

# Origins of Hip Hop

Jacob “Original Gangsta” Chen

# The setting for Hip Hop

- 1973 Oil Crisis
  - Embargo against US and affiliated countries over Yom Kippur war
  - Inopportune time
- 1973 Stock market crash
  - Dow Jones Industrial Average benchmark lost over 45% of its value
- Stagnant economy and high unemployment rate
- Stagflation



# South Bronx

- Wasn't always so bad
- Demographic shifts
- Latin American immigration influx
  - 1959 Fidel Castro overthrew the regime of dictator Fulgencio Batista
  - 1st and 2nd wave of latin america immigration
- Property values could not be sold
- Landlords started burning property for insurance value.
- Youth turned to gangs and drug dealing
- “Fixers”
- Section 8 housers were granted priority for housing if theirs was burned down
- “The Bronx is burning”



# Hip Hop

- Started as house parties/block parties by the Ghetto Brothers and DJ Herc
- Kool Herc is known as the Father of Hip Hop
- “Flipping”
- Keith “Cowboy” Wiggins credited with the term



# DJ Clive "Kool Herc" Campbell

- Used Jamaican influences to pioneer hip hop
- “Capping”
- Developed Breakbeat music
- Inspired DJ’s like Grand Wizard Theodore, Grandmaster Flash, and Jazzy Jay
- Street gang energy could be spent on creativity
- “Zulu Nation”
- Reduce racial tension and celebrate unity
- NYC Blackout
  - Expensive electronic DJ equipment was looted
  - Propelled hip hop culture outside the Bronx

# Elements of Hip Hop

- DJing
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=RDKb3Tg0N2k7M&v=r0\\_AmbzMedE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=RDKb3Tg0N2k7M&v=r0_AmbzMedE)
- MCing
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0pJRmtWNP1g>
- Graffiti
- Breaking
  - <https://www.facebook.com/DJJoeyJoe47/videos/10205461982491331/>
- BeatBoxing
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VoSiik4rv-w>
- Beatmaking/Producing
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BcJGUjpXRuw>