

IDENTITY IN MUSIC

by
Josiah Keith

WHAT IS IDENTITY?

- “The unique combination of personal values, goals, attitudes, behavioral styles and characteristics that comprise each individual” – Esther Usborne

IDENTITY ACCEPTANCE

- Views Must be Tolerated by Society
- Shifting of Cultural Values
- Agents of Change
 - Politics
 - Individuals (well known)
 - Music

THESIS

**MUSIC HAS BEEN UTILIZED IN DIFFERENT
WAYS THROUGHOUT HISTORY TO ADVANCE
THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GROUP'S IDENTITY**

CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

- Unification
- Communication
- Emotional connection
 - Encouragement

MAJOR VALUE SHIFT

- **1970s**
- **Baby-boomer generation became engaged in society for the first time**
- **Equality, Freedom, Choice and Peace**
- **Idea of homosexuality began to gain momentum**

GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT

■ Beginnings

■ Visibility

- Disco

■ Modern

■ Pro-gay messages

- “I Kissed a Girl” (2008)
- “Same Love” (2012)
- “Really Don’t Care” (2013)

CONCLUSION

- Music has aided the advancement of the civil rights movement and the gay rights movement through several ways
 - Unification
 - Communication
 - Emotional Connection
 - Providing Visibility
 - Supportive Messages