

Class discussion: How does the identity of the performer affect musical meaning?

February 19, 2016

Performer	What the song means	Because
#1 (Destiny's Child) F5A	Commitment (boyfriend), faithful Confidence, self-worth Consistency Creating social contract	Female Feminism of 90s Grrl power Female empowerment Confident delivery style Group of girlfriends talking Anger, loudness of delivery Gentle in comparison Sassy delivery
#1 (Destiny's Child) J5	Relationship problems Needy not needy? Needs confirmation Female solidarity Conversational Confident, cocky, debonair swagger	Woman talking to man Main singer + backup (women who have her back) Inflection Not whiny delivery, assured Doesn't seem sad Stern, firm (rhythmic clarity of verse) Elevated speech rather than broad singing in the version
#2 (Sick Puppies) F5A	Demanding respect Angry Built up frustration, anger Aggressive towards a (female) significant other Abusive, control freak, disrespectful, causes me to feel nervous Insecure? Power dynamic of genders Feeling frustrated, impotent	Male Screaming Taunting, progressively angry Different inflection and rhythmic placement
#2 (Sick Puppies) J5	Abusive Anger Emotional display Different energy: less collected, frustration Comical, parody Mocking, facetious (making light of the validity of their relationship) Urgency Crazy	Profanity, aggressive percussion Screaming rather than singing Less contained, less polished Faster tempo Man Repetition One-sided yelling Temper tantrum quality to the drums Ugly sound quality

	Demanding	
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