

http://www.noisebetweenstations.com/personal/essays/music_censorship.html

http://www.rapcoalition.org/fcc_censorship.htm

<http://censoryofmusic.weebly.com/censorship-today.html>

Censorship's impact Today

In this day and age, Censorship has come to a place where you hear it everywhere. Whether you hear bleeping from a radio blasting from a car, or see an image blurred out on a music video, it is in our everyday life, and we accept it as so.

There is a common reference to the seven dirty words. These words are: f(Schneider 42). Most of these words are bleeped out on almost every radio station today, with the exceptions sometimes being tits and piss. Even if these words are offensive, what remains to be understood is how is it hurting anyone by letting these words be said without censorship. Everyone already knows that when there is a bleep on the radio, that one of these words were said, so therefore they are thinking of the word (or even words) anyways. So if there is no way to prohibit it from entering the mind, why not just let it go? These words are heard and said everywhere on a daily basis, there is no avoiding it, so why not let it play on the radio? If they were to allow these words to be said, it might even dilute the offensiveness and meaning of the words.

Another part of censorship today is parental advisory warning labels. They are everywhere, on so many albums. They are placed there on explicit albums to warn people of potentially dangerous lyrical content. These albums are sold separately, with one containing the original songs, while the clean version has either altered lyrics or bleeps throughout the album. The clean versions of albums are essentially ruining the songs by doing this.

The New York Times wrote a story of an artist named Nas, and his response to current censorship today. In his words, he describes the current status of censorship as a "musical prison" (Chinen 74). As with most artists today, there is a feeling of great restriction when it comes to their music. The freedom of speech is heavily prohibited and as is their freedom of expression. Lady Gaga is one of the most flamboyant performers today. She is an incredible entertainer that uses a variety of exposure and costumes to entertain her fans. Her actions have caused many outraged parents to protest her and her performances, saying that they should be prohibited to children. Why should she have to change her performance because of negligent parents? They need to do the research before allowing their children to such shows.

Censorship isn't something that is necessary. If most parents took the necessary precautions and actually paid a little attention to what their child was doing or buying, there wouldn't be a need for censorship altogether. With the words as diluted as they are, playing them on radio stations should not be a serious issue. It is sad to see censorship the way it is today, as it continually ruins and destroys plenty of great songs and performances everyday.

http://www.ehow.com/info_7979107_negative-effects-rap-music-teens.html

<http://www.allkpop.com/2012/03/op-ed-bump-n-censored-a-look-at-dance-in-k-pop>

http://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english_edition/e_national/493471.html

<http://www.allkpop.com/2011/07/songs-by-b2st-jay-park-4minute-mblaq-more-banned-by-ministry-of-gender-equality-family>

Court overturns government censorship of K-pop music

The ruling is likely to impact future cases, forcing MOGEF to reconsider standards some call antiquated

A court issued a ruling Thursday throwing the brakes on a Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (MOGEF) decision branding popular songs with lyrics about alcohol as harmful to young people. The seventh administrative division of Seoul Administrative Court issued a verdict in favor of entertainment agency SM Entertainment on Thursday in a lawsuit the company filed against the ministry. In its ruling, the court said, “The court cannot accept the designation of the affiliate group S.M. the Ballad’s music file ‘Tomorrow...’ as harmful to young people due to the inclusion of the word ‘alcohol’ in the lyrics.” The court also said, “While alcohol (spirits) is designated as harmful to young people, it cannot be rashly concluded that the mere inclusion of the phrase ‘alcohol’ or ‘drunk’ in a music file stimulates a strong curiosity about drinking and ultimately promotes the drinking of alcohol.” With its ruling, the court canceled the announcement of the decision deeming the song as harmful to young people. The court went on to say, “Indeed, since long ago artists have been able to increase the artistic perfection of their works of literature and popular culture and arts by revealing complex internal human sentiments to the outside through the inclusion in the work of content about drinking.” The court added that the use of such terms “must be permitted in the interest of guaranteeing freedom of creation in popular music as well.” The court’s ruling indicated that the MOGEF has been compulsively issuing decisions applying the label of “harmful.”

The song “Tomorrow...” was deemed harmful in a unanimous decision at a Jan. 18 meeting of the MOGEF’s Youth Protection Committee with 10 of the eleven committee members present. Prior to the decision, the members presented the views that “the question is whether the very word ‘alcohol’ is harmful,” that it was “harmful to drink to escape reality” and that “the producer does not seem to have considered the harmfulness of alcohol.”

During the subsequent trial, MOGEF claimed, “The line in question, which reads, ‘Drinking so that I don’t miss you,’ specifically states the ‘effectiveness’ of alcohol, along the lines of ‘When you drink, you get drunk, when you are drunk, you miss the person who has left you even more, and when go to sleep drunk you dream about that person coming back, so you can have that person back, even if it is only in a dream.’” But the court made a different determination from the ministry.

“The words in ‘Tomorrow...’ are merely an expression to effectively communicate the feeling of suffering after breaking up with a loved one and the desire to see that loved one again, not the effectiveness of alcohol,” the court said.

“It cannot be viewed as a concrete expression of the efficacy of alcohol or its method of manufacture,” the court added.

With this ruling highlighting a clear difference in views emerging between the court and the ministry as to what constitutes harmful material for minors, observers are predicting a number of similar lawsuits in the future.

The MOGEF homepage saw a flood of posts from Netizens Thursday morning that left it temporarily shut down. More than 2,500 parodic posts went up in the space of half a day Thursday with the words “Please remove” in the title, followed by the name of work or character. An individual by the surname Kim wrote, “Please remove Pororo the Little Penguin. I am worried the kids will see him walking around naked.”

Another individual named Kim wrote, “Please remove Winnie the Pooh. He is a pervert who walks around with no pants on.”

The ministry’s name was also included on the list of popular search terms for major portal sites like Naver for half the day Thursday.

The parody campaign began in earnest on Aug. 22 when it became known that MOGEF’s Youth and Music Review Committees, which are responsible for reviewing harmfulness to minors, issued a series of rulings assigning “19” ratings to songs containing references to alcohol, cigarettes, and other controlled substances that are harmful to minors.

A similar situation occurred when the ministry pushed a “shutdown” system prohibiting late-night Internet game playing by minors.



Songs by B2ST, Jay Park, 4minute, MBLAQ & more banned by Ministry of Gender Equality & Family - Jul 18, 2011 at 3:33 am

The **Ministry of Gender Equality and Family** is back with yet another list of songs they've banned for supposedly containing content that's harmful to the youth.

Included this round is **B2ST's "Rainy Days"**, which was banned for the use of 'drugs' in its lyrics. A line from the song states, "I think I'm drunk, I should stop drinking."

The ministry explained that it alluded to drinking and that it could influence the youth in a negative way. **Baek Ji Young's "I Can't Drink"** was banned for the same reason.

Jay Park's "Don't Let Go", **After School's "Funky Man"**, and **Heo Young Saeng's "Out the Club"** were all banned for sexually suggestive lyrics, while **X-5's "Fantasy"** was banned for the use of slang and the mention of 'offensive businesses'. **4minute's "Heart to Heart"** music video was banned for the same reason as X-5's.

The 'offensive businesses' mentioned above is referring to none other than a club. Any song or music video that contains the word 'club' or a scene from a club will be hit with a ban.

DJ DOC's "Joy and Pain" and **MBLAQ's "Again"** were banned for the illustration of violence, while **Kang Seung Yoon's "You're My Heaven"** was banned for sexually suggestive content and the promotion of violence.

SECRET's Song Ji Eun's solo track, **"Going Crazy"**, had both the song and music video banned for encouraging crime.

As previously reported, songs that are banned cannot be sold to minors under the age of 19 and cannot be aired before 10 PM KST through radio or television. They usually take a while to review material so recently released songs or videos does not come into the picture... yet. But most would already have heard or got their copies before the ban is effected