

Baby babies were born in that period

[Art & Culture](#), [Artists](#)



Baby boom in post-World War II lasted from 1946 through 1964. 76 million babies were born in that period of time. Everyone was fearing about their social impact even before they became teens. Filmmakers, writers and social commentators were all scared about growing rates of youth committing criminal acts, rebellion against authority, drugs, alcohol or even new style of clothes. Although every each was appalling they were the most horrified about rock ' n' roll. This music marked a separation between generations and defined incoming youth culture. Threshold of Rock ' n' roll shifted the style of mainstream music. Even though it revolutionised American pop culture at the beginning it was only known as music of youth rebellion.

Before r ' n' r Tin Pan Alley were the publishing houses concentrated in the Manhattan area. Later this term was generally applying to mainstream pop music which did not appeal to all people (Covach, John. " An Introduction to Rock and Its History.

" What's That Sound?) Its makers and followers were limiting themselves 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 of Rock ' n' roll was not the only big thing that was going on at that time. The recording business got to the best point in early 1950s so it concurred with progression in the music industry.

What was the first rock ' n' roll song is a question that music historians have been fighting for over a decade. Singles that were commercially successful like Bill Haley & The Comets " Rock Around The Clock" (1954), Little Richard's " Tutti Frutti" (1955) and Elvis

Presley's "Hound Dog" (1956) did not invent rock 'n' roll but were songs that popularized the genre. In the beginning rock 'n' roll was kept only for Afro-Americans.

Then Alan Freed appeared (DJ from Cleveland) and helped to change it. He noticed that white teens were buying whole albums with that kind of 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 act he diminished a barrier between black and white cultures. Rock 'n' Roll gained a lot of followers and became main, dominant music type. To roll out this music he organised few of first R'n'R gigs.

Harmonic and rhythm simplicity but very often did 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 early 60s this type of music started to become popular in Europe. British version of it was more sophisticated but the main scheme was kept as it was in US. Youth were the firsts who noticed increase of frustration amidst black people because of their fourth-rate legal and social position. The crucial step unto ending racial segregation were ratings taken by a civil grassroots rights movement. Just as important was US Supreme Court ruling in Brown v. Board of Education in 1954.

The whole black habitants and white allies' citizens slowly started progressing against deflating black equality. Popular music 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. This music was written to entertain broad families from middle class which was children as much as adults. Before anyone noticed in 1950s this was the kind of music listened to by most of American teens.

Within next decade this music evolved assuming more and more provocative forms, frequently causing the depravity among representatives of the pre-war generation of conservative Americans, but was way for young people to look forward to some other methods in order to express themselves. Elvis Presley was the most popular musician performing the so-called rockabilly, had all features that they were looking for 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 i Recenzje Historyczne." HISTORIA. org.

pl, 16 Aug. 2015). Jimmy Carter in the statement on the Death of Elvis Presley said " Elvis Presley's death deprives our country of a part of itself.

He was unique and irreplaceable. More than 20 years ago, he burst upon the scene with an impact that was unprecedented and will probably never be equalled. His music and his personality, fusing the styles of white country and black rhythm and blues, permanently changed the face of American popular culture. His following was immense, and he was a symbol to people the world over of the vitality, rebelliousness, and good humour of his country "(Jimmy Carter: " Statement by the President on the Death of Elvis Presley," August

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17, 1977). The coming together of white youth addresses and black compositions in rock and roll, inevitably provoked strong white racist reactions within the US, with many whites condemning its breaking down of barriers based on colour (G. C. Altschuler, *All shook up: how rock 'n' roll changed America* p.

35). Many authors have argued that early rock and roll was instrumental in the way both white and black teenagers identified themselves (Carson, Mina (2004). *Girls Rock! Fifty Years of Women Making Music* p. 24.) This genre was popularly associated with drugs and sex. Hard-drinking and hard-living were the terms that you could describe many of rock 'n' roll stars (just as jazz and blues ones). Lives of artists were more publicly known during 1960s because of rise of interest in underground rock press. This promoted acceptability of drug usage in teen mass.

Journalist Al Aronowitz wrote "...whatever the Beatles did was acceptable, especially for young people.

" (" Al Aronowitz Remembers; Dylan, The Beatles & Marijuana." Al Aronowitz Remembers...

(Part 2)). Jerry Garcia, of the rock band Grateful Dead said, " For some people, taking LSD and going to Grateful Dead show functions like a rite of passage ...

we don't have a product to sell; but we do have a mechanism that works." If an artist first comes to public attention with specific style, any further stylistic progression may be seen as selling out to long-time followers. On the other

hand, producers and superiors may gradually take more control of the artist, as happened, for instance, in Elvis Presley's swift changeover in species from "The Hillbilly Cat" to "your teddy bear". Beginning of rock and roll music spawned new dance trends.

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

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

There is a lot of definitions of it declared by sociologists. "Culturally sanctioned beliefs, which regardless of intentions involved, defend the advantages Whites have because of the subordinated position of racial minorities," is the Wellman's description. Further he gives clearer description of racism that is representing an attitude of prejudice that exists apart from the organisation of community structure. In that time, native radio stations and record stores were replicating the tastes of the Black community. Middleton is sustaining that the importance of music in Black society comprising to White society has to be seen as a cultural difference because as a result Black and White people were integrating more and White inhabitants were getting to know more about emotional life of Black ones.

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

It was pitting government, mass media, parents against teenagers, and at the same time helped wear down some of the preconceptions felt in the direction to African Americans. Strict older people didn't like the influence that rock 'n' roll was giving. They did not like intensive constant sexuality of the performances, lyrics of songs and of course they did not like the fact that this music had bases in in Afro-Americans culture even though if it was white artist who made the song. The rebellious nature of this genre about which was accused was excruciating for them. Parents could not stand that even though they were forbidding, money which were given to teens were spent on rock 'n' roll music albums. When a teenager did have a job then her or him, basically were allowed to spend the money that they have earned on the things they simply wanted. White youth were listening to music not only inspired by but often performed by Black people.

The thing that at concerts performers and part of the audience were Black for teens was exciting but anyone else was disapproving it. The films such as *Blackboard jungle* (1955) inspired teens to question authority under which they have been. Music in 1950s was able to do what jazz and Rhythm and Blues couldn't do. This was possible because of advent of the radio, convenience in getting a music albums and television programs. After World War II Families were more likely to be financially stable, that said they did not have to be supported by some institutions when they children were born. People were given possibility to change world and even though older ones did not want to, teens pushed them forward. By finally finding this common ground and with the help of the Supreme Court's stance in contradiction of segregation, and the spread of the Civil Rights Movement, rock 'n' roll was able to corrode the long standing tradition of hate and segregation through its music.

In a little while when teenagers from baby boom reached voting age reforms of the most of sweeping Civil Rights went in to life. If those Civil Rights Movements would have continued without rebellious genre of rock 'n' roll, probably would have taken much longer to break down the barriers that this helped to break down.