





# RAP LYRICS ON TRIAL







### INTRODUCTION

#### TODAY, WE WILL:



Consider rap lyrics being used in court



Explore Young Thug's trial



Discuss positive legal efforts from Jay-Z and Meek Mill





### SEL CONNECTION



Today, we will practice **social awareness** by considering laws, policies and court rulings **responsible decision making** through analyzing rappers' lyrics









## ICEBREAKER

# INTRODUCTION TO RAP LYRICS IN COURT







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**Evidence:** the available body of facts or information indicating whether a belief or proposition is true or valid.

**RICO Case:** The Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) of 1970 seeks to strengthen the legal tools in evidence gathering by establishing new penal prohibitions and providing enhanced sanctions and new remedies for dealing with the unlawful activities of those engaged in organized crime.

**Indictment:** a formal charge or accusation of a serious crime.

**First Amendment:** prohibits any law limiting freedom with respect to religion, expression, peaceful assembly, or the right of citizens to petition the government.

**Self-incriminating:** making a statement that accuses oneself of a criminal offense that may lead to criminal prosecution now or in the future.





### ICEBREAKER

#### INTRODUCTION TO RAP LYRICS IN COURT

- What do you know about Young Thug and Gunna?
- What do you know about the Young Thug court case?
- What does it mean to use rap lyrics in court as evidence for a conviction?





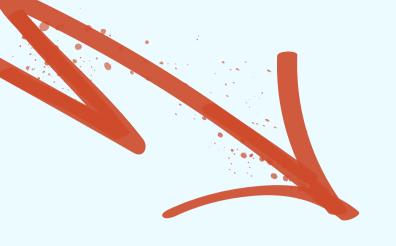
#### RAP LYRICS IN COURT

1) Watch the video.

#### 2) Reflect and discuss:

- What are your immediate reactions to the news clip?
- What information was left out that you know of?
- What is surprising or upsetting to you?
  - What are you wondering about after watching the clip?









# BUILDING CONTEXT: RAP LYRICS ON TRIAL





### LESSON: PART ONE



#### RAP LYRICS ON TRIAL









#### LESSON: PART ONE



#### RAP LYRICS ON TRIAL

In groups, explore the following:

Rap Lyrics on Trial Rap Music on Trial: Jay-Z, Meek Mill want rap lyrics blocked from being used in court

This Rap Song
Helped Sentence
a 17-Year-Old to
Prison for Life

Putting Rap
Lyrics on Trial is
a Violation of
Free Speech





### LESSON: PART ONE



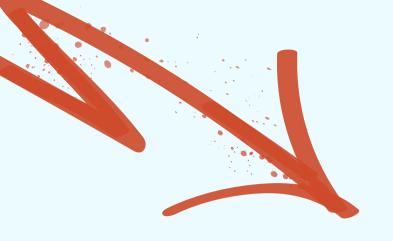
#### RAP LYRICS ON TRIAL

#### REFLECT & DISCUSS

- Give a brief summary of what you read.
- Do you agree or disagree with what you read in the article?
- How does your article relate to the Young Thug court case?
- Has your opinion shifted at all while reading the article?
- What did the article make you wonder about?









## LESSON PARTTWO

# SHOULD RAP LYRICS BE USED IN TRIAL?

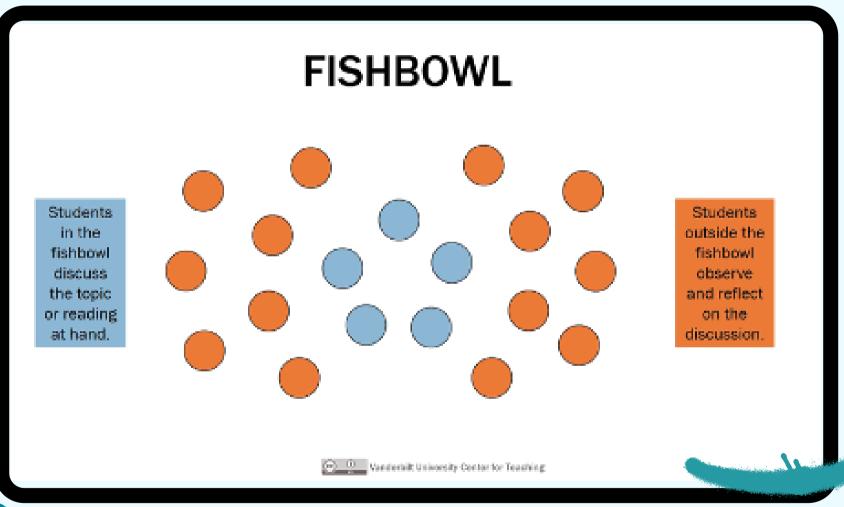




#### LESSON: PART TWO



#### FISHBOWL DISCUSSION



What is a fishbowl discussion?

- inner circle is talking
- outer circle is listening
- allows for multiple perspectives





#### LESSON: PART TWO



#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Do you think rap lyrics should be used in court? Why or why not?
- What are your thoughts on the Young Thug court case?
- Is using rap lyrics in court a violation of the first amendment?
- Can you separate the art from the artist?
- How do we hold people accountable for their speech and actions?

#### SENTENCE STEMS

- I agree with \_\_\_\_\_because \_\_\_\_\_.
- I disagree with \_\_\_\_\_ because .
- This makes me think about \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- I can connect this to\_\_\_\_\_.
- I wonder .



### LESSON: PART TWO



#### RAP LYRICS ON TRIAL

#### REFLECT & DISCUSS

- What have you realized about rap lyrics being used in court?
- Has your opinion changed after hearing others' perspectives?
- What would you recommend to rappers writing lyrics about their personal lives?
- What have you realized about courts or trials?



