

# Give The People

EPMD

Got to give the people  
Ladies and Gentlemen  
Give the people what they want  
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When I came out with my first rap jam  
I had no idea that the record would slam  
It did real good without radio play  
Maybe at night but no airplay in the day

I couldn't understand why to be exact  
Our music was good and I was far from whack  
Then came the answer, commercial was the key  
To get airplay and a spot on TV

Like Ed Lover and Doctor Dre from Yo, MTV Raps  
A show, mainly for the black  
And still we can't ill, 'cause to them that's wrong  
Cause like P.E. said, we're too black and too strong

But hey, what can I say?  
Brothers and sisters, that's a price a rapper must pay

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As airwaves collapse rap shows at a standstill  
Some racial circuits the frequencies can't handle  
The funk tracks produced by EPMD  
But it's a fat jam, that will never win a Grammy

Unless we sellout and kill the black movement dead  
Which means swallow our pride and become flunkies instead  
And stop the rap about freedom, thoughts of a black president  
And rap about a black crack, the mayor in our residence

Give me a break brothers, it's time to take a stand  
And kill that, "No sir, yes sir, and thank you, ma'am"  
'Cause the word is a luxury a black man can't afford  
That's why poverty's on the rise and we still ignored

And it's a setback and yet the clock still ticks  
And if we let it, rap would be run by politics  
I read it somewhere that every man's created equal  
But not in this day and age, maybe in the sequel

Which means next time, so observe these rhymes  
And take a stand and go for yours cause I'm going for mine  
That's why I

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Why is that when wrong is done by the black  
It's blown out of proportion and immediately attacked?  
By the press and yes, conflict is caused  
By the kids at concerts who bum rush the doors

One child gets hurt, the press gets pesty  
But what about the Beatles, G, and Elvis Presley  
Same stuff was rough, rap does not cause violence  
So fight the power and make them understand  
But too much power and you might get banned

So if you want airplay  
You can't be too black and hey  
Watch what you say, but ayo

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