## Two Views of Gangsta Rap and Conscious Hip Hop

Well, personally, all rap is socially conscious. The concept of rap itself is socially conscious. But the real difference between socially conscious rap and, I guess, another expression would be the personality of the person his or herself. It's not enough to just rap about socially conscious issues. The question is, are you a socially conscious person? So even though your rap may be something that is questionable or controversial or thuggish in nature, you could still be a socially conscious person and use the resources that you gain in one arena to help out in another.

*-- Hip Hop Artist KRS-One*

Our music is not "gangsta rap." There's no such thing. The label was created by the media to limit what we can say. We just deliver the truth in a brutal fashion. The young black male is a target. Snoop (Doggy Dogg) has gone four times platinum and makes more money than the president. They don't like that, so you hear "ban this, ban that."

*-- Hip Hop Artist GZA, Founding Member of the Wu-Tang Clan*