

Protest Songs

AMERICAN ARTISTS REACT TO POLITICAL, SOCIAL, AND
NATURAL EVENTS:



To name a few means of inspiration...

The Great Depression

Racial Discrimination

The Civil Rights Movement

War (WWII, Vietnam, Iraq, etc.)

Equality vs. Equity

Women's Rights

GMO (genetically modified organism)

Administration (Regan, Bush, Obama, Trump, etc.)

Terrorist Attacks/Gun Violence

Black Lives Matter

Police Violence

LGBTQ community

Environmental

The 9/11 Terrorist Attacks

Lee Greenwood

Green Day

Coldplay

Madonna

Bruce Springsteen

LL Cool J

P!nk

Public Enemy

Arcade Fire

Eminem

John Legend

John Mayer

The Environment – Natural Disasters or Human Interaction

Michael Jackson

Neil Young

Joni Mitchell

Tom Lehrer

The Beach Boys

Frank Zappa

Marvin Gaye

LGBTQQIAAP – Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, Questioning, Queer, Inter, Ally, Asexual, Pan

Lady Gaga

Queen

Kesha

Lily Allen

Katy Perry

Sara Bareilles

David Bowie

George Michael

Macklemore

The Village People

Adam Lambert

Miley Cyrus

ABBA

Kelly Clarkson

Addiction – Drugs, Alcohol, etc.

Amy Winehouse

Public Enemy

Sarah McLachlan

Nirvana

Eminem

Macklemore

P!nk

Aerosmith

Ed Sheeran

Sia

Black Lives Matter/Police Brutality/Equality

Prince - Baltimore

Michael Jackson

Beyoncé - Lemonade

Jay-Z

Kendrick Lamar

Miguel

Ariana Grande

Common

John Legend

Daye Jack

Macklemore

Chris Brown

J. Cole

Billie Holiday

Black Eyed Peas

Politicians – Any Administration

Marvin Gaye

Billie Holiday

Public Enemy

Bob Marley

will.i.am

Bon Jovi

Katy Perry

ABBA

Alice Cooper

The Beatles

J. Cole

John Legend

John Lennon

Gorillaz

Bob Dylan

The Vietnam War

Woodstock 1969

Jimi Hendrix

Buffalo Springfield

Bruce Springsteen

John Lennon

Bob Dylan

REM

Country Joe MacDonald

Jimi Hendrix – The Star Spangled Banner

O say can you see by the dawn's early light

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight

O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air

Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there

O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Instrument Manipulation

Distortion

Feedback

“The jarring, uplifting, haunting, energizing anthem was done at times in straight single notes, but the entire song is spiced with trademark Hendrix innovations, especially the use of amplifier feedback, sometimes to convey the sounds of war — bombs falling, jets overhead, perhaps even the cries of human anguish. At one point, Hendrix interrupts the anthem to play “Taps,” then resumes.” Michael Ventre of msnbc.com

Connection – What are the POV at hand?

Why might someone be inspired?

Why might someone be offended?

Who was attending the concert?

Who was being sent to fight the Vietnam War?

Can this be connected to anything happen NOW in America?

What other American folk songs could be manipulated for a political statement?

Think of our political topics...

- Women's Rights
- Environment
- Equality
- Terrorism
- LGBTQ