

# Breaking boundaries, challenging modernity, building revolutions: rap in Portugal and its new generation of female voices

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## Abstract

By focusing on the major issues encountered by women artists within Hip-Hop culture, and more specifically within rap music, the present work aims at showing how their patent invisibility can be traced back to some fundamental aspects of modern Western society. In our view, women's contributions in rap challenge modernity by exposing its unbalanced forces and responding to them in their peculiar way. Moreover, studies on female rappers can be considered groundbreaking, since they deconstruct the boundaries of male domination that seeks the maintenance of the visibility mentioned above at different cultural levels: this is, in the art as well as in the academic field. Finally, despite the marginalising forces, we have to recognise that a new generation of female rappers is making its appearance in Portugal, finding its leading voice in creole rapper Mynda Guevara. Both her empowering views on women's participation in music and the themes of her lyrics, allow us to assume that changes can take place and a revolution can be built.

**Keywords:** Hip Hop Culture; Symbolic violence; Female rappers; Rap in Portugal; Mynda Guevara