

Are you REALLY doing it for your “Hood”?

In today’s rap music, it is hard to tell what exactly these rappers are talking about in their songs. From talking about, “stackin’ their flows”, to “hidin’ the rest of the yams their auntie’s house”, to “trappin’” doesn’t make any logical sense to the average person that doesn’t listen to this type of music. To shed a little bit of light onto this little mystery, I chose to analyze a song titled, “My Hood” by Young Jeezy. It contains some of these hard to understand metaphors, and comparisons.

The song starts out: ” *Every time I do it I do it for my hood, every time I do it fo’ your hood, and every time I do it I do it fo they hood. It’s understood that I do it for the hood.*”

This in itself can be confusing to what he is talking about. But the truth is, Young Jeezy is talking about nothing more than selling crack cocaine to all the people in the hoods around Atlanta, Georgia (where he “reps” from). He makes the erroneous claim that he isn’t selling crack for personal gain but yet to provide a “service” and gain “street credit” among the gangsters that run amuck in today’s big time city’s “ghettos”.

If the opening chorus to the song and its closely tied in drug references didn’t hit you in the face like a ton bricks, look just exactly forty-two seconds later when the song’s first verse begins. The lyrics start out: “*Streets love Jeezy and I love ‘em back. And if I still had to work, I’d front you a sack. It’s all gravy, still reachin wit my words. And make em’ feel good on the first and the third.*” What Young Jeezy is referring to here is that the people that live in Atlanta’s ghetto love and have respect for Jeezy because of the fact that he is providing his hood with crack. Then when he refers to himself loving the streets back, I mean who wouldn’t? If I were selling a highly addictive drug to almost an entire community at a high price, who wouldn’t be

Justin Knight

happy? You almost have to be the happiest man on earth if you made it rich selling drugs, and then made it even RICHER turning your drug dealing stories into a rap career.

This isn't just a coincidence, having one song just about selling crack. In fact, ALL of Young Jeezy's songs on his album, "*Thug Motivation: 101*" are about the same topic. Let me provide you with just one more final example of having a rap song come down to nothing in meaning except selling crack.

Jeezy concludes the song referring to a, "*Ford Taurus pull up, every body run. White boys jump out, pointin' with they guns. Ford Taurus leave, everybody came back. A! Hope dem boys didn't find my sack.*"

Once again this is talking about nothing except selling crack, except this time the police are involved. The "*White boys*", and "*Ford Taurus*" Jeezy is referring to are the police pulling up to a drug deal that is in progress. When the cops pull up to the scene, everybody flees so they do not get arrested for selling/buying crack cocaine. But, when the police get back into their car's and leave, everyone comes back to the street corner and Jeezy hopes that the officers didn't find his "sack" or his bag of coke.

As you can see, a rapper who makes good rhymes and makes up words to refer to drugs can make it huge. Not because of the fact of he talks about being hard because he raps about nothing but selling crack, but because the music sounds good to the ears. So, next time you listen to one of your favorite rap songs, try and listen to the actual lyrics to the song. You might be pleasantly surprised about what the rapper is speaking about.

The lyrics to this song can be found at:

Justin Knight

<http://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/youngjeezy/myhood.html>