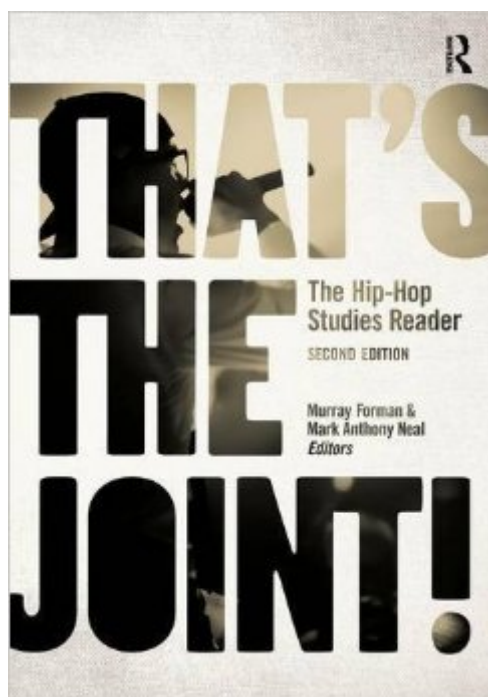


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That's The Joint!: The Hip-Hop Studies Reader



Synopsis

This newly expanded and revised second edition of *That's the Joint!* brings together the most important and up-to-date hip-hop scholarship in one comprehensive volume. Presented thematically, the selections address the history of hip-hop, identity politics of the "hip-hop nation," debates of "street authenticity," social movements and activism, aesthetics, technologies of production, hip-hop as a cultural industry, and much more. Further, this new edition also includes greater coverage of gender, racial diversity in hip-hop, hip-hop's global influences, and examines hip-hop's role in contemporary politics. With pedagogical features including author biographies, headnotes summarizing key points of articles, and discussion questions, *That's the Joint!* is essential reading for anyone seeking deeper understanding of the profound impact of hip-hop as an intellectual, aesthetic, and cultural movement.

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Customer Reviews

That's The Joint: The Hip-Hop Studies Reader edited by Murray Forman and Mark Anthony Neal addresses prominent issues in gender, sexuality, and regionalism. Using authors from interdisciplinary backgrounds, the editors create a dynamic and diverse range of opinions and impacts. Based on selected reading and our targeted focuses, the text prevents hip-hop from being the saving grace of black culture by presenting arguments that indicate its flaws and contradictions. This allows for the reader to interpret the varying representations that hip-hop offers. Andrea Clay, Marc Lamont Hill, Michael Eric Dyson and Byron Hurt explore how homosexuality is considered the opposite of masculinity and how this idea affects both men and women. Hyper masculinity is a

prevalent concept in American culture. We celebrate and glamorize violent masculinity, from football players to the military. Leaders need to be aggressive and "strong" to garner positive public attention. In hip-hop, the most popular videos and lyrics are about men dominating women. Hill discusses how if men fail to achieve hypermasculinity they're accused of homosexuality, and such an accusation often hurts their careers. Dyson and Hurt take time to discuss black women as well, though their focus is male identity. Dyson shows how the patriarchy maintains control over women by sorting them into "types" or using them as objects. The in-depth interview covers men, women and gender roles, with a smidge of queer theory. What Dyson neglects to mention about queer black women Clay fills in, as a queer woman herself. She observes how queer women may identify with the masculinity in hip-hop, although she doesn't mention why lesbian couples feel they must subscribe to heterosexual stereotypes.

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