

# [Baby babies were born in that period](https://assignbuster.com/baby-babies-were-born-in-that-period/)

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Baby boom in post-World War II lasted from 1946 through 1964. 76 millionbabies were born in that period of time. Everyone was fearing about theirsocial impact even before they became teens. Filmmakers, writers and socialcommentators were all scared about growing rates of youthcommitting criminal acts, rebellion against authority, drugs, alcohol or evennew style of clothes. Although every each was appalling they were the mosthorrified about rock ‘ n’ roll. This music marked a separation between generationsand defined incoming youth culture. Threshold of Rock ‘ n’ roll shifted thestyle of mainstream music. Even though it revolutionised American pop cultureat the beginning it was only known as music of youth rebellion.

Before r ‘ n’ r TinPan Alley were the publishing houses concentrated in the Manhattan area. Laterthis term was generally applying to mainstream pop music which did not appealto all people (Covach, John. “ An Introduction to Rock and ItsHistory.

” What’s That Sound?) Its makers and followers were limitingthemselves to the bigger cities of California so it was more for white, educated middle and upper classes. That’s why African Americans, Latinos, southern white, working class were creating their own separate musical styles. Later on the traditions of both interlaced with each other. The build-up ofRock ‘ n’ roll was not the only big thing that was going on at that time. Therecording business got to the best point in early 1950s so it concurred withprogression in the music industry.                          What was the first rock ‘ n’ roll song is a questionthat music historians have been fighting for over a decade. Singles that werecommercially successful like Bill Haley & The Comets “ Rock Around TheClock” (1954), Little Richard’s “ Tutti Frutti” (1955) and Elvis Presley’s” Hound Dog” (1956) did not invent rock ‘ n’ roll but were songs that popularizedthe genre. In the beginning rock ‘ n’ roll was kept only forAfro-Americans.

Then Alan Freed appeared (DJ from Cleveland) and helped tochange it. He noticed that white teens were buying whole albums with that kindof music. He started to promote this music under name “ rock and roll” on radio. 1951 was the first time that this name was used as a music genre. With this acthe diminished a barrier between black and white cultures. Rock ‘ n Roll gained alot of fallowers and became main, dominant music type. To roll out this musiche organised few of first R’n’R gigs.

Harmonic and rhythm simplicity but veryoften dip lyrics about love or youths life are the main qualities of Rock ‘ n’Roll. Electric guitar and lead singer were at the forefront (Understanding Music (Rock ‘ n’ Roll). Exclusively in early60s this type of music started to become popular in Europe. British version ofit was more sophisticated but the main scheme was kept as it was in US.    Youth werethe firsts who noticed increase of frustration amidst black people because oftheir fourth-rate legal and social position. The crucial step unto ending racialsegregation were ratings taken by a civil grassroots rights movement. Just asimportant was US Supreme Court ruling in Brown v. Broad of Education in 1954.

The whole black habitants and white allies’ citizens slowly started progressingagainst deflating black equality.  Popularmusic at current situation was also under big challenge. Black artists, sometimes after long time of success in R&B charts, found mainstream fanbase and consequently went high in pop charts. Brief appearances on the popcharts in the first moments of 1950s made Fats Dominos, Joe Turner and RuthBrown. Orioles, Dominoes and Crows as a vocal groups had a bit bigger success. Thismusic was written to entertain broad families from middle class which was childrenas much as adults. Before anyone noticed in 1950s this was the kind of music listenedto by most of American teens.

Within next decadesthis music evolved assuming more and more provocative forms, frequently causingthe depravity among representatives of the pre-war generation of conservativeAmericans, but was way for young people to look forward to some other methods inorder to express themselves. Elvis Presley was the most popular musicianperforming the so-called rockabilly, had all features that they were lookingfor in the star that they could emulate (“ Historia D? wi? kiem Pisana. Krótko o Tym Jak Narodzi? Si? Rock ‘ n’Roll | HISTORIA. org. pl – Historia, Kultura, Muzea, Matura, Rekonstrukcje iRecenzje Historyczne.” HISTORIA. org.

pl, 16 Aug. 2015). Jimmy Carter in the statement on the Death ofElvis Presley said “ Elvis Presley’s death deprives our country of apart of itself.

He was unique and irreplaceable. More than 20 years ago, heburst upon the scene with an impact that was unprecedented and will probablynever be equalled. His music and his personality, fusing the styles of whitecountry and black rhythm and blues, permanently changed the face of Americanpopular culture. His following was immense, and he was a symbol to people theworld over of the vitality, rebelliousness, and good humour of his country “(Jimmy Carter: “ Statement by thePresident on the Death of Elvis Presley,” August 17, 1977).  The coming together of white youth addresseesand black compositions in rock and roll, inevitably provoked strong whiteracist reactions within the US, with many whites condemning its breaking downof barriers based on colour(: G. C. Altschuler, All shook up: how rock ‘ n’roll changed America  p.

35). Many authors have argued that earlyrock and roll was instrumental in the way both white and black teenagersidentified themselves (Carson, Mina(2004). Girls Rock! Fifty Years ofWomen Making Music p. 24.) This genre was popularly associated with drugsand sex. Hard-drinking and hard-living were the terms that you could describemany of rock ‘ n’ roll stars (just as jazz and blues ones). Lives of artists weremore publicly known during 1960s because of rise of interest in undergroundrock press. This promoted acceptability of drug usage in teen mass.

Journalist Al Aronowitz wrote”…whatever the Beatles did was acceptable, especially for youngpeople.

” (“ AlAronowitz Remembers; Dylan, The Beatles & Marijuana.” Al Aronowitz Remembers…

(Part 2)). Jerry Garcia, of the rock band GratefulDead said, “ For some people, taking LSDand going to Grateful Dead showfunctions like a rite of passage …

we don’t have a product to sell; but we dohave a mechanism that works.”  If anartist first comes to public attention with specific style, any furtherstylistic progression may be seen as selling out to long-time followers. On theother hand, producers and superiors may gradually take more control of theartist, as happened, for instance, in Elvis Presley’s swift changeover inspecies from “ The Hillbilly Cat” to “ your teddy bear”. Beginningof rock and roll music spawned new dance trends.

Teenagers found the accented backbeat rhythm. Basement dance parties and gym dances becamethe rage. To keep up on newest fashion and dances US teenagers watched DickClark’s American Bandstand ( R.

Aquila, Thatold-time rock & roll: a chronicle of an era, 2000), p. 10) Taking everything into account you would think thatthere wasn’t racial barrier anymore but unfortunately it was not a case yet. Racism in America was still one of the biggest issue.

There is a lot ofdefinitions of it declared by sociologists. “ Culturally sanctioned beliefs, which regardless of intentions involved, defend the advantages Whites havebecause of the subordinated position of racial minorities, “ is the Wellmans description. Further he gives clearer description of racism that is representing an attitudeof prejudice that exists apart from the organisation of community structure. Inthat time, native radio stations and record stores were replicating the tastesof the Black community. Middleton is sustaining that the importance of music inBlack society comprising to White society has to be seen as a culturaldifference because as a result Black and White people were integrating more andWhite habitants were getting to know more about emotional life of Black ones.

What is more, increase of ‘ baby boom’ generation helped in rock ‘ n’ roll cominginto being. While most adults found it unapproachable, teens were passionate aboutthis music genre. Driving force behind creating music and production was the young-workingclass. Teenagers are seen as inventors of rock ‘ n’ roll. Moreover, it has been obviousthat ‘ music plays a central role in the process of personality construction ofyoung people’. This music influenced on teens in many ways, for instance, language, fashion or even attitude toward the political. All things considered, it seems reasonable to assume that theimpact of rock and roll on society and culture of America is almost too huge tomeasure. This significant genre started uniting people and breaking the wallsbetween Black and White citizens.

It was pitting government, mass media, parentsagainst teenagers, and at the same time helped wear down some of the preconceptionsfelt in the direction to African Americans. Strict older people didn’t like theinfluence that rock ‘ n’ roll was giving. They did not like intensive constantsexuality of the performances, lyrics of songs and of course they did not likethe fact that this music had bases in in Afro-Americans culture even though ifit was white artist who made the song. The rebellious nature of this genreabout which was accused was excruciating for them. Parents could not stand thateven though they were forbidding, money which were given to teens were spent onrock ‘ n’ roll music albums. When a teenager did have a job then her or him, basicallywere allowed to spend the money that they have earned on the things they simplywanted. White youth were listening to music not only inspired by but oftenperformed by Black people.

The thing that at concerts performers and part ofthe audience were Black for teens was exciting but anyone else was disapprovingit. The films such as Blackboard jungle (1955) inspired teens to questionauthority under which they have been. Music in 1950s was able to do what jazzand Rhythm and Blues couldn’t do. This was possible because of advent of theradio, convenience in getting a music albums and television programs. After WorldWar II Families were more likely to be financially stable, that said they didnot have to be supported by some institutions when they children were born. Peoplewere given possibility to change world and even though older ones did not wantto, teens pushed them forward.  Byfinally finding this common ground and with the help of the Supreme Court’sstance in contradiction of segregation, and the spread of the Civil RightsMovement, rock ‘ n’ roll was able to corrode the long standing tradition of hateand segregation through its music.

In a little while when teenagers from baby boomreached voting age reforms of the most of sweeping Civil Rights went in tolife. If those Civil Rights Movements would have continued without rebelliousgenre of rock ‘ n’ roll, probably would have taken much longer to break down thebarriers that this helped to break down.