no means an isolated portrayal of the lyrical content that comprises a lot of

musical songs. However, do they, as well as music in general, play an influential role in the everyday lives and behavior of listeners? Or does only a weak, if any, relationship exist between both music and human behavior? In short, does music influence adult behavior? This rests as the focal point of the present research.

The influence that the music industry has on an individual's lifestyle choices, ideological tendencies, and behavior throughout this pressure-ridden, unpredictable society is something that has been left open for interpretation and debate over the years. The role of music in everyday life is varied in that it can take on a recreational, social, educational, healing, emotional, and/or therapeutic role in influencing human behavior (Hays, Bright, & Minichiello, 2002). On average, individuals in America—adolescents as well as adults— listen to music in some form anywhere from four to five hours a day, which is more time spent proportionately than with friends, watching television, and engaging in a lot of other leisure and recreational activities (O'Toole, 1997). As it pertains to collecting songs, approximately 37 million American adults and teens have downloaded music files to their computer for their own listening enjoyment (Pew Internet and American Life Survey, 2009). With these statistics, one can easily see how music is ever-present and how it may often influence numerous aspects of many people's lives. Simply put, the power and influence of music on the behavior of individuals can be aweinspiring when examined in close detail. This observation over the power and significance of music assisted in influencing the current research.

#### **Operationalized Definitions**

In this research, the term "violence" is used when music and its influence on human behavior was discussed. This study utilized the definition of violence as found in Merriam Webster's Online Dictionary (2009): 1) intense, turbulent, or furious and often destructive action or force and 2) vehement feeling or expression.

#### Music and Its Importance

As a whole, the music industry and its influence on society as well as individual behavior is of fundamental importance to popular culture as well as health professionals and the criminal justice system. Specifically, the topic area of music is worthy of study for a number of reasons. Music is a powerful tool that has many different meaningful, influential aspects to it. It modifies and intensifies moods, provides much of the slang that individuals use, and creates the overall atmosphere at many social gatherings, such as parties, car rides, restaurants, and social dances (Roberts & Christenson, 1997). Music also defines the social crowds or groups that a lot of individuals hang out and identify with and even how some behave and clothe themselves (Roberts & Christenson, 1997).

Not only does music influence various aspects of an individual's life, it also provides many personal and social benefits to people in their everyday life (Sixsmith & Gibson, 2007). Several advantageous, meaningful aspects of music exist that positively affect many of its listeners on a frequent basis. First, music is an important tool that encourages social solidity and social interaction for many individuals (Sixsmith & Gibson, 2007). Here, many interactions and social groups with similar musical interests and tastes regularly form throughout society. Individuals who have similar preferences in

music will often find themselves befriending one another and, at times, establishing personal membership within a group of their peers (Sixsmith & Gibson, 2007).

Besides encouraging social cohesion, listening to music also provides individuals with a degree of empowerment and direction over their lives (Sixsmith & Gibson, 2007). For certain individuals, especially the elderly and those who suffer from some type of an emotional or psychological disorder, music provides opportunities to become active and engage in social activities and events that are meaningful. According to Hays et al. (2002), things such as loneliness and depression can often times be noticeably lessened when people partake in music related activities, whether it's dancing to music, singing, making music, or listening to music.

## Music & Its Worthiness as a Therapeutic Tool

The influence that music has on the choices, lifestyle decisions, and behavioral tendencies of people has been researched throughout the years. Over time, especially in the past few years, various studies have taken a slightly different route in examining the role that music has on adult behavior. These studies have examined the role of music as a therapeutic and empowering tool in the everyday lives of people, especially those who suffer with some sort of a disorder or illness (Sixsmith & Gibson, 2007; Sausser & Waller, 2006; Fukui & Toyoshima, 2008). Specifically, in the lives of those who are advanced in age as well as those who suffer with a mental illness, music has been shown to play a significant, influential part in promoting and facilitating health, well-being, and positive aging (Hays et al, 2002). Music generates advantageous psychological and physiological benefits to the human body and mind. According to Hays et al. (2002),

"music can be used to reduce stress and anxiety, pain, depression, helplessness, low selfesteem, and to enhance immune functioning with minimal intrusion (p. 166)." In short, the role and importance of music to the everyday lives of individuals is pervasive and wide-ranging.

#### **Summary**

In summary, it is relatively apparent that music plays a meaningful, often beneficial role in the daily behavior and lifestyle choices of adults. Music has played a significant part in the lives of countless individuals. However, the music industry has come under fire through the years from many critics and concerned individuals (see Peters, 2008, Tropeano, 2006, & Anderson, Berkowitz, Donnerstein, Huesmann, Johnson, Linz, Malamuth, & Wartella, 2003). These scholars have frequently argued that the music industry as a whole has become too negative in that it is filling the heads of individuals with hate-filled, violent, and hostile messages. As many argue, the music industry is influencing the behavior and daily lifestyles of individuals, but it is doing so in entirely the wrong way.

As examined throughout this chapter, various benefits come from music. As past research and scholars have depicted, music can take on a very meaningful and positive role to various individuals. Not only does music frequently encourage social cohesion and interaction amongst individuals, it can also give people a sense of empowerment and control of their own lives. Among other practical benefits, music can also serve as a therapeutic tool that helps to promote overall health, welfare, and positive aging.

The next chapter will provide a conceptual framework for the current research. It will examine a number of studies that have been conducted over the years that detail the influence that music has on adult lifestyle choices and behavioral tendencies. It will include a discussion of differing viewpoints on the influence of music on adult behavior. It will also discuss several past studies that support the contention that supporters of certain types of music that often glorify violence and anti-authoritarian behavior will be more likely than others to be involved in certain lifestyles complete with deviant and unruly behavior. Further, it will look at various past studies that have examined music and its relationship with gender. Finally, social identity theory will be introduced as a theoretical framework that helped to guide this thesis.

#### CHAPTER 2

#### LITERATURE REVIEW/CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The purpose for chapter two is to provide the reader with a conceptual framework for this thesis by examining a number of research studies that have served as guides. Throughout this chapter, information will be presented from past work that has addressed the perceived relationship between music and behavior. Due to the large amount of existing literature that has examined music and its influence on behavior, it will be necessary to be fairly selective in the material presented throughout this section. The large mass of existing studies detailing music and its influence on behavior was reduced, and the material presented hereafter was selected from its closeness to the focus area of this thesis. This chapter will however provide the relevant information that has helped to enlighten the current study.

Much debate has arisen throughout the years over the influence of music on the thoughts and behaviors of individuals. Numerous scholars, practitioners, and concerned members of the general public have described how music signifying artistic expression has seemingly given way to that which creates hate, violence, and inappropriate behavior (i.e. see Johnson, Jackson, & Gatto, 1995). Some have claimed that the music industry is filling the heads of a large amount of Americans with hate filled, violent, and sexually explicit messages (Tropeano, 2006; O'Toole, 1997, Roberts & Christenson, 1997).

More specifically, these individuals point out that frequently listening to certain music types over others may lead adults to make certain lifestyle decisions and engage in certain behaviors that could be deemed as inappropriate by others in society. As many

concerned scholars and practitioners have argued, the music industry as well as its artists are instilling unfavorable, glorified depictions of hate and violence, as well as overall unconstructive, damaging messages into the minds of many that increase the probability of individuals engaging in certain behaviors that could easily be classified or deemed as socially unacceptable and improper (Toney & Weaver, 1994; North & Hargreaves, 2007a; North & Hargreaves, 2007b; North & Hargreaves, 2007c).

#### **Detrimental Facets of Music**

The music industry, as well as many of its artists, has stimulated much controversy and debate through the years. Scholars, criminal justice practitioners, and concerned individuals continue to suggest that an aura of hate, violence and anti-authoritarian behavior is being fashioned by musicians through the songs and music videos they create and then instilled into the minds of those who frequently listen to them (Fried, 2003; Tropeano, 2006).

In today's day and age, many songs, musical lyrics, and music videos portray as well as glorify sex and immoral, unconstructive behavior (Peters, 2008). Additionally, several music videos have depicted women in sexually demoralizing and demeaning ways. These videos have illustrated regularly women mainly as sex objects. To add to this, numerous female singers (i.e. Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, Lil' Kim) have even wittingly depicted themselves as sex objects, mostly through the way they act and dress (Peters, 2008). According to Peters (2008), "the most crucial aspect of this singer is no longer her voice. It has now become about her body and how she can sexualize herself to appeal to a large male audience (p. 2)." As females are sexually objectified through

music, the likelihood of females in society being victimized by their male counterparts will continue to exist (Peters, 2008). Specific studies that have examined sex being glorified through music will be examined below.

As it pertains to music videos, glorifications of women as sexual objects are not the only questionable content often portrayed to viewers. Many other videos have depicted things such as guns and other weapons in a manner that falsely makes them appear fashionable or hip, especially to the younger population in America who view these videos and idolize the artists who produce them. Watching or listening to this music plagued with depictions of violence creates certain attitudes and beliefs that are accepting of violence in the eyes of many (Anderson, Carnagey, & Eubanks, 2003).

Prior research has shown that the music that people listen to might indeed influence the behavior of certain individuals (Wheeler, 1985; North & Hargreaves, 2007a; Anderson et al., 2003; Roberts & Christenson, 1997; Fried, 2003; North, Tarrant, & Hargreaves, 2004). Given this, the topic of music and its influence on behavior was specifically chosen from its importance to popular culture, health professionals, practitioners, and members of society. This thesis will contribute to the existing literature and will provide a meaningful examination between the relationship of music and behavior. It will also provide practical implications for the future.

A lot of mediums, such as news programs, written publications, television shows, and other scholarly work have often detailed how adults, especially those that are in their younger years of adulthood, are increasingly listening to more defiant and inappropriate songs from artists of the music industry. As Tropeano (2006) argued, watching and listening to certain genres of music, such as rap, death metal, and hard rock, that often

glorify violence and hostility is related to certain decisions and lifestyle choices that adults, especially those that are still in their younger years of adulthood, are making.

Various studies have suggested that supporters of certain styles of music considered by some as problematic are more involved in certain lifestyles filled with rebelliousness and anti-social behavior. In the first of a three part study, North and Hargreaves (2007a) surveyed 2,532 individuals to investigate connections between the music that participants of the study preferred and various aspects of their life, specifically interpersonal relationships, living arrangements, political beliefs, and deviant behavior. Specifically, the study found that supporters of music often deemed as being negative and problematic exemplify occasional deviant attitudes and behaviors while fans of other types of music, such as classical, illustrate more positive, social behavior. It was concluded that musical preference is a viable way of distinguishing the lifestyle choices and behaviors of different groups of music fans (North & Hargreaves, 2007a).

In the second of a three part study, North and Hargreaves (2007b) examined connections between musical preference and various aspects of different lifestyle choices, mainly media preferences, leisure interests and music usage. In the study, 2,532 individuals were asked to respond to a questionnaire that asked them about their preference in music along with other aspects of their daily lifestyle choices. Specifically, participants were asked to rate their musical style preference along with their preferences for media usage. They were also asked to rate the extent in which they enjoyed each of the different leisure activities that were listed on the questionnaire. Finally, participants were asked to indicate the locations in which they last enjoyed listening to music. The study found that numerous relationships existed between preference in music and aspects

of the lifestyles of the respondents. In sum, it was found by North and Hargreaves (2007b) that fans of 'high-art' musical genres, such as opera, classical, and jazz, demonstrated a personal preference for other 'high-culture' objects whereas fans of 'low-art' music styles, such as rhythm and blues, dance/house, indie, and DJ-based music, revealed a preference for other 'low-culture' things. These 'high-art' and low-art' items were echoed in leisure activities and preferences in radio and television viewing (North & Hargreaves, 2007b).

A study conducted by Dillmann-Carpentier, Knobloch, and Zillmann (2003) examined whether high levels of trait rebelliousness from respondents were connected with increased consumption of music that contained defiant and anti-social messages. A total of 56 undergraduate students at a large southeastern university participated in the research session. Participants were placed in a room setting and were allowed to listen to segments of a variety of computer presented popular songs that contained either socially defiant or non-defiant messages. Unbeknownst to the participants at the time, their musical choices and the time they spent listening to each selection was recorded by computer software. After analysis, it was found that an increased consumption of certain types of music that frequently depicts anti-social and antagonistic messages was associated with trait rebelliousness and hostility from listeners.

Through the years, the connection between problem music and negative, antisocial behavior has been further extensively studied by a number of scholars. Johnson, Jackson, and Gatto (1995) examined the effects of the exposure to rap music on the personal attitudes and beliefs of African American males. It was concluded that an association exists between listening to music considered to be aggressive or destructive in nature and attitudes that are tolerant of things such as violence and behavior that is antiauthority in nature. Likewise, Tropeano (2006) examined whether watching music videos
that regularly depict violence and hate was related to certain adult behavior. A total of 33
undergraduates from a northeastern public university participated in the study. These
undergraduate students were shown two different music videos and were given a 12
question questionnaire to fill out directly afterwards. The results indicated that watching
music videos filled with depictions of violence and hate was related negatively to adult
behavior.

In a series of five experiments, Anderson, Carnagey, and Eubanks (2003) examined the effects of songs with violent lyrics on the thoughts and feelings of college students. In the experiments, seven violent songs by seven different artists and eight nonviolent songs by seven artists were examined by the over 500 students who participated in the study. The students listened to the selection of violent and nonviolent songs and were then given a number of psychological tests to complete that measured their thoughts and feelings toward aggression. The results of the experiments indicated that songs with violent lyrics and messages were related to feeling more aggressive and hostile in their thoughts and feelings than did songs that were nonviolent in nature. The findings of the study have policy implications for violence in the real world. According to Anderson, Carnagey, and Eubanks (2003):

The violent-song-inspired increases in aggressive thoughts and feelings can influence perceptions of ongoing social interactions, coloring them with an aggressive tint. Such aggression-biased interpretations can, in turn, instigate a more aggressive response (verbal or physical) than would have been emitted in a nonbiased state... (p. 969).

## Advantageous Facets of Music

While past research has supported the assertion that certain aspects of the music industry negatively influences the attitudes and lifestyle choices of adults throughout America, others have opposing viewpoints on the matter. Many individuals, such as numerous entertainment executives, a variety of musicians, various scholars (i.e. Hays et al., 2002; Fukui & Toyoshima, 2008; Sausser & Waller, 2006), as well as others agree that the music industry doesn't necessary influence the thoughts, behaviors, and lifestyle choices of adults in an adverse manner. These individuals assert that music is an artistic expression designed to entertain and stimulate the minds of those who listen to it. Others, such as Werner-Wilson (2004), further believe that the media as well as music in general serve as constructive, advantageous mediums in that both mediums help to provide educational value, amongst other things, to individuals throughout America regarding many important life issues and aspects.

Several authors have proposed that music and music-related activities plays an advantageous role in the overall behavior and lifestyle of individuals throughout society. These studies have frequently pointed out that music is an essential element in many people's lives due to the countless benefits that it provides to listeners. Through their research, Hays et al. (2002) illustrated the importance of music by examining a number of roles that music plays, particularly as a positive contributor to the overall physical, emotional, and psychological wellbeing of people. Through their review of the literature on the evidence on the role of music, the authors suggested how music plays a key role in promoting overall health and well-being and how music can be used as therapeutic tool to assist with the care and support of the elderly individuals in society. Additionally, a study

conducted by Fukui and Toyoshima (2008) furthered the notion of music serving as a therapeutic tool for those individuals in society who are advanced in age and for those people who unfortunately suffer from some sort of an emotional, physical, or psychological disorder. Their purpose was to increase awareness on using music for therapeutic purposes.

When one explores music and its effect on individual behavior closely, it has been shown music is related to a wide variety of different emotional responses from listeners. Depending on musical style and the individual listener, music can be very calming and relaxing to a listener or it can influence someone to get up and break out in song and dance (Di Gregorio, 2002-2009). It can also set the tone for a romantic evening or it can propel someone to become more active or upbeat. In short, whether it is enriching and moving or demoralizing and unsettling, the overall nature, beat, and/or tone of music can have some sort of an influence on an individual's mood and/or behavior (Di Gregorio, 2002-2009).

#### The Role of Gender and Music

An additional area of increased focus as it relates to music and its influence on adult behavior has been the role of gender and its significance in the appreciation and study of music. Toney and Weaver (1994) examined the influence of gender and self-perception on individual responses to contemporary hard rock music videos. For the study, a total of 165 undergraduate students (96 men, 69 women) at a southeastern university were recruited to participate. Participants were shown short clips of nine different rock music videos and were asked to fill out a questionnaire in order to evaluate

each of the videos. As predicted, results of the study indicated that males demonstrated the strongest optimistic reactions towards the hard rock videos that were shown, while females illustrated the most positive reactions towards the music videos that were more soft and mellow in nature. This concept of gender and its role as a determinant in the various reactions towards style of music will be examined in chapter 4.

#### Social Identity Theory: A Guiding Theoretical Concept

Empirical research on the influence that music has on adult behavior and lifestyle choices has been guided by a number of criminological and sociological theories.

Specifically, this thesis is guided by social identity theory (Tajfel & Turner, 1979).

Hereafter, this section will examine social identity theory and how it can be utilized to help guide the study of music and its correlates.

As an abundant amount of research depicts, fans of different styles of music may noticeably be differentiated in terms of such things as behavior, lifestyle preferences, choice of leisure activities, and ideological tendencies (North & Hargreaves, 2007a; North & Hargreaves, 2007b; Tony & Weaver, 1994; Roberts & Christenson, 1997). These studies have regularly suggested that music itself is an instrument that helps to discriminate social groups from one another. Music provides a way for individuals with similar musical preferences to come together, interact, bond, and personally identify with one another. In short, music is a tool that helps people to identify themselves with certain social groups.

Through the years, increased attention has been focused on the notion of identity and its overall importance, especially to society as well as the individual. The concept of

social identity theory was developed by Tajfel and Turner (1979). Social identity theory suggests that "discriminations arise [between fans of different musical styles] because they allow participants to make their group membership salient and to derive positive self-esteem from this (North & Hargreaves, 2007b, p. 179-80). In other words, fans of certain musical genres will often times form strong ingroup, close-knit bonds and interactions with one another and will strongly oppose any opposition that occurs from an outgroup (i.e. a group of individuals who have their own unique taste in music, which is entirely different from the ingroup). When taken as a whole, this theoretical concept helps to inform this thesis and signify that preference of music is far-reaching when it comes to the dynamics of different social groups and is often times used as a means to bring together certain individuals or groups and help differentiate between other groups.

## Research Hypotheses

It was proposed that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. rap/hip-hop and heavy/death metal) that frequently portray harm, violence, and anti-authoritarian behavior would be more prevalent among the younger generation of adults as compared to those more advanced in age. This was hypothesized to determine whether a relationship existed between musical preference and age. This hypothesis was advanced because it was anticipated that the younger generation of people would prefer music that is more fast, loud, and raucous in nature, whereas those individuals who are more advanced in age would prefer music that is more calming, slow, and less hardcore in nature (Hargreaves, Comber, & Colley, 1995).

Moreover, the second hypothesis addressed musical preference and gender. Here, it was expected that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music would differ by gender of respondent. It was anticipated that men would illustrate more preferable attitudes towards music that is more loud and hard, whereas women would prefer music that is more reassuring and soothing in nature. This prediction was influenced by the results of the study conducted by Toney and Weaver (1994).

The third and fourth hypotheses addressed relationships between musical preference and personal attitudes towards various criminal justice related issues as well as frequency of engaging in certain activities/behaviors. Specifically, for the third hypothesis, it was anticipated that a relationship existed between musical preference and personal attitudes towards different criminal justice related issues, mainly the death penalty, gun permits, and the legalization of marijuana. For the fourth hypothesis, it was expected that a relationship existed between musical preference and the engagement in certain activities/behaviors. For both hypotheses, musical style played an important part. Findings of these four hypotheses are presented in chapter 4.

## Summary

This review examined a substantial portion of the academic literature that details the influence that music preference has on the behavioral tendencies and lifestyle choices of adults. In this chapter, a number of past studies detailing the influence of music on the lifestyles of adults were extensively examined to provide a conceptual framework for the study. Collectively, these studies helped to form the current study. Also examined in the

review was the notion of social identity theory and how it can be used to help guide research on the influence of music on adult behavior.

In summary, several studies were examined in this section to highlight specific literature pertinent to this thesis. These studies have suggested that the genre of music that people prefer the most may very well influence their behavior and overall lifestyle. Specifically, a number of studies examined in this review have depicted that the music industry itself is a negative influence on human behavior, while others have concluded that music serves as a positive influence on adult behavior. As examined in this section, several past studies have deduced that listeners of certain styles of problematic music are more likely to engage in certain behaviors deemed by others to be negative or inappropriate. Notwithstanding, other studies, as well as scholars, have expressed the notion that music may indeed influence the behavioral tendencies and lifestyle choices of adults, but it only does so in a manner that is advantageous to the listener. These studies have concluded that music serves as a positive tool in that it promotes overall health and physical, emotional, and psychological well-being.

The next chapter will present the methodology utilized in this thesis. It includes a description of the research method employed in this thesis, an account of the data instrument that was used, a portrayal of the sample population/subjects, and an explanation of the hypotheses that were employed for this thesis.

#### CHAPTER 3

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The purpose of this chapter is to describe the methods and procedures that were utilized in this thesis. Over the course of the chapter, material will be presented that highlights and examines the hypotheses that were formulated to analyze the potential influence that music has on adult behavior and lifestyle choices. Information will be presented that details how and where the data for this thesis was obtained. Further information will be presented that describes in detail the data instrument utilized for this thesis as well as the sample population.

## Research Design

The data in this thesis are from the SPSS software version 15.0, which contains the 1993 General Social Survey (Davis, Smith, & Marsden, 2000). Starting in approximately 1970, the GSS annually collects data from the general public over a wide assortment of topics, such as demographics and socio-economic data, opinions, religion, music genres, and criminal justice related topics. Specifically, the survey was conducted by the National Opinion Research Center in Chicago, Illinois, with assistance from the National Science Foundation and the University of Michigan (Davis et al., 2000). From the design and method for data collection of the GSS, the results of the survey are highly touted as nationally representative and generalizable to the overall adult population of the United States who are non-institutionalized (Davis et al., 2000).

For data collection purposes, interviews were conducted from a national full probability sample consisting of 1,500 English-speaking individuals age 18 and older who lived in non-institutionalized environments throughout the United States (Davis et al., 2000). Respondents were randomly selected and interviewed from February 1, 1993 to April 30, 1993. The average length of each phone interview was approximately 90 minutes in duration (Davis et al., 2000). The response rate for the survey was 82 percent. The primary purpose of this thesis was to examine music preference and its influence on different demographic, behavioral, and criminal justice related variables as contained within the 1993 GSS. Specifically, this GSS dataset was chosen for analysis because it, unlike most other GSS datasets, included questions within the survey that dealt with culture, music, and criminal justice related issues. Accordingly, this dataset was chosen in order to evaluate the influence that music has on adult behavior and lifestyle choices. The findings of this research will be presented in the next chapter.

#### Data Instrument

As aforementioned, the secondary data used for this thesis was from the General Social Survey (GSS). Information from 1,500 respondents was collected by means of national stratified selection. In the GSS, a wide variety of standard information was collected along with other items that were a bit more specific in nature. Standard items collected in the GSS included basic demographic and socio-economic data. The demographic variables incorporated in the GSS and of which are utilized in this study include the following:

• Age coded both by year and group (1=18-29, 2=30-39, 3=40-49, 4=50+)

- Gender coded as 1=male and 2=female
- Race/ethnicity coded as 0=white, 1=black, and 2=other

The participants in the survey were also asked questions regarding personal and family income, number of children, size of current household, religious preference, and number of years lived in current dwelling. However, to stay within its overall framework and focus, this study selectively utilized age, gender, and race/ethnicity for analysis.

Besides basic demographic information, the GSS also collected certain data pertaining to behavior, culture, and attitudes towards certain criminal justice related topics. The questions pertaining to culture, behavior, and attitudes concerning different criminal justice related issues focused on a wide variety of interests and personal tastes. These items/questions include the following:

- Taste/preference of music coded as 1=like it, 2=mixed feelings, and 3=dislike
  it (see paragraph below for description).
- Engagement in certain behaviors/activities (i.e. attending sporting events, visiting an art museum or gallery) coded as 1=yes and 2=no.
- Personal attitudes towards culture and specific criminal justice related issues
   (the death penalty, gun permits, and the legalization of marijuana). These
   variables were coded as 1=favor and 2=oppose.

In the GSS, the section on culture included a number of questions asking respondents their attitude or preference towards various types of music. These genres of music that were drawn on include country western, classical, rap/hip-hop, heavy/death metal, jazz, gospel, opera, latin, show tunes, new age, reggae, bluegrass, easy listening,

contemporary pop, big band/swing, oldies rock, folk, and blues/rhythm & blues. For this thesis, the musical genres of country western, jazz, classical, rap/hip-hop, and heavy/death metal were utilized for its analysis. Throughout this thesis, the musical genres of rap/hip-hop and heavy/death metal are depicted as those genres of music that frequently depict hate, violence, and anti-authoritarian behavior. To the contrary, the musical genres of country western, jazz, and classical are utilized as those genres of music that, as compared to other genres, infrequently depict aggression, hate, and violence. Now, this thesis does not make the observation nor claim that the music genres of country western, jazz, and/or classical do not ever depict hate, aggression, and hostility in songs. However, to help differentiate between musical genres for purposes of analysis, it does classify these musical genres as those that, as compared to other genres of music, are less violent.

#### Sample Population/Subjects

Altogether, 1,500 individuals voluntarily agreed to respond to the interview. All participants were English speaking citizens living within the continental United States. Phone interviews were conducted that asked each respondent a series of demographic, cultural, and behavioral questions. Afterwards, responses from the interviews were then processed, organized, coded, and entered into a dataset as part of the GSS. Overall, the sample population was representative of citizens throughout the United States, particularly in terms of gender, age, and race/ethnicity (Davis et al., 2000).

#### Hypotheses

To establish and more fully understand the potential influence that music has on adult behavior and lifestyle choices, several hypotheses were posed. Predictions that this research examined concerning the relationship between music type and adult lifestyle behavior are as follows:

• <u>Hypothesis #1</u> - the enjoyment of certain types of music will be more prevalent among younger adults as compared to those individuals more advanced in age.

With this projection, two variables were employed: genre of music and age.

Respondents were asked to indicate their age and whether they liked or disliked specific genres of music. Furthermore, the musical genres that this study focused its attention on were rap/hip-hop, heavy/death metal, country western, jazz, and classical. Responses to the questions regarding musical preference were measured on a ranging scale from like very much to dislike very much. Using Pearson's chi-square test, this variable was analyzed with the different age groups of respondents to ascertain if any relationship existed between age and the enjoyment of certain types of music.

• <u>Hypothesis #2</u>- The enjoyment of listening to certain types of music will differ by gender of respondent.

It was predicted that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. rap/hip-hop & heavy/death metal) would be more prevalent among men than women. To test this hypothesis, two variables were utilized—genre of music and gender—using Pearson's chi-square test in order to ascertain whether a relationship existed between musical preference and gender of respondent. It was proposed that females would instead prefer softer, more calming styles of music. This prediction paralleled that of Toney and

Weaver (1994) when they examined the influence of gender and self-perception on personal responses to hard rock videos. In their study, Toney and Weaver (1994) found that males demonstrated the most positive reactions towards the hard rock videos, whereas females expressed the most favorable attitudes towards the videos that were more soft and melodious. This finding helped to inform the prediction that musical preference will relate to gender.

• <u>Hypothesis #3</u>- A relationship exists between musical preference and personal attitudes towards different criminal justice related issues.

This hypothesis was formed to determine if relationships existed among music preference and attitudes towards various issues relevant to the criminal justice system. Specifically, viewpoints (either in favor or opposition) towards the following criminal justice related issues were examined: (1) the death penalty, (2) gun permits, and (3) the legalization of marijuana. In the analysis, specific music genres will be tested using Pearson's chi-square test for relationships with each of the aforementioned criminal justice related topics

• <u>Hypothesis #4</u>- A relationship exists between musical preference and the engagement in certain activities/behaviors.

This hypothesis was formulated to determine whether musical preference influences how often one engages in certain activities/behaviors. With this, music genre will be analyzed using Pearson's chi-square test with a number of behavioral variables to ascertain if any relationship exists. The behavioral variables that are utilized to explore this hypothesis include the attendance at sporting events and the attendance at art museums or galleries.

#### **Analysis**

Once the data were collected and organized, it was entered into a SPSS database computer program by the National Opinion Research Center. Secondary analysis was conducted to determine if musical preference influenced behavioral tendencies and lifestyle choices of adults. Descriptive tests, crosstabulations, and Pearson's chi-square tests were then performed using the SPSS program, version 15.0, to assess and determine if any support existed for the hypotheses. The results from the statistical tests are presented in the next chapter of this thesis.

#### **Summary**

This chapter provided an account of the methodology, design, and the procedures utilized in the study. The data collection instrument from the GSS was described and the sample population for the study was reviewed. Key demographic, behavioral, and criminal justice related variables were also described. Finally, the hypotheses that were formulated and utilized for this study were also presented.

The next chapter will explore in greater detail the hypotheses that were utilized in this thesis. It will present the key findings relative to the hypotheses that were formulated for this study. Key variables that were employed will also be examined more fully.

#### CHAPTER 4

#### **RESULTS**

This thesis addresses the influence that music has on the lifestyle choices, behavioral tendencies, and attitudes of adults. Specifically, it examines the possible relationships that musical preference has with age, gender, attitudes towards different criminal justice issues, and certain activities/behaviors. Public use data from the GSS 1993 dataset, representing a random stratified sample of 1,500 participants, were used to investigate demographics, musical preference, issues relating to criminal justice, and leisure activities.

This chapter is divided up into two sections. Section one contains the results of the analysis of the demographic information of the sample. Section two contains the results of the analysis that were used to examine the hypotheses. The hypotheses utilized for this study include 1) the enjoyment of certain types of music will be more prevalent among the younger generation of adults as compared to those who are older; 2) the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music will differ by gender; 3) a relationship exists between the enjoyment of listening to certain musical genres and personal attitudes towards different criminal justice related issues; and 4) a relationship exists between the enjoyment of listening to certain musical genres and the engagement in certain activities/behaviors (see Appendix A as well for a list of the hypotheses).

#### A PROFILE OF THE SAMPLE

# Age of Participants

The age of the participants who participated in the survey ranged from 18 years old to 89 years of age (range =71). The sample had a median age group of 30-39 years (n=352, 23.5%) and a mean of 46.23 years. Of the sample, 18.6 percent fell between the age group 18-29 years (n=279), 20.5 percent fell between the age group 40-49 years (n=307), and 37.5 percent fell between the age group 50-89 years (n=562). Table 1 contains the age distribution of the participants in this study.

<u>Table 1</u>

Age Distribution of Participants

Age Groups	# of Participants	% of Group
18-29	279	18.6
30-39	352	23.5
40-49	307	20.5
50-89	562	37.5
Total	1500	100.0%

#### Race of Participants

Race was grouped into three categories: white, black, and other. Of the sample, 83.8 percent of the respondents were white (n=1,257), 11.2 percent were black (n=168), and another 5.0 percent (n=75) of the participating respondents fell under the category of "other". Table 2 is a depiction of the racial composition of participants for the study.

<u>Table 2</u>
<u>Ethnic Composition of Participants</u>

Race Groups	# of Participants	% of Group
White	1257	83.8
Black	168	11.2
Other	75	5.0
Total	1500	100.0%

# Gender of Participants

As it pertains to gender, 42.7 percent (n=641) of the sample was male, whereas 57.3 percent (n=859) of the sample were female. Table 3 is a depiction of the gender makeup of the participants.

<u>Table 3</u>
<u>Gender Distribution of Participants</u>

<b>Gender Groups</b>	# of Participants	% of Group
Male	641	42.7
Female	859	57.3
Total	1500	100.0

#### RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

In order to evaluate the influence that music has on the lifestyle choices and behavioral tendencies of adults, several demographic, behavioral, and criminal justice related variables were examined and analyzed. In this section, four hypotheses were analyzed using the GSS data. These hypotheses include:

- Hypothesis #1- the enjoyment of certain types of music will be more prevalent among younger adults as compared to those individuals more advanced in age.
- Hypothesis #2- the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music will differ by gender of respondent.
- Hypothesis #3- a relationship exists between the enjoyment of listening to certain genres of music and personal attitudes towards different criminal justice related issues.
- Hypothesis #4- a relationship exists between the enjoyment of listening to certain genres of music and the engagement in certain activities/behaviors.

In order to determine whether a relationship existed between musical preference and behavior, several musical genres were cross-tabulated and analyzed with various demographic and behavioral variables. To determine significance and whether or not to accept or reject the hypotheses, Pearson's chi-square tests were used throughout this section. Statistical significance for the hypotheses was found if p <.01.

Hypothesis #1- the enjoyment of certain types of music will be more prevalent among younger adults as compared to those individuals more advanced in age.

To ascertain whether a relationship existed between age and musical preference, two variables were utilized to operationalize hypothesis #1—age group of respondent and preference in music. Tables 4 through 8 are illustrations of the age categories of respondents tabulated with each genre of music.

Table 4

Age Tabulated with Rap/Hip-hop Music

Preference in	Age Categories (p=<.001)		
Rap/Hip-hop Music	18-29	30-89	Total
Like It	79 (28.7%)	107 (9.3%)	186 (13.0%)
Mixed Feelings	65 (23.6%)	201 (17.4%)	266 (18.6%)
Dislike It	131 (47.6%)	848 (73.4%)	979 (68.4%)
Total	275	1156	1431 (100%)

Of those participants whose age fell between the category of 18-29 years, 28.7 percent (n=79) reported liking rap/hip-hop music, 23.6 percent (n=65) had mixed feelings about it, and another 47.6 percent (n=131) reported disliking it. Of those participants whose age fell into one of the other age categories (as grouped 30-89 in Table 4), 9.3 percent (n=107) reported liking rap/hip-hip music, 17.4 percent (n=201) had mixed feelings about it, and another 73.4 percent (n=848) reported disliking it.

Findings (p=<.01) from Pearson's chi-square test illustrated that a relationship existed between age and preference in rap/hip-hop music. From these findings, it was determined that support existed for hypothesis #1 that the enjoyment of listening to

certain types of music (i.e. rap/hip-hop) would be more prevalent for those individuals who are in their younger years of adulthood as compared to others who are more advanced in age. Analysis of the findings support hypothesis #1 as indicated by the statistical results between preference in rap/hip-hop music and age (p= <.01).

Table 5

Age Tabulated with Heavy/Death metal Music

Preference in Heavy/Death	Age Categories (p= <.001)		
Metal Music	18-29	30-89	Total
Like It	75 (27.8%)	86 (7.5%)	161 (11.3%)
Mixed Feelings	51 (18.9%)	124 (10.8%)	175 (12.3%)
Dislike It	144 (53.3%)	943 (81.8%)	1087 (76.4%)
Total	270	1153	1423 (100%)

Of those participants whose age fell in the category of 18-29 years, 27.8 percent (n=75) reported liking heavy/death metal music, 18.9 percent (n=51) had mixed feelings about it, and another 53.3 percent (n=144) expressed distaste for it. Of those participants whose age fell into one of the other age categories (as grouped 30-89 in Table 5), 7.5 percent (n=86) reported liking heavy/death metal music, 10.8 percent (n=124) had mixed feelings about it, and 81.8 percent (n=943) reported disliking it.

Findings from Pearson's chi-square test illustrated that a relationship existed between age and preference in heavy/death metal music. From these findings, it was determined that support existed for hypothesis #1 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. heavy/death metal) would be more prevalent for those individuals who are in their younger years of adulthood as compared to others who are

more advanced in age. Analysis of the findings support hypothesis #1 as indicated by the statistical results between preference in heavy/death metal music and age (p = <.01).

<u>Table 6</u>

Age Tabulated with Country Western Music

Preference in Country	Age Categories (p= .001)		
Western Music	18-29	30-89	Total
Like It	141 (52.2%)	775 (64.7%)	916 (62.4%)
Mixed Feelings	67 (24.8%)	265 (22.1%)	332 (22.6%)
Dislike It	62 (23.0%)	158 (13.2%)	220 (15%)
Total	270	1198	1468 (100%)

Of those participants whose age fell between the category of 18-29 years, 52.2 percent (n=141) reported liking country western music, 24.8 percent (n=67) had mixed feelings about it, and another 23.0 percent (n=62) reported disliking it. Of those participants whose age fell into one of the other age categories (as grouped 30-89 in Table 6), 64.7 percent (n=775) reported liking country western music, 22.1 percent (n=265) had mixed feelings about it, and another 13.2 percent (n=158) reported disliking it.

Findings from Pearson's chi-square test illustrated that a relationship existed between age and preference in country western music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01 (p=.001), signifying that there was support for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support existed for hypothesis #1 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. country western) would differ

among age groups. Analysis of the findings support hypothesis #1 as indicated by the statistical results between preference in country western music and age.

Table 7

Age Tabulated with Classical Music

Preference in		Age Categories (p= .283)		
Classical Music	18-29	30-89	Total	
Like It	117 (43.8%)	600 (51.8%)	717 (50.3%)	
Mixed Feelings	73 (27.3%)	267 (23.1%)	340 (23.9%)	
Dislike It	77 (28.8%)	291 (25.1%)	368 (25.8%)	
Total	267	1158	1425 (100%)	

Of those participants whose age fell between the category of 18-29 years, 43.8 percent (n=117) reported liking classical music, 27.3 percent (n=73) had mixed feelings about it, and another 28.8 percent (n=77) expressed distaste for it. Of those participants whose age fell into one of the other age categories (as grouped 30-89 in Table 7), 51.8 percent (n=600) reported liking classical music, 23.1 percent (n=267) had mixed feelings about it, and another 25.1 percent (n=291) indicated that they disliked it.

Findings from Pearson's chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did not exist between age and preference in classical music. The obtained p value from the chi-square test was >.01 (p=.283), thus signifying that there was no support found for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support did not exist for the assumption that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. classical music) would be more prevalent for those individuals who are in their younger years of adulthood as compared to others who are more advanced in age.

Table 8

Age Tabulated with Jazz Music

Preference in	Age Categories (p= <.001)		
Jazz Music	18-29	30-89	Total
Like It	154 (56.6%)	579 (49.1%)	733 (50.5%)
Mixed Feelings	60 (22.1%)	311 (26.4%)	371 (25.6%)
Dislike It	58 (21.3%)	289 (24.5%)	347 (23.9%)
Total	272	1179	1451 (100%)

Of those participants whose age fell between the category of 18-29 years, 56.6 percent (n=154) reported liking jazz music, 22.1 percent (n=60) had mixed feelings about it, and another 21.3 percent (n=58) emphasized a dislike for it. Of those participants whose age fell into one of the other age categories (as grouped 30-89 in Table 8), 49.1 percent (n=579) reported liking jazz music, 26.4 percent (n=311) had mixed feelings about it, and another 24.5 percent (n=289) expressed a dislike for it.

Findings from Pearson's chi-square test illustrated that a relationship existed between age and preference in jazz music. The obtained p value from the chi-square test was <.01, signifying that there was support for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support existed for hypothesis #1 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. jazz) would be more prevalent for those individuals who are in their younger years of adulthood as compared to others who are more advanced in age. Analysis of the findings support hypothesis #1 as indicated by the statistical results between preference in jazz music and age.

### Summary of Findings for Hypothesis #1

To test hypothesis #1 of the influence of age on musical preference, Pearson's chi-square tests were utilized. Findings indicated that a relationship existed between age and preference in music. From these findings, it was determined that support existed for hypothesis #1 that the enjoyment of listening to certain genres of music would be more prevalent for those individuals who are in their younger years of adulthood as compared to others who are more advanced in age. Analysis of the findings support hypothesis #1 as indicated by the statistical results between musical preference and age.

Hypothesis #2- the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music will differ by gender of respondent.

To determine whether a relationship existed between gender and musical preference, two variables were utilized to operationalize hypothesis #2—gender of respondent and genre of music. Tables 9 through 13 are illustrations of the gender makeup of respondents tabulated with each genre of music.

<u>Table 9</u>
<u>Gender Tabulated with Rap/Hip-hop Music</u>

Preference in	Gender Categories (p= .050)		
Rap/Hip-hop Music	Male	Female	Total
Like It	79 (12.8%)	107 (13.1%)	186 (13.0%)
Mixed Feelings	97 (15.8%)	169 (20.7%)	266 (18.6%)
Dislike It	439 (71.4%)	540 (66.2%)	979 (68.4%)
Total	615	816	1431 (100%)

Of the male participants, 12.8 percent (n=79) reported they enjoyed rap/hip-hop music, 15.8 percent (n=97) had mixed feelings for it, and 71.4 percent (n=439) indicated that they disliked it. Of the females who participated in the survey, 13.1 percent (n=107) indicated they enjoyed rap/hip-hop music, 20.7 percent (n=169) had mixed feelings for it, and another 66.2 percent (n=540) reported that they disliked it.

Findings from Pearson's chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did not exist between gender and preference in rap/hip-hop music. The obtained p value from the chi-square test was >.01 (p=.050), suggesting a lack of support for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support did not exist for hypothesis #2 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. rap/hip-hop) would differ among gender of respondent. Analysis of the findings did not support hypothesis #2 as indicated by the statistical results between preference in rap/hip-hop music and age (p= >.01).

Table 10

Gender Tabulated with Heavy/Death Metal Music

Preference in Heavy/Death	Gender Categories (p=<.001)		
Metal Music	Male	Female	Total
Like It	90 (14.8%)	71 (8.7%)	161 (11.3%)
Mixed Feelings	85 (14.0%)	90 (11.1%)	175 (12.3%)
Dislike It	434 (71.2%)	653 (80.2%)	1087 (76.4%)
Total	609	814	1423 (100%)

Of the male participants, 14.8 percent (n=90) reported they enjoyed heavy/death metal music, 14.0 percent (n=85) had mixed feelings for it, and 71.2 percent (n=434) indicated that they disliked it. Of the females who participated in the survey, 8.7 percent

(n=71) indicated they enjoyed heavy/death metal music, 11.1 percent (n=90) had mixed feelings for it, and another 80.2 percent (n=653) expressed distaste for it.

Results from Pearson's chi-square test indicated that a relationship existed between gender and preference in heavy/death metal music. The obtained p value from Pearson's chi-square was <.01 (p=.000). Therefore, it was determined from the findings that support existed for the assumption that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. heavy/death metal) would differ between gender of respondent. Analysis of the findings illustrate that a relationship existed between preference in heavy/death metal music and age (p=<.01).

Table 11

Gender Tabulated with Country Western Music

Preference in Country	Gender Categories (p= .314)		
Western Music	Male	Female	Total
Like It	388 (61.7%)	528 (62.9%)	916 (62.4%)
Mixed Feelings	144 (22.9%)	188 (22.4%)	332 (22.6%)
Dislike It	97 (15.4%)	123 (14.7%)	220 (15.0%)
Total	629	839	1468 (100%)

Of the males who participated in the survey, 61.7 percent (n=388) reported they enjoyed country western music, 22.9 percent (n=144) had mixed feelings for it, and 15.4 percent (n=97) expressed a dislike for it. Of the females who participated, 62.9 percent (n=528) specified they enjoyed country western music, 22.4 percent (n=188) had mixed feelings for it, and 14.7 percent (n=123) reported that they disliked it.

Findings from Pearson's chi-square test demonstrated that a relationship did not exist between gender and preference in country western music. The obtained p value from the chi-square test was >.01 (p=.314), signifying that there was no support for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support did not exist for hypothesis #2 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. country western) would differ among gender. Analysis of the findings did not support hypothesis #2 as indicated by the statistical results between preference in country western music and gender.

Table 12
Gender Tabulated with Classical Music

Preference in	Gender Categories (p= .018)		
Classical Music	Male	Female	Total
Like It	279 (46.0%)	438 (53.5%)	717 (50.3%)
Mixed Feelings	159 (26.2%)	181 (22.1%)	340 (23.9%)
Dislike It	169 (27.8%)	199 (24.3%)	368 (25.8%)
Total	607	818	1425 (100%)

Of the male participants, 46.0 percent (n=279) conveyed they enjoyed classical music, 26.2 percent (n=159) had mixed feelings for it, and 27.8 percent (n=169) indicated that they disliked it. Of the females who participated in the survey, 53.5 percent (n=438) expressed they enjoyed classical music, 22.1 percent (n=181) had mixed feelings for it, and 24.3 percent (n=199) conveyed a distaste for it.

Findings from Pearson's chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did not exist between gender and preference in classical music. The obtained p value from the chi-

square test was >.01 (p=.018), thus signifying that there was no support for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support did not exist for hypothesis #2 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. classical music) would differ among gender of respondent.

Table 13
Gender Tabulated with Jazz Music

Preference in	Gender Categories (p= .370)		
Jazz Music	Male	Female	Total
Like It	327 (52.6%)	406 (49.0%)	733 (50.5%)
Mixed Feelings	155 (24.9%)	216 (26.1%)	371 (25.6%)
Dislike It	140 (22.5%)	207 (24.9%)	347 (23.9%)
Total	622	829	1451 (100%)

Of the male participants, 52.6 percent (n=327) reported they enjoyed jazz music, 24.9 percent (n=155) had mixed feelings for it, and 22.5 percent (n=140) indicated that they disliked it. Of the females participants, 49.0 percent (n=406) indicated they enjoyed jazz music, 26.1 percent (n=216) had mixed feelings for it, and 24.9 percent (n=207) conveyed a dislike for it.

Findings from Pearson's chi-square test demonstrated that a relationship did not exist between gender and preference in jazz music. The obtained p value from the chi-square test was >.01 (p=.370), thus signifying a lack of support for the hypothesis. From these results, it was found that support did not exist for hypothesis #2 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. jazz) would differ among gender of respondent.

#### Summary of Findings for Hypothesis #2

To determine if a relationship existed between musical preference and gender, Pearson's chi-square test was employed in order to determine if support existed for hypothesis #2. The findings indicated that a relationship did not exist between gender and preference in music. The analysis between musical preference and gender found no relationship between gender and preference in country western music (p=.314), preference in classical music (p=.018), preference in jazz music (p=.370), and preference in rap/hip-hop music (.050). These values were all insignificant in that p>.01. The findings did however find a significant relationship between gender and preference in heavy/death metal music (p=.000). This suggests that male participants preferred heavy/death metal more than females, and this relationship was significant. It was determined from the findings that support did not exist for hypothesis #2 that the enjoyment of listening to certain genres of music would differ by gender of respondent. Analysis of the findings did not support hypothesis #2 as indicated by the statistical results between musical preference and gender.

Hypothesis #3- a relationship exists between the enjoyment of listening to certain genres of music and attitudes towards different criminal justice related issues.

To establish whether a relationship existed between musical preference and attitudes towards various criminal justice related issues, two variables were utilized to operationalize hypothesis #3—genre of music and criminal justice related issues (favor/oppose the death penalty, gun permits, and legalization of marijuana). Tables 14

through 18 are illustrations of respondent's attitudes towards various criminal justice issues tabulated with each genre of music.

<u>Table 14</u>

<u>Criminal Justice Related Variables Tabulated with Rap/Hip-hop Music</u>

	Fa	Favor/Oppose			avor/Oppos	se	Sho	ould Mariji	uana
Preference	D	eath Penal	ty		Gun Permit	S	Be Legal		
in Rap/Hip-		(p = < .001)	)		(p=.420)			(p=.017)	ı
hop Music	Favor	Oppose	Total	Favor	Oppose	Total	Legal	Not	Total
								Legal	
Like	113	55	168	100	17	117	30	80	110
	(67.3%)	(32.7%)	(12.7%)	(85.5%)	(14.5%)	(12.4%)	(27.3%)	(72.7%)	(10.2%)
Mixed	179	63	242	158	27	185	50	113	163
Feelings	(74.0%)	(26.0%)	(18.2%)	(85.4%)	(14.6%)	(19.6%)	(30.7%)	(69.3%)	(15.1%)
Dislike	739	179	918	528	116	644	127	678	805
	(80.5%)	(19.5%)	(69.1%)	(82.0%)	(18.0%)	(68.0%)	(15.8%)	(84.2%)	(74.7%)
Total	1031	297	1328	786	160	946	207	871	1078
	(77.6%)	(22.4%)	(100%)	(83.1%)	(16.9%)	(100%)	(19.2%)	(80.8%)	(100%)

Of those participants that liked rap/hip-hop music, 67.3 percent (n=113) favored the death penalty for murder, while 32.7 percent (n=55) of participants opposed it. Of those individuals that disliked rap/hip-hop music, 80.5 percent (n=739) indicated they favored the death penalty, while 19.5 percent (n=179) reported a disapproval of it.

Pearson's chi-square test was utilized to determine whether or not a relationship existed between preference in rap/hip-hop music and attitudes towards the death penalty. Findings demonstrated that a relationship did exist between attitudes towards the death penalty and preference in rap/hip-hop music. The p value obtained from the chi-square

test was <.01, thus indicating support for the hypothesis. From these results, it was found that support did exist for hypothesis #3 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. rap/hip-hop) would be related to attitudes towards the death penalty.

As it pertains to attitudes towards gun permits, 85.5 percent (n=100) of participants who liked rap/hip-hop music favored gun permits, while 14.5 percent (n=17) of participants reported opposition. Of those participants who expressed a dislike for rap/hip-hop music, 80.5 percent (n=739) indicated a preference towards gun permits, while 19.5 percent (n=179) reported opposition. Additionally, of those participants that reported mixed feelings towards rap/hip-hop music, 74.0 percent (n=179) were in favor of gun permits, while another 26.0 percent (n=63) opposed them.

Pearson's chi-square test was used to determine whether or not a relationship existed between preference in rap/hip-hop music and attitudes towards gun permits. Findings illustrated that a relationship did not exist between attitudes towards gun permits and preference in rap/hip-hop music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was >.01 (p= .420), thus indicating a lack of support for the hypothesis. From these results, it was found that support did not exist for the assumption that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. rap/hip-hop) would be related to attitudes towards gun permits.

Of those participants who expressed a liking toward rap/hip-hop music, 27.3 percent (n=30) indicated a preference to the legalization of marijuana, while 72.7 percent (n=80) believed marijuana should not be legalized. Of those individuals who expressed a disliking toward rap/hip-hop music, 15.8 percent (n=127) reported favorable attitudes toward the legalization of marijuana, while 84.2 percent (n=678) opposed the idea. Of

those participants who expressed mixed feelings towards rap/hip-hop music, 30.7 percent (n=50) were in favor or marijuana being legalized, while 69.3 percent (n=113) were in opposition.

Pearson's chi-square test was used to determine whether or not a relationship existed between preference in rap/hip-hop music and attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana. Findings illustrated that a relationship did not exist between attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana and preference in rap/hip-hop music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was >.01 (p= .017), therefore signifying no support for the hypothesis. From these results, it was found that support did not exist for the assumption that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. rap/hip-hop) would be related to attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana.

<u>Table 15</u>

Criminal Justice Related Variables Tabulated with Heavy/Death Metal Music

Preference in	Favor/Oppose Death Penalty				avor/Oppos Sun Permit		Should Marijuana Be Legal		
Heavy/Death		(p=.003)	- 5		(p=.592)			(p = < .001)	
Metal Music	Favor	Oppose	Total	Favor	Oppose	Total	Legal	Not	Total
								Legal	
Like	118	32	150	84	18	102	37	57	94
	(78.7%)	(21.3%)	(11.3%)	(82.4%)	(17.6%)	(10.9%)	(39.4%)	(60.6%)	(10.6%)
Mixed	114	43	157	83	18	101	43	72	115
Feelings	(72.6%)	(27.4%)	(11.9%)	(82.2%)	(17.8%)	(10.8%)	(37.4%)	(62.6%)	(13.0%)
Dislike	790	226	1016	610	124	734	127	547	674
	(77.8%)	(22.2%)	(76.8%)	(83.1%)	(16.9%)	(78.3%)	(18.8%)	(81.2%)	(76.4%)
Total	1022	301	1323	777	160	937	207	676	883
	(77.2%)	(22.8%)	(100%)	(82.9%)	(17.1%)	(100%)	(23.4%)	(76.6%)	(100%)

Of the participants that expressed a liking for heavy/death metal music, 78.7 percent (n=118) indicated a preference for the death penalty for murder, while 21.3 percent (n=32) of participants conveyed an opposition for it. Of those participants that disliked heavy/death metal music, 77.8 percent (n=790) indicated they favored the death penalty, while 22.2 (n=226) percent opposed it.

Findings of Pearson's chi-square test demonstrated that a relationship did exist between attitudes towards the death penalty and preference in heavy/death metal music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was .003. Since the value was <.01, support was found for the hypothesis. From these results, it was found that support did exist for hypothesis #3 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. heavy/death metal) would be related to attitudes towards the death penalty.

Of those participants who conveyed a liking for heavy/death metal music, 82.4 percent (n=84) favored gun permits, while 17.6 percent (n=18) of participants opposed them. Of those individuals who reported distaste for heavy/death metal music, 83.1 percent (n=610) indicated a preference toward gun permits, while 16.9 percent (n=124) reported opposition toward them. Additionally, of those participants who expressed mixed feelings towards heavy/death metal music, 82.2 percent (n=83) reported in favor of gun permits, while 17.8 percent (n=18) of individuals opposed them.

Findings of Pearson's chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did not exist between attitudes towards gun permits and preference in heavy/death metal music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was >.01 (p= .592), thus indicating a lack of support for the hypothesis. From these results, it was found that support did not exist for

the assumption that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. heavy/death metal) would be related to attitudes towards gun permits.

Of those participants that reported a liking for heavy/death metal music, 39.4 percent (n=37) favored the legalization of marijuana, while 60.6 percent (n=57) opposed it. Of those individuals who expressed a disliking for heavy/death metal music, 18.8 percent (n=127) were advocates of the legalization of marijuana, while 81.2 percent (n=547) were against it. Moreover, of those participants who reported mixed feelings for heavy/death metal music, 37.4 percent (n=43) advocated the legalization of marijuana, while 62.6 percent (n=72) were in opposition to it.

Results of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did exist between attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana and preference towards heavy/death metal music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01, thus signifying support for the hypothesis. From these results, it was found that support did exist for hypothesis #3 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. heavy/death metal) would be related to attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana.

<u>Table 16</u>

<u>Criminal Justice Related Variables Tabulated with Country Western Music</u>

	Favor/Oppose			F	avor/Oppos	se	Sho	ould Mariji	ıana
Preference	D	eath Penal	ty	(	Gun Permit	S	Be Legal		
in Country		(p = <.001)	)		(p=.066)			(p = <.001	)
Western	Favor	Oppose	Total	Favor	Oppose	Total	Legal	Not	Total
Music								Legal	
Like	693	164	857	489	119	608	105	453	558
	(80.9%)	(19.1%)	(63.0%)	(80.4%)	(19.6%)	(62.9%)	(18.8%)	(81.2%)	(61.3%)
Mixed	221	80	301	187	27	214	52	166	218
Feelings	(73.4%)	(26.6%)	(22.1%)	(87.4%)	(12.6%)	(22.2%)	(23.9%)	(76.1%)	(23.9%)
Dislike	139	64	203	120	24	144	50	85	135
	(68.5%)	(31.5%)	(14.9%)	(83.3%)	(16.7%)	(14.9%)	(37.0%)	(63.0%)	(14.8%)
Total	1053	308	1361	796	170	966	207	704	911
	(77.4%)	(22.6%)	(100%)	(82.4%)	(17.6%)	(100%)	(22.7%)	(77.3%)	(100%)

Of the participants that were in favor of country western music, 80.9 percent (n=693) of participants favored the death penalty for murder, whereas 19.1 percent (n=164) of participants opposed it. Of those participants that conveyed distaste for country western music, 68.5 percent (n=139) reported they favored the death penalty, while 31.5 percent (n=64) indicated opposition towards it. Moreover, of those participants who expressed mixed feelings towards country western music, 73.4 percent (n=221) favored the death penalty, whereas 26.6 percent (n=80) opposed it.

Results of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did exist between attitudes towards the death penalty for murder and preference towards country western music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01. Therefore support existed for the hypothesis. From these results, it was found that support did exist for hypothesis

#3 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. country western) would be related to attitudes towards the death penalty.

Of those participants that indicated a liking for country western music, 80.4 percent (n=489) favored gun permits, whereas 19.6 percent (n=119) of participants opposed them. Of those individuals who reported distaste for country western music, 83.3 percent (n=120) favored gun permits, while 16.7 percent (n=24) expressed opposition. Furthermore, of the participants who expressed mixed feelings towards country western music, 87.4 percent (187) favored gun permits, while 12.6 percent opposed them.

Results of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did not exist between attitudes towards gun permits and preference towards country western music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was .066. Since the value was >.01, a lack of support was found for the hypothesis. From these results, it was determined that support did not exist for hypothesis #3 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. country western) would be related to attitudes towards gun permits.

Of those participants who indicated a liking for country western, 18.8 percent (n=105) conveyed support for the legalization of marijuana, while 81.2 percent (n=453) expressed opposition. Of those individuals who disliked country western music, 37.0 percent (n=50) conveyed support for the legalization of marijuana, whereas 63.0 percent (n=85) indicated opposition towards legalizing marijuana. Additionally, of those participants that expressed mixed feelings towards country western music, 23.9 percent (n=52) advocated the legalization of marijuana, while 76.1 percent (n=166) opposed it.

Findings from the chi-square test indicated that a relationship did exist between opinions towards the legalization of marijuana and preference towards country western

music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01, thus support was found for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support did exist for hypothesis #3 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. country western) would be related to attitudes towards gun permits.

Table 17

Criminal Justice Related Variables Tabulated with Classical Music

Preference	Favor/Oppose Death Penalty				avor/Oppos Gun Permit		Should Marijuana Be Legal		
in Classical	ט	(p= .001)	ty		(p=.020)	S	(p=.162)		
Music	Favor	Oppose	Total	Favor	Oppose	Total	Legal	Not	Total
								Legal	
Like	482	180	662	409	71	480	117	334	451
	(72.8%)	(27.2%)	(50.0%)	(85.2%)	(14.8%)	(51.2%)	(25.9%)	(74.1%)	(50.8%)
Mixed	254	65	319	182	32	214	42	170	212
Feelings	(79.6%)	(20.4%)	(24.1%)	(85.0%)	(15.0%)	(22.9%)	(19.8%)	(80.2%)	(23.9%)
Dislike	282	60	342	188	55	243	48	176	224
Distike	(82.5%)	(17.5%)	(25.9%)	(77.4%)	(22.6%)	(25.9%)	(21.4%)	(78.6%)	(25.3%)
Total	1018	305	1323	779	158	937	207	680 (76.7%)	(100%)
	(76.9%)	(23.1%)	(100%)	(83.1%)	(16.9%)	(100%)	(23.3%)	(76.7%)	(100%)

Of the respondents that favored classical music, 72.8 percent (n=482) advocated the use of the death penalty for murder, whereas 27.2 percent (n=180) of participants opposed it. Of those participants that indicated a disliking for classical music, 82.5 percent (n=282) expressed they favored the death penalty for murder, while 17.5 percent (n=60) expressed opposition. In addition, of those individuals who conveyed mixed

feelings for classical music, 79.6 percent (n=254) favored the death penalty, whereas 20.4 percent (n=65) opposed it.

Results of the chi-square test demonstrated that a relationship did exist between attitudes towards the death penalty for murder and preference towards classical music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01. Therefore support was found to exist for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was found that support did exist for hypothesis #3 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. classical) would be related to attitudes towards the death penalty.

Of the participants who indicated a preference for classical music, 85.2 percent (n=409) emphasized favoritism towards gun permits, whereas 14.8 percent (n=71) conveyed opposition. Of those participants who disliked classical music, 77.4 percent (n=188) favored gun permits, while 22.6 percent (n=55) opposed them. Moreover, of those individuals who expressed mixed feelings for classical music, 85.0 percent (n=182) favored gun permits, whereas 15.0 percent (n=32) conveyed opposition.

Findings of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did not exist between attitudes towards gun permits and preference towards classical music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was .020. Since the value was >.01, it was determined that support did not exist for the hypothesis. From these results, it was found that support did exist for hypothesis #3 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. classical) would be related to attitudes towards gun permits.

Of the participants who preferred classical music, 25.9 percent (n=117) emphasized a preference towards the legalization of marijuana, while 74.1 percent (n=334) opposed it. Of those individuals who disliked classical music, 21.4 percent

(n=48) were in support of the legalization of marijuana, whereas 78.6 percent (n=176) opposed legalizing marijuana. Additionally, of those participants that expressed mixed feelings for classical music, 19.8 percent (n=42) favored legalizing marijuana, while 80.2 percent (n=170) were in opposition.

Results of the chi-square test demonstrated that a relationship did not exist between attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana and preference towards classical music. From the test, it was found that p=.162. Since the value was >.01, it was determined that there was a lack of support for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was found that support did not exist for hypothesis #3 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. classical) would be related to attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana.

<u>Table 18</u>
<u>Criminal Justice Related Variables Tabulated with Jazz Music</u>

	Favor/Oppose			Fa	avor/Oppos	se	Should Marijuana		
Preference	D	eath Penal	ty	(	Gun Permit	S	Be Legal		
in Jazz		(p=.128)			(p=.351)			(p = <.001	)
Music	Favor	Oppose	Total	Favor	Oppose	Total	Legal	Not	Total
								Legal	
Like	516	167	683	413	76	489	129	331	460
	(75.5%)	(24.5%)	(50.7%)	(84.5%)	(15.5%)	(51.3%)	(28.0%)	(72.0%)	(51.0%)
Mixed	279	65	344	193	47	240	48	178	226
Feelings	(81.1%)	(18.9%)	(25.5%)	(80.4%)	(19.6%)	(25.2%)	(21.2%)	(78.8%)	(25.1%)
Dislike	245	75	320	183	41	224	31	185	216
	(76.6%)	(23.4%)	(23.8%)	(81.7%)	(18.3%)	(23.5%)	(14.4%)	(85.6%)	(23.9%)
Total	1040	307	1347	789	164	953	208	694	902
	(77.2%)	(22.8%)	(100%)	(82.8%)	(17.2%)	(100%)	(23.1%)	(76.9%)	(100%)

Of those participants that favored jazz music, 75.5 percent (n=516) of participants favored the death penalty for murder, whereas 24.5 percent (n=167) opposed it. Of those participants that expressed a disliking for jazz music, 76.6 percent (n=245) were in support of the death penalty, whereas 23.4 percent (n=75) opposed it. Additionally, of those individuals who expressed mixed feelings for jazz music, 81.1 percent (279) favored the death penalty, while 18.9 percent (n=65) were in opposition.

Results of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did not exist between attitudes towards the death penalty for murder and preference in jazz music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was .128. Since the value was >.01, it was determined that support did not exist for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was found that support did not exist for the assumption that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. jazz) would be related to attitudes towards the death penalty for murder.

Of those participants that conveyed a liking for jazz music, 84.5 percent (n=413) favored gun permits, whereas 15.5 percent (n=76) were in opposition towards them. Of those individuals who indicated distaste for jazz music, 81.7 percent (n=183) indicated a preference towards gun permits, while 18.3 percent (n=41) of participants opposed them. In addition, of those individuals who indicated mixed feelings towards jazz music, 80.4 percent (n=193) of participants favored gun permits, whereas 19.6 percent (n=47) were in opposition.

Findings of the chi-square test indicated that a relationship did not exist between attitudes towards gun permits and preference in jazz music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was .351. Since the value was >.01, it was found that support did not exist for the hypothesis. From these results, it was determined that there was a lack of

support for hypothesis #3 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. jazz) would be related to participant's attitudes towards gun permits.

Of those participants who indicated a preference for jazz music, 28.0 percent (n=129) favored the legalization of marijuana, while 72.0 percent (331) believed that marijuana should not be legalized. Of those individuals who expressed distaste for jazz music, 14.4 percent (n=31) expressed a preference towards the legalization of marijuana, whereas 85.6 percent (n=185) opposed it. Additionally, of those participants who conveyed mixed feelings towards jazz music, 21.2 percent (n=48) believed marijuana should be legalized, whereas 78.8 percent (n=178) expressed a belief that marijuana should continue to be illegal.

Results of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did exist between attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana and preference in jazz music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01, thus signifying support for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was found that support did exist for the assumption that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. jazz) would be related to attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana.

## Summary of Findings for Hypothesis #3

To determine if a relationship existed between musical preference and attitudes towards certain criminal justice related issues, Pearson's chi-square test was employed in order to determine if support existed for hypothesis #3. The findings indicated that a relationship did exist between attitudes towards various criminal justice issues and preference in music. The analysis between musical preference and attitudes towards the

death penalty for murder found a relationship between attitudes towards the death penalty and preference in country western music (p=<.01), preference in classical music (p=<.01), preference in heavy/death metal music (p=<.01), and preference in rap/hip-hop music (p=<.01). These values were all significant in that p=<.01. The findings did show a lack of support between attitudes towards the death penalty and preference in jazz music (p=.128)

Analysis of the findings indicated that there was no relationship between attitudes towards gun permits and musical preference. The findings found no relationship between attitudes towards gun permits and preference in rap/hip-hop music (p=.420), preference in heavy/death metal music (p=.592), preference in country western music (p=.066), preference in classical music (p=.020), and preference in jazz music (p=.351).

The findings further illustrated that a relationship existed between attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana and preference in heavy/death metal music (p=<.01), preference in country western music (p=<.01), and preference in jazz music (p=<.01). Further, the results illustrated that there did not exist a relationship between attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana and preference in rap/hip-hop music (p=.017) and preference in classical music (p=.162).

It was determined from the findings that support did exist for hypothesis #3 that a relationship exists between the enjoyment of listening to certain genres of music and attitudes towards various criminal justice issues. Analysis of the findings did support hypothesis #3 as indicated by the statistical results between musical preference and attitudes towards various criminal justice related issues.

Hypothesis #4- a relationship exists between the enjoyment of listening to certain genres of music and the engagement in certain activities/behaviors.

To determine whether a relationship existed between musical preference and certain activities/behaviors, two variables were utilized for hypothesis #4—genre of music and behavior (attendance at a sports event in the last year and attendance at an art museum or gallery in the past year). Crosstabulations and Pearson's chi-square tests were utilized to explore whether there was a relationship between engaging in certain activities or behaviors and the enjoyment of listening to certain genres of music. Tables 19 through 23 are illustrations of certain leisure activities/behaviors tabulated with each musical genre.

<u>Table 19</u>
Behavioral Variables Tabulated with Rap/Hip-hop Music

Preference in Rap/Hip-		ended Spo ent in Past (p= .040)		Attended Art Museum or Gallery in Past Yr. (p= .042)			
hop Music	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total	
Like	105	81	186	69	117	186	
	(56.5%)	(43.5%)	(13.0%)	(37.1%)	(62.9%)	(13.0%)	
Mixed	160	106	266	127	139	266	
Feelings	(60.2%)	(39.8%)	(18.6%)	(47.7%)	(52.3%)	(18.6%)	
Dislike	506	471	977	393	583	976	
	(51.8%)	(48.2%)	(68.4%)	(40.3%)	(59.7%)	(68.4%)	
Total	771	658	1429	589	839	1428	
	(54.0%)	(46.0%)	(100%)	(41.2%)	(58.8%)	(100%)	

Of those participants that liked rap/hip-hop music, 56.5 percent (n=105) indicated they had attended a sports event in the past year, while 43.5 percent (n=81) reported they had not. Of those individuals that disliked rap/hip-hop music, 51.8 percent (n=506) indicated they had attended a sports event in the past year, whereas 48.2 percent (n=471) reported a response of no.

Results of the chi-square test demonstrated that a relationship did not exist between preference in rap/hip-hop music and attendance at sporting events. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was .040. Since the value was >.01, it was determined that a lack of support existed for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was found that support did not exist for the assumption that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. rap/hip-hop) would be related to whether or not participants had attended a sports event.

As it concerns participant's visitation to an art museum or gallery, findings indicated that 37.1 percent (n=69) of participants who favored rap/hip-hop had in fact visited an art museum or gallery within the past year, whereas 62.9 percent (n=117) indicated they had not. Of those participants who indicated distaste for rap/hip-hop music, 40.3 percent (n=393) expressed they had visited an art museum or gallery, while 59.7 percent (n=583) reported that they had not visited one. Further, as it pertains to those individuals who indicated mixed feelings towards rap/hip-hop music, 47.7 percent (n=127) reported that they had visited an art museum or gallery within the past year, while 52.3 percent (n=139) indicated that they had not.

Findings of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did not exist between attendance at an art museum or gallery and preference in rap/hip-hop music. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was .042. Since this value was >.01, a lack of support was found for the hypothesis. From these results, it was determined that support did not exist for the assumption that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. rap/hip-hop) would be related to whether or not participants had visited an art museum or gallery.

Table 20
Behavioral Variables Tabulated with Heavy/Death Metal Music

Preference in Heavy/Death		ended Spo ent in Past (p= .001)		Attended Art Museum or Gallery in Past Yr. (p= .060)			
Metal Music	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total	
Like	95	66	161	63	98	161	
	(59.0%)	(41.0%)	(11.3%)	(39.1%)	(60.9%)	(11.3%)	
Mixed	117	58	175	89	86	175	
Feelings	(66.9%)	(33.1%)	(12.3%)	(50.9%)	(49.1%)	(12.3%)	
Dislike	562	523	1085	438	646	1084	
	(51.8%)	(48.2%)	(76.4%)	(40.4%)	(59.6%)	(76.4%)	
Total	774	647	1421	590	830	1420	
	(54.5%)	(45.5%)	(100%)	(41.5%)	(58.5%)	(100%)	

Of those participants that liked heavy/death metal music, 59.0 percent (n=95) expressed they had attended a sports event in the past year, while 41.0 percent (n=66) indicated they had not. Of those individuals that expressed distaste for heavy/death metal music, 51.8 percent (n=562) indicated they had attended a sports event in the past year, whereas 48.2 percent (n=523) reported they had not. In addition, as it pertains to those individuals who reported mixed feelings towards heavy/death metal music, 66.9 percent (n=117) expressed they had attended a sporting event within the past year, whereas 33.1 percent (n=58) indicated they had not been to one.

Results of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did exist between preference in heavy/death metal music and the attendance at sporting events. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01, thus signifying support for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support did exist for hypothesis #4 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. heavy/death metal) would be related to whether or not participants had attended a sporting event.

As it pertains to whether or not participants had visited an art museum or gallery, findings indicated that 39.1 percent (n=63) of participants who indicated a preference for heavy/death metal music had visited an art museum or gallery within the past year, whereas 60.9 percent (n=98) indicated they had not. Of those participants who expressed a disliking for heavy/death metal music, 40.4 percent (n=438) expressed they had visited an art museum or gallery, while 59.6 percent (n=646) reported that they had not visited one. In addition, as it concerns those participants who expressed mixed feelings towards heavy/death metal music, 50.9 percent (n=89) indicated they had visited an art museum or gallery within the past year, whereas 49.1 percent (n=86) indicated that they had not.

Findings of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did not exist between preference in heavy/death metal music and the visitation at an art museum or gallery. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was .060. Since this value was >.01, it was determined that a lack of support existed. From these results, it was determined that support did not exist for the assumption that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. heavy/death metal) would be related to whether or not participants had visited an art museum or gallery.

Table 21

Behavioral Variables Tabulated with Country Western Music

Preference in Country		tended Spo ent in Past (p= .114)		Attended Art Museum or Gallery in Past Yr. (p= <.001)			
Western Music	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total	
Like	470	446	916	321	595	916	
	(51.3%)	(48.7%)	(62.5%)	(35.0%)	(65.0%)	(62.5%)	
Mixed	197	135	332	167	164	331	
Feelings	(59.3%)	(40.7%)	(22.6%)	(50.5%)	(49.5%)	(22.6%)	
Dislike	118	100	218	107	111	218	
	(54.1%)	(45.9%)	(14.9%)	(49.1%)	(50.9%)	(14.9%)	
Total	785	681	1466	595	870	1465	
	(53.5%)	(46.5%)	(100%)	(40.6%)	(59.4%)	(100%)	

Of those participants that preferred country western music, 51.3 percent (n=470) expressed they had attended a sports event in the past year, while 48.7 percent (n=446)

indicated they had not. Of those individuals that disliked country western music, 54.1 percent (n=118) reported they had attended a sports event in the past year, while 45.9 percent (n=100) indicated they had not. Additionally, as it concerns those participants who expressed mixed feelings towards country western music, 59.3 percent (n=197) emphasized they had attended a sporting event within the past year, while 40.7 percent (n=135) indicated they had not been to one.

Results of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did not exist between preference in country western music and the attendance at sporting events. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was .114. Since this value was >.01, a lack of support existed for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support did not exist for the assumption that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. country western) would be related to whether or not participants had attended a sports event.

Findings indicated that 35.0 percent (n=321) of participants who indicated a likeness for country western music had attended an art museum or gallery within the past year, while 65.0 percent (n=595) indicated they had not. Of those participants who expressed distaste for country western music, 49.1 percent (n=107) indicated they had visited an art museum or gallery, whereas 50.9 percent (n=111) reported that they had not visited one. Additionally, as it pertains to those individuals who expressed mixed feelings for country western music, 50.5 percent (n=167) suggested they had visited an art museum or gallery within the past year, while 49.5 percent (n=164) reported that they had not.

Results of the chi-square test demonstrated that a relationship did exist between preference in country western music and the visitation at an art museum or gallery. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01, thus indicating support for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support did exist for hypothesis #4 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. country western) would be related to whether or not participants had visited an art museum or gallery.

Table 22
Behavioral Variables Tabulated with Classical Music

	Att	ended Spo	orts		ed Art Mus		
Preference	Eve	ent in Past	Yr.	Gallery in Past Yr.			
in Classical	(	(p = < .001)	)	(	(p = < .001)	)	
Music	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total	
Like	405	312	717	405	311	716	
	(56.5%)	(43.5%)	(50.4%)	(56.6%)	(43.4%)	(50.4%)	
Mixed	205	135	340	129	211	340	
Feelings	(60.3%)	(39.7%)	(23.9%)	(37.9%)	(62.1%)	(23.9%)	
Dislike	160	206	366	59	307	366	
	(43.7%)	(56.3%)	(25.7%)	(16.1%)	(83.9%)	(25.7%)	
Total	770	653	1423	593	829	1422	
	(54.1%)	(45.9%)	(100%)	(41.7%)	(58.3%)	(100%)	

Of those participants that preferred classical music, 56.5 percent (n=405) indicated they had attended a sports event in the past year, while 43.5 percent (n=312)

expressed they had not. Of those individuals that reported distaste for classical music, 43.7 percent (n=160) reported they had attended a sports event in the past year, while 56.3 percent (n=206) emphasized they had not. In addition, as it pertains to those participants who reported mixed feelings towards classical music, 60.3 percent (n=205) emphasized they had attended a sporting event within the past year, while 39.7 percent (n=135) reported they had not.

Results of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did exist between preference in classical music and the attendance at sporting events. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01, thus indicating support for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support did exist for hypothesis #4 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. classical) would be related to whether or not participants had attended a sports event.

Results indicated that 56.6 percent (n=405) of participants who indicated a preference for classical music had attended an art museum or gallery within the past year, whereas 43.4 percent (n=311) reported they had not. Of those participants who indicated a disliking for classical music, 16.1 percent (n=59) indicated they had visited an art museum or gallery, while 83.9 percent (n=307) expressed that they had not visited one. In addition, as it relates to those individuals who reported mixed feelings towards classical music, 37.9 percent (n=129) reported they had visited an art museum or gallery within the past year, while 62.1 percent (n=211) reported that they had not.

Findings of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did exist between preference in classical music and the visitation at an art museum or gallery. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01, thus signifying support for the hypothesis.

From these results, it was determined that support existed for hypothesis #4 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. classical) would be related to whether or not participants had visited an art museum or gallery.

<u>Table 23</u>
Behavioral Variables Tabulated with Jazz Music

Preference in Jazz	Eve	ended Spo ent in Past (p= <.001)	Yr.	Attended Art Museum or Gallery in Past Yr. (p= <.001)			
Music	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total	
Like	434	299	733	371	362	733	
	(59.2%)	(40.8%)	(50.6%)	(50.6%)	(49.4%)	(50.6%)	
Mixed	209	162	371	145	225	370	
Feelings	(56.3%)	(43.7%)	(25.6%)	(39.2%)	(60.8%)	(25.6%)	
Dislike	139	206	345	78	267	345	
	(40.3%)	(59.7%)	(23.8%)	(22.6%)	(77.4%)	(23.8%)	
Total	782	667	1449	594	854	1448	
	(54.0%)	(46.0%)	(100%)	(41.0%)	(59.0%)	(100%)	

Of those participants that indicated a preference for jazz music, 59.2 percent (n=434) emphasized they had attended a sports event in the past year, while 40.8 percent (n=299) indicated they had not. Of those individuals that disliked jazz music, 40.3 percent (n=139) indicated they had attended a sports event in the past year, while 59.7 percent (n=206) expressed they had not. Moreover, as it concerns those individuals who had mixed feelings towards jazz music, 56.3 percent (n=209) indicated they had attended

a sporting event within the past year, whereas 43.7 percent (n=162) indicated they had not been to one.

Results of the chi-square test illustrated that a relationship did exist between preference in jazz music and the attendance at sporting events. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01, thus indicating support for the hypothesis. From these findings, it was determined that support did exist for hypothesis #4 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. jazz) would be related to whether or not participants had attended a sports event.

As it pertains to whether or not participants had visited an art museum or gallery, findings indicate that 50.6 percent (n=371) of participants who indicated a liking for jazz music had visited an art museum or gallery within the past year, whereas 49.4 percent (n=362) indicated they had not. Of those participants who expressed distaste for jazz music, 22.6 percent (n=78) expressed they had visited an art museum or gallery, while 77.4 percent (n=267) indicated that they had not visited one. In addition, as it concerns those participants who had mixed feelings for jazz music, 39.2 percent (n=145) indicated they had visited an art museum or gallery within the past year, whereas 60.8 percent (n=225) reported that they had not.

Results of the chi-square test demonstrated that a relationship did exist between preference in classical music and the visitation to an art museum or gallery. The p value obtained from the chi-square test was <.01. Therefore support was found to exist for the hypothesis. From these results, it was determined that support did exist for hypothesis #4 that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music (i.e. classical) would be related to whether or not participants had visited an art museum or gallery.

#### Summary of Findings for Hypothesis #4

As indicated by the statistical results, the findings illustrated that a relationship existed between musical preference and the engagement in certain behaviors or activities. Accordingly, the findings indicated that support existed for hypothesis #4 that a relationship exists between the enjoyment of listening to certain genres of music and participation in various behaviors/activities, mainly sporting events, and art museums or galleries.

## Summary of Findings

Analysis of the findings support hypothesis #1 as indicated by the results. It was found that there was a relationship between age and preference in music. From these findings, it was determined that support existed for hypothesis #1 that the enjoyment of listening to certain genres of music would be more prevalent for those younger adults as compared to others who are more advanced in age. Analysis of the findings support hypothesis #1 as indicated by the statistical results between musical preference and age.

Analysis of the findings did not support hypothesis #2 in that the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music would differ by gender of respondent. Accordingly, hypothesis #2 was rejected and the null hypothesis was accepted due to a lack of statistical significance between musical preference and gender.

Analysis of the findings support hypothesis #3 as indicated by the results of musical preference compared with attitudes towards various criminal justice issues. It was found that a relationship existed between musical preference and personal attitudes

towards certain criminal justice related issues, mainly the death penalty for murder, gun permits, and the legalization of marijuana.

Analysis of the findings support hypothesis #4 on the relationship between musical preference and the engagement in various behaviors/activities. It was found that the enjoyment of listening to each of the genres of music was related to whether or not participants attended a sports event in the past. It was also found that the enjoyment of listening to certain musical genres was related to whether or not participants attended an art museum or gallery in the past.

#### **Summary**

This chapter presented the findings of this thesis. It was reported that hypothesis #1, hypothesis #3, and hypothesis #4 were all supported by the findings, whereas hypothesis #2 was rejected because it was found that a relationship did not exist between musical preference and gender. This chapter also included a discussion of the findings of the analysis for each posed hypothesis.

The next chapter will review the major results and findings of this thesis. It will also point out the contributions of this thesis as well as its major strengths and limitations. Lastly, the next chapter will include a number of recommendations for future research on the topic of music and its influence on adult behavior.

#### CHAPTER 5

#### **CONCLUSIONS AND DISCUSSIONS**

This thesis used a secondary analysis to examine music and its relationship with lifestyle behaviors and choices of adults. The hypotheses for this thesis were that the enjoyment of certain types of music would be more prevalent among the younger generation of adults as compared to those more advanced in age, the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music would differ by gender of respondent, a relationship exists between the enjoyment of listening to certain musical genres and personal attitudes towards different criminal justice related issues, and relationship exists between the enjoyment of listening to certain musical genres and the engagement in certain activities/behaviors.

Findings supported hypothesis #1 that the enjoyment of certain music types would be more prevalent among younger adults compared to those more advanced in age.

Findings did not support hypothesis #2 that the enjoyment of certain types of music would differ by gender. The findings of this thesis supported hypothesis#3 that a relationship existed between preference in music and attitudes towards various criminal justice issues. Lastly, hypothesis #4 was supported, indicating that a relationship existed between musical preference and various behaviors/activities.

## Strengths

This thesis was an exploratory study of the influence of music on adult behavior and lifestyle choices. One of the benefits this thesis provides is that it adds value and worth to the scientific community as well as to popular culture in that it complements the existing literature that examines music and its influence on adult behavioral tendencies and lifestyle choices. There is a fruitful, abundant amount of research that examines the influence that music has on the behavior of the youth of America. However, few research studies have focused attention on the relationship between music and adult behavior, attitudes, as well as personal lifestyle choices. This research attempts to add to that literature and to the understanding on the potential influence of music on adult behavior. It's also beneficial in that it extends the examination of music and its influence to include criminal justice related topics.

It is anticipated that this examination will help improve the knowledge and understanding of practitioners, health service professionals, scholars, as well as members of the general public concerning the influence of music on adult behavior. It is also hoped that it will help to increase understanding of the meaningful role that music plays in the everyday lives of individuals. The findings of this thesis indicated that a number of different relationships existed between musical preference and various lifestyle choices and attitudes. From the findings, one can see how a relationship did exist between certain variables (i.e. musical preference and age, musical preference and attitudes towards various criminal justice issues, and musical preference and certain behaviors/activities), while a relationship did not exist between other variables (i.e. gender and musical preference).

#### Limitations

In the General Social Survey (GSS), participants were asked a number of questions about their preference in music. Several genres of music were listed in the survey and participants were asked about whether they liked or disliked each genre. Although responses to all questions were voluntary, it is possible that participants could have simply just given random answers to questions throughout the survey in an attempt to rush through and complete it. It is possible that participants may have potentially lacked interest in the survey as well. This, in return, would alter the data as it pertains to those who preferred each genre of music. The survey itself is considered representative of the U.S. population and it's also scientific in nature (Davis et al., 2000).

An additional limitation pertains to the mature data that was utilized for this thesis. The data used from the 1993 GSS is somewhat aged data. However, it was utilized because it, unlike most other GSS datasets, had various questions pertaining to culture, music, and issues related to criminal justice. Responses to these questions were then analyzed to determine if a relationship existed between musical preference and adult behavior. So, even though the data is relatively aged, the findings of this thesis are still of worth and value in that it illustrates how a relationship exists between certain behaviors/attitudes and musical preference. The findings of this thesis can also serve as a baseline for future research that examines the potential relationship between music and adult behavior.

#### Suggestions for Future Research

This research illustrates that a relationship does exist between music and particular behavioral tendencies of adults. Accordingly, this research provides great contribution to scholars as well as other criminal justice practitioners in that it illustrates certain demographic, behavioral and/or criminal justice related variables with the type of music that individuals favor or prefer to listen to. Future research that expands on this as well as previous research will be of significant value to the field of criminal justice as well as to practitioners and human service professionals. Over the years, music has become an integral, meaningful aspect in the everyday lives of many individuals.

Accordingly, continued research that provides greater understanding and meaning over the importance and influence of music would be of tremendous benefit to the scientific community as well as society in general.

To better understand the influence that music has on the lifestyles of adults, further research is also needed that methodically examines music and the level to which it is related to individual behavior. Research that further investigates this relationship between music type and adult behavior can provide further scholarly insight on the potential influence that certain types of music have on different lifestyle choices, attitudes, and behavioral tendencies of adults. Further longitudinal research that analyzes the relationship between music and long-term adult behavior would be of further practical benefit to society as well as the criminal justice system.

## **Summary**

The findings of this thesis over the influence of music on adult behavior and lifestyle choices illustrated that all but one of the research hypotheses were supported. This thesis adds worth and value to the existing academic literature that examines music and its influence on adult behavior. The findings illustrated how music is related to certain variables, such as age and certain attitudes, while it suggests that no relationship exists between gender and the enjoyment of listening to certain musical genres. This research can also be utilized as a starting point for future long-term research that examines music and its potential influence on behavior and attitudes/thought tendencies.

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#### **APPENDICES**

# Appendix A

## Research Hypotheses

- Hypothesis #1- the enjoyment of listening to certain types of music will be more prevalent among younger adults as compared to those more advanced in age.
- 2. <u>Hypothesis #2</u>- The enjoyment of listening to certain types of music will differ by gender of respondent.
- 3. <u>Hypothesis #3</u>- A relationship exists between the enjoyment of certain genres of music and personal attitudes towards different criminal justice related issues.
- 4. <u>Hypothesis #4</u>-A relationship exists between the enjoyment of certain music types and the engagement in certain activities/behaviors.

# Appendix B

# Variables Utilized to Operationalize Research Hypotheses

- 1. Musical genre & age category
- 2. Musical genre & gender
- 3. Musical genre & attitudes towards the death penalty for murder
- 4. Musical genre & attitudes towards gun permits
- 5. Musical genre & attitudes towards the legalization of marijuana
- 6. Musical preference & attendance at sporting events
- 7. Musical preference & attendance at art museums or galleries

# Appendix C

Human Subjects Committee Approval Letter (Attached)



One University Plaza, Youngstown, Ohio 44555

Office of Grants and Sponsored Programs 330.941.2377 Fax 330.941.2705

July 6, 2009

Dr. John Hazy, Principal Investigator Mr. Justin Crowl, Co-investigator Department of Criminal Justice UNIVERSITY

RE:

HSRC Protocol Number:

178-2009

Title: An Analysis of Music and Its Influence on Adult Lifestyle Choices and

Behavioral Tendencies

Dear Dr. Hazy and Mr. Crowl:

The Human Subjects Research Committee has reviewed the abovementioned protocol and determined that it is exempt from full committee review based on a DHHS Category 4 exemption.

Any changes in your research activity should be promptly reported to the Human Subjects Research Committee and may not be initiated without HSRC approval except where necessary to eliminate hazard to human subjects. Any unanticipated problems involving risks to subjects should also be promptly reported to the Human Subjects Research Committee.

The HSRC would like to extend its best wishes to you in the conduct of this study.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Kasvinsky Dean, School of Graduate Studies Research Compliance Officer

> tty. Patricia Wagner, Chair epartment of Criminal Justice