

COMPARING LANGUAGE OF SELF-EMPOWERMENT

STUDENT HANDOUT 2: "SAY IT LOUD, I'M BLACK AND I'M PROUD" SONG LYRICS

Lyrics: "Say It Loud, I'm Black and I'm Proud"* (1968)

By James Brown

Uh! With your bad self!
Say it loud: I'm black and I'm proud!
Say it loud: I'm black and I'm proud!
Some people say we've got a lot of malice
Some say it's a lot of nerve
But I say we won't quit moving until we get what we deserve
We have been 'buked and we have been scorned
We have been treated bad, talked about as just bones
But just as it takes two eyes to make a pair, ha
Brother we can't quit until we get our share
Say it loud: I'm black and I'm proud!
Say it loud: I'm black and I'm proud!
One more time!
Say it loud: I'm black and I'm proud!
I worked on jobs with my feet and my hand
But all the work I did was for the other man
Now we demand a chance to do things for ourselves
We're tired of beatin' our head against the wall
And workin' for someone else
Say it loud: I'm black and I'm proud (repeat)
We're people, we're just like the birds and the bees
We'd rather die on our feet
Than be livin' on our knees
Say it loud: I'm black and I'm proud (repeat)

* "Say it Loud, I'm Black and I'm Proud" was produced by James Brown and originally released as a single by King Records in 1968. It was written by James Brown and Alfred Ellis. For more information about this recording, see: <http://www.shmoop.com/say-it-loud/>

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