

Workshop 4: When Music Offends**Quick Project****Should Music Be Censored?**

Do you think people should be warned about lyrics that might offend them?

Project: Should CDs that might offend people carry warning labels? Work with a partner. Give reasons for and against the issue. Then state your own opinion and reasons.

Procedure

- 1. Think about the issues.** Imagine that a CD contains violent lyrics. Read each of the following points of view. Which ones do you agree or disagree with? Circle your response.

Views	My Response	
The artist: <i>I should be able to express my ideas in my own words. It isn't fair to label my work as dangerous.</i>	I agree	I disagree
Some parents: <i>I don't want my child to be exposed to violence. Labels help me know which CDs my child should listen to.</i>	I agree	I disagree
Some kids: <i>I should be allowed to make my own choices about what I want to listen to. Labels aren't necessary.</i>	I agree	I disagree
Some store owners: <i>Some people get angry if I sell violent CDs without labels. I think labels are probably needed, but I won't sell anything with a warning label in my shop.</i>	I agree	I disagree

Talk over each view with your partner. Explain your reasons. You and your partner may have different points of view.

- 3. Choose your position.** Are warning labels necessary? On your own, write a statement telling your point of view. List three reasons for your opinion.
- 4. Present your work.** Write or type your final position on the issue. Share your arguments with your classmates.