

Quantitative Methods Annotated Bibliography

Cutler, Cecilia. 2003. *"Keeping It Real": White Hip-Hoppers' Discourses of Language, Race and Authenticity*. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, Vol. 13, Issue 2, pp. 211–233.

In this linguistic anthropology article, the author presents the basis of her dissertation research, in which she looked at the “discursive construction of authenticity”, or the language, of hip hop, and how this is adopted by white middle-class youth in New York City. The premise of her research is that the language and culture of hip-hop, which includes “rap music, breakdancing, writing (graffiti art), dress and speech” (p. 212) is dominated by African Americans, and in this culture white hip-hoppers are a minority..

The *research question* is: how do white hip-hoppers (WHH) assimilate into the hip-hop culture and in the process, how do they “keep it real”? The *data used* in this article was acquired over two years work with 35 teenagers and young adult WHH's, resulting in a total of approximately 39 hours of interview data. The researcher performed a *quantitative linguistic* analysis, specifically called “language-ideology framework”, of 12 of the interviews that best represented five linguistic variables associated with African American English, or Hip Hop Speech Style (HHSS). The analysis resulted in an index score for each consultant.

The conclusion showed a “general correlation” with linguistic index score how the consultants identified with the hip-hop culture through their use of hip-hop language. The *strength* of the article is in the convincing use of a linguistic index to match attitudes. A *weakness* of the article is that the analysis did not explain what test or method was used to arrive at the “correlation”.