Don't Judge a Book by its Cover: An Ethnography about Achievement, Rap Music, Sexuality & Race

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Abstract
The purpose of this ethnographic study was to explore how youth consumption of rap music informed their ideas of gender, race, sexuality, and education at a local community center in Atlanta, Georgia. The participants in the study were comprised of three male and six female Black students from working class families, ranging in age from 13–17 years old. The data collection process included 60 formal interviews, 55 informal interviews, 27 focus group interviews, 103 participant observations, and document analyses of media materials. Atlas.ti: The Knowledge Workbench (2003) assisted with the organizing, coding, categorizing, and interpreting of the vast amount of data. Findings from the study revealed four major themes: (a) youth's engagement with rap music fostered essentialized notions of Blackness, (b) teens believed that Blacks were intellectually inferior, (c) youth perceived their classroom teachers as racist and (d) youth responded to their teacher's perceived racism by disassociating themselves from youth they believed to be academically inferior. The findings of this study addressed the need for candid dialogues about race in the classroom and educational policy that incorporates critical media literacy.

Recommended Citation

This shows that a book should not be judged by its cover. It is better to look within rather than what is on the outside that can eventually trick ones naked eye. Similar Papers. Book Cover Analysis on the Pinocchio Effect. cause of the book. It took the theme of the book and properly wielded the appropriate sources to tell its story at a be transported through time just by the visual aspect. The book was entitled "The Pinocchio Effect: On Making Italians, 1860-1920 The Book Of Judges. Century, even though the stories and accountings of the judges where already known and writte