

Pop culture women's voices discussion

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Pop Culture: The Voices of Women in History I like to listen to 90s pop music because it is reflective of the amazing technology that was moving thenation and the world into the future. It was the decade of the Internet and big active graphic videos, back when only 15% of private households owned a personal computer.

Back then, there were big hopes and dreams about unimaginable things that could be done with the technology. The musical influences that came through radio and record were made into a 3D visual with the onset of musical videos and the music television channels that were built to promote them. It was the coming of age of a few older favorites like Madonna, Prince, Michael Jackson, and one of the best girl groups of all time, TLC. There was barely a song out about women “ talking to” men that wasnt about real life, as if musical artists have a great deal of insight into the way men chase and women (supposedly) run, or play hard to get.

The song “ No Scrubs” by TLC was phenomenal because of its theme about pride and not giving your girl power to a “ scrub,” or a man who “ hangs out the passenger side of his best friends ride.” The hidden meaning of a scrub is that he is so lame, or unimportant or non-committal, that he cant even manage a car of his own. The song is not dedicated to men, but to women, about belittling themselves to get into a bad relationship that is not true to them or their futures. Women had come a long way, but were also far-removed from the Womens Lib movement of the 1960s. Women were still struggling with sexual and gender identity approximations in the 90s, or how far they could go to be themselves without being left completely alone. The universal answer to a scrub is “ No.”

Deadbeats – men who live with others and mothers and own nothing theyve

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earned speaks to the widely held ideas of the 90s woman, her independence and simultaneous self-initiated sexual exploitation, as if its okay to tease a man and not go all the way. Horizons expand with “ lady music” aimed directly at men about their behaviors and hard-held beliefs about the place of women in society.