

Extended Essay

English B

Category 2B: Culture and Society

Curtis Mayfield's Response to the Conflicts of America with His Music

*How does the lyrics of Curtis Mayfield's songs reflect
conflicts of America in the 1960s and 1970s?*

Word Count: 3998

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With everything I saw on the streets as a young black kid, it wasn't hard during the later fifties and sixties for me to write my heartfelt way of how I visualized things.

1. Introduction

The 1960s were an era of social change for America. The period was marked by the civil rights movement, the Vietnam War, political assassinations, the women's movement, and Cold War. The civil rights movement came about out of the need for equality for African Americans and color.¹ In this period, music reflected the evolution of the movement. Martin Luther King said: They give the people new courage and a sense of unity. I think they keep alive a faith, a radiant hope in the future, particularly in our most trying hours² for the songs accompanied the movement.

The Soul tradition was a prime cultural force in American popular music. Born in the 1950s, the roots of soul music traces to traditional blues and gospel music of the Black Church. The messages and philosophies it has communicated have great importance as they reflect the collective sensibilities of the black community. Curtis Mayfield was one of the soul-based musicians who witnessed the civil rights movement and contributed to the movement with his social awareness of the political and social issues in America.³ This study aims to try to approach the social and cultural issues in America in the 1960s and 1970s through the lyrics of Curtis Mayfield. The charts, which were prepared at the beginning of the research and aimed to determine the content of the lyrics in Mayfield's discography, revealed the artist's versatile perspective and his critical approach and his concern for America's social issues gave a reasonable data for this study.

¹ (ADL)

² (Shelton, "Songs a Weapon")

³ (KBROOKS)

2. Methodology

In this paper, only songs credited to Mayfield in “The Impressions” and “Curtis Mayfield solo albums are used as sources. “The Struggle Against Racial Segregation and Discrimination in the Society – Civil Rights Movement” part of this research is based on the lyrics of the songs credited to Curtis Mayfield in the Impressions albums ⁴ (1963-1970). “Vietnam War” and “Illegal Drug Use” parts are based on Mayfield’s solo albums ⁵(1970-1980). Songs in The Impressions ⁶ and solo albums ⁷ are listed. The lyrics are read ⁸ and the content of the songs is defined as:

- Social
- Other

Curtis Mayfield’s social content lyrics are listed ⁴⁻⁵ and are categorized according to their content.

The songs with the theme “social” ⁹ are separated, and three main issues are defined.

	THE IMPRESSIONS	SOLO
TOTAL	133	138
SONGS CREDITED TO CURTIS MAYFIELD	99	111
SONGS WITH SOCIAL CONTENT	15	33
STRUGGLE AGAINST R.S.D.S.	15	23
VIETNAM WAR	-	3
DRUG	-	7

Songs that will be analyzed are chosen:

⁴ (Appendix4)

⁵ (Appendix5)

⁶ (Appendix1)

⁷ (Appendix2)

⁸ (Genius Media Group Inc., “Genius | Song Lyrics & Knowledge”)

⁹ (Appendix3)

- Struggle Against Racial Segregation and Discrimination in the Society- 15 songs in The Impressions albums used.
- Vietnam War- Total 3 songs (Solo) - Back to The World used
- Illegal Drug use- Total 7 songs (Solo) – Nothing on Me used

3. Conflicts in America in the 1960s, and analysis of the correspondences of these social issues in Curtis Mayfield's lyrics

3.1. Struggle Against Racial Segregation and Discrimination in the Society- Civil Rights Movement

Music played an important role in inspiring and giving voice to the civil rights movement. *"The freedom songs are playing a strong and vital role in our struggle," said Martin Luther King, Jr. and called the songs "the soul of the movement"* ¹⁰. During the mid-1960 soul music was widened to bring social awareness about the civil rights movement. The sound of black musicians of the period revitalized the sense of black pride and racial consciousness and expressed the discontent that inspired the movement.¹¹

One of the most prevalent artists during the civil rights movement, Curtis Mayfield was born in 1942, in Chicago, Illinois. He and his family moved to the dangerous and notorious Cabrini-Green housing complex when he was 12. Mayfield sang in his grandmother's Travelling Soul Spirituals church when he was a child. The gospel music he was exposed to there as a child and Chicago electric blues scene which surrounded and informed him became

¹⁰ stanford.edu

¹¹ ("People Get Ready": Music and the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s | AP US History Study Guide from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History")

the source of his compositions.¹² He joined the group “Roosters”, later named “The Impressions” with friends from the church including Jerry Butler in 1957 when he was 16.¹³

In the same year, The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) was founded just after the Montgomery Bus Boycott and Martin Luther King Jr. was chosen as the first president. The organization was dedicated to abolishing segregation in a non-violent manner.¹⁴ “Little Rock Nine” were blocked from integrating into Little Rock Central High School in Arkansas in September 1957 Eisenhower signed the Civil Rights Act of 1957 into law to help protect voter rights in the days following the event.¹⁵

Jerry Butler (lead vocal) and the Impressions; including teen prodigy¹⁵ Curtis Mayfield, released “For Your Precious Love” in 1958 and the song deserved a big commercial and chart success.²¹⁶ Jerry Butler left the group in 1958 to pursue a solo career. With this change, Curtis Mayfield assumed responsibility as the band's composer and lead singer¹⁷.

Throughout 1961, black and white activists named “Freedom Riders”, took bus trips through the South for protesting segregated bus terminals, “white-only” restrooms, and lunch counters.¹⁸ It is said that “Freedom Riders” listened to “The Impressions” during their rides.¹⁹

In 1963 the group released their first album “The Impressions”. The album consisted of love songs like their next “The Never Ending Impressions-1964” album and they were widely played on the radio giving the group commercial success and financial freedom. Mayfield preferred to use figurative and allegorical language that didn’t refer specifically to the struggle

¹² (“Music | Curtis Mayfield”)

¹³ (Kogan)

¹⁴ (Cho)

¹⁵ (Harrington) (History)

¹⁶ (“For Your Precious Love / Sweet Was the Wine by Jerry Butler and the Impressions - RYM/Sonemic”)

¹⁷ (“Biography | Curtis Mayfield”)

¹⁸ (History.com Editors)

¹⁹ (“Civil Rights | Curtis Mayfield”)

of the movement in his early lyrics, but some of them like “It’s All Right” and “I Gotta Keep on Moving” ²⁰, had a good deal of innuendo. The lyrics of “It’s All Right” ²¹ was the beginning of Mayfield’s concern to give people power:

You got soul, and everybody knows

That it's all right, whoa, it's all right

Actually, lyrics about the movement were rare in commercial R&B and soul music until the Black Power Movement in the late 1960s with some exceptions like Sam Cooke’s “A Change Is Gonna Come” ²².

In 1964, they released their second album of the year “Keep on Pushing”, and the social transition of Mayfield’s lyrics became seen. As Mavis Staples said: “Curtis Mayfield has a long history of writing wonderful love songs... and then all of a sudden he went and wrote some of the best message songs that could be out there...” ²³

“Keep on Pushing” ²⁴ became a part of the “soundtrack to the movement and became a favorite of Martin Luther King Jr. ²⁵ In the song Mayfield gave the people self-determination and unity with the verses:

*I know that I can make it
With just a little bit of soul
Cause I've got my strength
And it don't make sense
Not to keep on pushin'*

²⁰ (Appendix4-P37)

²¹ (Appendix4-P37)

²² (““People Get Ready”: Music and the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s | AP US History Study Guide from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History”)

²³ (“Rave Sheet | Curtis Mayfield”)

²⁴ (Appendix4-P39)

²⁵ (Harrington, “The Heart of Soul”)

On August 28, 1963, Martin Luther King gave his “I Have a Dream” speech to 250.000 Americans in The March on Washington. One month later 16 the Street Birmingham Baptist Church was bombed and four young girls were killed.²⁶ President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in November 1963.²⁷ Kennedy’s death confronted the society with the brutality of violence and opened a political space for the new president Lyndon Johnson to pass the civil rights and voting rights legislation in 1964 and 1965.²⁸ On February 21, 1965, black leader Malcolm X was assassinated. On March 7, 1965, Martin Luther King Jr. organized Selma to Montgomery March for federal voting rights law and support to disenfranchised African Americans in the South.²⁹ State troopers sent Marchers back with violence ²⁹ and the event was forever etched in American history as "Bloody Sunday". “Keep on Pushing” was one of the songs that motivated the marchers. Later it was used in Ava DuVernay’s film Selma film as a soundtrack to Selma March.³⁰

In such a tumultuous period, The Impressions released the “People Get Ready” album in February 1965. The album’s title track ³¹ which was in the tradition of American folklore, became one of the first gospel hits inspiring people on the path to freedom by saying ³²:

People get ready, there's a train a-comin'
You don't need no baggage, you just get on board...

The train was seen as imagery in reference to the underground railroad that was a series of escape routes used by runaway slaves. According to music critic Stanley Crouch, Mayfield

²⁶ (“Timeline of the American Civil Rights Movement”)

²⁷ (Wallenfeldt)

²⁸ (Joseph)

²⁹ (“Timeline of the American Civil Rights Movement”)

³⁰ (“Songs of Freedom: The Selma Playlist”)

³¹ (Appendix4-P39)

³² (“NPR : “People Get Read”)

meant that no matter what happens, people will get a chance.³² In other verses, he said the following with a feeling of humanism and an invitation to unity:

There ain't no room for the hopeless sinner

Who would hurt all mankind just to save his own, believe me now

The song was for everybody, and reaching number 14 on the Billboard Pop Chart, reflected this wide demographic that was touched by the music.³³ In the People Get Ready album of The Impressions, another song “Get up and Move”³⁴ sends positive vibes to the audience, encouraging them to work toward taking on the challenges of life with the verses:

Whenever you've got a little problem

And misery's payin' it's dues

You can't get ahead layin' in bed

The Impressions released the “We are a Winner” album in February 1968. This was the last album of the group under the label ABC Paramount.³⁵ The hit song of the album “We are a Winner” was released before, in 1967 as a single and became an anthem for the soul of black America. The song was the third The Impression song that was composed to spread the message of civil rights activists after “Keep on Pushing” and “People Get Ready”. But “We are a Winner”³⁶ differed from them as Mayfield openly celebrated black pride and accomplishment with the lines:

We're a winner, and never let anybody say

³³ (“People Get Ready”)

³⁴ (Appendix4-P40)

³⁵ (“Biography | Curtis Mayfield”)

³⁶ (Appendix4-P41)

Boy, you can't make it 'cause a feeble mind is in your way
No more tears do we cry, and we have finally dried our eyes
And we're movin' on up

In March 1968, 1200 students occupied Howard University's Administration building. The group had demanded a more democratic school administration. When the negotiations dragged and student morale flagged, protestors turned on the song "Keep on Pushing". When the negotiations were finally over, kids were singing "We're a Winner" while cleaning up the building. By the time of the Howard University protests, the song was No. 1 on Billboard's R&B chart and No. 14 on the pop chart. The song was banned on several radio stations.³⁷

"Little Brown Boy"³⁸ gave messages about the future waiting for a black boy loved so much by his family. "We're Rolling On, Pt.1"³⁹ song was the song giving hope, and directing the people to continue their struggle showing his belief in a good future:

The road is hard to find and it's hard to climb
But we cannot stop, until we reach that mountain top
And we've been tryin' tryin' so hard but it takes a little time
Brothers and Sisters don't you worry you get yours and I'll get mine
And we'll all say amen and together we'll clap our hands

On April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee. Indignation over the assassination of King sparked rioting in the country, including burning and looting. During the morning, President Lyndon B. Johnson called Americans to reject the

³⁷ (Scruggs)

³⁸ (Appendix4-P42)

³⁹ (Appendix4-P42)

violence that had killed King, whom he called the “apostle of nonviolence.” President Lyndon B. Johnson encouraged Congress to speedily pass the bill as a memorial to the slain civil rights leader before King’s Funeral. A few days later, President Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1968.

Though white people also mourned Martin Luther King, Jr.’s assassination like blacks, the death widened the rift between black and white Americans. People viewed King's assassination as an injustice to their strong quest for equality through the nonviolent resistance he advocated. Many moderate African American activists became more radicalized and this led to the growth of the Black Power Movement and the Black Panther Party in the late 1960s and early 1970s.⁴⁰ The National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders concluded that the country, despite civil rights reforms, was moving “toward two societies one Black, one white—separate and unequal.”⁴¹

In 1968, Mayfield set up his own recording, company “ Curtom Records” with Eddie Thomas. Mayfield said: “I just want to own as much as possible” to his friend Jerry Butler. Control was important to Mayfield and he was in control of his recording, song publishing, and recording studio with his own company.⁴² Curtom Records soon became one of the most vital record labels of the late 1960s and one of the most successful black independent labels in Detroit.⁴³ Mayfield snatched control from a system designed to subjugate him and that gave him greater creative freedom.⁴⁴

⁴⁰ (History.com editors, “Martin Luther King, Jr. Assassination”)

⁴¹ (George, “The 1968 Kerner Commission Got It Right, but Nobody Listened”)

⁴² (“Biography | Curtis Mayfield”)

⁴³ (Beta, “Curtis Mayfield, Curtom Records, and the Legacy of Artist-Run Labels”)

⁴⁴ (D. Considine, “Singing with His Inner Voice; Superstar Glitter Never Tempted Curtis Mayfield. He Knew He Had Made a Difference.”)

The first album recorded with the Curtom label was “This is My Country, released in November 1968. In those days, the anti-violent civil rights movement was fractured and violence began in some groups. With this album and the albums following, Mayfield reflected more social observation, and commentary in his lyrics and began to call American society for respect, empathy, unity, and prudence. He made all these things as “a giant of gentleness,” as Irish singer Sinead O’Connor called Mayfield.⁴⁵

The first song “They Don’t Know”⁴⁶ was written after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. In this song, Mayfield showed that he is conscious of the insecure feeling of the people, and their despair and tried to support them by saying they are not alone and embraced people of all races and all genders:

Another friend has gone

And I feel so insecure...

We have lost another leader

Lord how much must we endure

If you feel this way

You're not by yourself...

In the song “This Is My Country”⁴⁷, he addressed African Americans who felt disenfranchised in their country and told them not to give up on America. He pointed out the labor of his ancestors for his country and their struggle during the slavery period. Mayfield said, “This is My Country” and emphasized that all people have the right to say this, as a result

⁴⁵ (“Rave Sheet | Curtis Mayfield”)

⁴⁶ (Appendix4-P43)

⁴⁷ (Appendix4-P44)

of the labor given. He called people to live equal as a nation with the question: *Shall we perish unjust or live equal as a nation?*⁴⁸

In the “Young Mod’s Forgotten Story” album released in 1969, there were three songs with social content. In the “Young Mod’s Forgotten Story”⁴⁹ track in the same named album released in 1969, Mayfield said that the people were fighting day and night to gain the pride of the country. People were dying for country pride, but each person that died was precious. He tried to convey the urgency and seriousness of the situation by saying "If we don't come up to date, I'm afraid we'll be too late" and tried to engrave the importance of the subject in people's memories. With the lyrics “Choice of Colors”⁵⁰, Mayfield appealed to African Americans, advising them that they should be part of the solution. Mayfield did not only emphasize racial inequality, but he also emphasized gender inequality and asked: “Do you respect your brother's woman friend”. He motivated people by saying: “A better day is coming” and expressed the importance of education for a better future and society.

"Mighty Mighty"⁵¹ was another song with the theme “leader loss” which called people to unite and be together regardless of their race. In the song, Mayfield’s deep despair for the loss of Martin Luther King, Jr. was emphasized, and he also referred to the Kennedy assassination, revealing his sadness. Another leader referred to might be Malcolm X who was killed in 1965.

.....We're Killing Up Our Leaders

It Don't Matter None

⁴⁸ (“ShieldSquare Captcha”)

⁴⁹ (Appendix4-P45)

⁵⁰ (Appendix4-P46)

⁵¹ (Appendix4-P47)

*Black Or White....*⁵²

“Check Out Your Mind”, Mayfield’s last album with “The Impressions” was released in 1970. There were two social content songs in this album. “Check out Your Mind”⁵¹, touched upon the need to control one's mind and implied that people will have a better life by using their minds, and making connections about life. In the “Do You Wanna Win” track of the album, an allegory can be seen to advocate people for a fight to win. For the first time, Mayfield talked about weapons to be used for a battle and said “this is the hour to be rough”. But in the next verses, called people for peace.

3.2. Vietnam War

Vietnam War began in 1954 due to ongoing conflicts between North Vietnam, a Communist Regime supported by China, and Russia and South Vietnam supported by France in a French Colonial Rule. Despite the treaty signed between parties in 1954 splitting the entire country North and South, the conflicts continued, and in 1955 USA declared support for the South under the policy of anti-communism. Despite the growing anti-war movement, Johnson continued to send soldiers to Vietnam. As the war continued without solid success, anti-war protests increased and spread around the country. In November 1969, the largest anti-war protest in the history of the USA was held with 250.000 protesters in Washington DC. In 1973 parties finally concluded a peace agreement with the order of withdrawal of US forces. More than 3 million people were killed including 58.000 Americans in the war. The soldiers who

⁵² (M. Olson, “Mining Gold from the Music Stream: The Impressions - This Is My Country”)

served in Vietnam suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder, suicide, alcoholism, and drug addiction. The war was a long, costly and divisive conflict in America.

In 1973, Curtis Mayfield released the “Back to the World” album. This album involved two tracks about Vietnam War: “Back to The World”⁵³ and “Right on The Darkness”⁵⁴. Mayfield's music style was almost funk in this album and he used musical instruments to define the war in the songs. Back to The World starts with a military radio correspondence and ends with the jet airplane sound. Mayfield doesn't understand why America is in the war and he is suspicious even God does not know what the reason for the war is. He mentions the desire of soldiers for returning back from war and their post-war trauma. Curtis, explains the difficulties for the soldiers who have returned from war with examples such as the soldiers do not have any jobs, they might be beaten up and even robbed and the difficulties to adapt to the world after the war. Mayfield clearly states that even though the soldiers have sacrificed themselves for long years in the war, the awareness in the society is quite low and even they do not care.

3.3. Illegal Drug Use

The 1960s was a decade American society faced large-scale illegal drug use. Hippies smoked marijuana, kids in ghettos pushed heroin and a Harvard professor Timothy Leary urged the world to try LSD.⁵⁵ Especially minority youth was in the high-risk group to be addicted.⁵⁶

Curtis Mayfield was offered to write a blaxploitation soundtrack. Mayfield wrote songs that commented on the problem gave wider social context, that actively sought to undercut

⁵³ (Appendix5-P66)

⁵⁴ (Appendix-P67)

⁵⁵ (Inc, “Decades of Drug Use: Data from the '60s and '70s”)

⁵⁶ (Covington, “The Social Construction of the Minority Drug Problem”)

⁵⁷ (“Curtis Mayfield: Where to Start in His Back Catalogue”)

the film's coke-y machismo. He wanted the soundtrack to be released before the *Superfly* film so that before they saw it, the public would have heard his interpretation of the movie. In the song lyrics, he pointed out the desperate and doomed Freddie, who was the victim instead of the main character Youngblood Priest to show the danger of being addicted. The soundtrack "*Superfly*" is accepted as one of the high watermarks of the most fertile and creative era in soul music's history.⁵⁷

The song "No Thing on Me" ⁵⁸ lyrics express the acknowledgment of the damages of the drug mental and criminal to an individual. Mayfield started the song by saying that people are "the same everywhere" having the same fears, and tears, however, he did not ignore that the oppressed seem to have suffered the most. Drug problems cannot be linked to a particular society and the people are at the risk as to the Pusherman (The Drug Seller) and The Man (Drug Boss) making illegal money out of innocent and weak people and they must protect themselves. He believes everyone can have their natural high mode if they want and this can be succeeded by being in a naturally happy and self-confident mode without using a drug. An individual who quits using drugs has this natural high mode that may be perceived as a victory and says "The man can't put nothing on me" which is an expression of a regained self-confidence of the individual. Curtis underlined the importance of having and sustaining this natural high mode with this song. He said that if it is lost, the opportunists may capture the individual by using the weaknesses. He also acknowledged that there is no need to use drugs for being in high mode, an individual's self-awareness and self-possession would be enough.

⁵⁸ (Appendix5-P64)

4. Conclusion

The aim of this paper was to state some of the main problems in America in the 1960s and 1970s and analyze the correspondences of these social issues in Curtis Mayfield's lyrics. The research showed that Curtis Mayfield, as a social consciousness musician was concerned with the problems of America seriously and systematically during his musical journey and tried to reflect on the problems of America.

During the 1960s, America was struggling with the antiviolen civil rights movement. Music played a great role in organizations, marches, sit in and freedom ride actions and Curtis Mayfield wrote the songs which are the subject of "Struggle Against Racial Segregation and Discrimination in the Society Civil Rights Movement" part of this paper. Mayfield's lyrics about "Vietnam War" and "Illegal Drug Use", which are the other parts of this essay are searched shortly, showing his sophisticated and critical point of view on two of the other main problems of America in this period.

Towards the end of the 1960s, after Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination and the sign of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, the civil rights movement seemed to be shifting away from non-violent acts. After winning some of the rights, Mayfield wrote songs in which he instructed African Americans to work, to be proud of themselves, and to use their minds so that they can take and strengthen their place in society. He became the voice of African Americans, reflecting their pain, struggles, and fortitude with goodwill, love, pride, and self-sacrifice. He used his music to raise awareness of all humanity with the songs full of passion he wrote, to support the weak in his songs, and to be the voice of the people. Former United Nations Ambassador and Dr. King confidant Andrew Jackson noted, "You have to think of Curtis

Mayfield as a prophet, the visionary teacher of our people and of our time... the singer of victory and from the glory of our coming together as a people.”

With aiming to remove the prejudice of the general society; he expressed the situation, feelings, and troubles of African Americans in a kind, touching language. These lyrics ⁵⁹ of his songs about social justice in his solo albums can be the subject of another essay as his lyrics are so expressive and mature in this period.

Looking through his whole songs in “The Impressions” and solo albums, it is seen that the prolific songwriter and artist unveiled song after song. He wrote songs about love, women's respect, woman's rights, family and child love, religion, violence, poverty, and human psychology. "Our aim is to educate as well as entertain," Mayfield said in Soul magazine in 1969.

The songs that Mayfield wrote kept communities together and provided social resistance. Symbolizing an era of great social change during the Civil Rights era, the influence of Curtis Mayfield's music continues to this day. As he contributed to the music industry in his own time, even in our century he has also been a source of inspiration for especially very famous black rappers such as Kendrick Lamar, Kanye West, Drake, Chance the Rapper, JAY-Z.

⁵⁹ (Appendix5-P44-64)

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APPENDIX 1

THE IMPRESSIONS ALBUMS INFORMATION CHARTS

Discography list is prepared using: www.curtismayfield.com/music.html

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1963	THE IMPRESSIONS	1	Curtis Mayfield	It's All Right	Hope	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Gypsy Woman	Love	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Grow Closer Together	Love	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Little Young Lover	Love	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	You've Come Home	Love	OTHER	
		6	Joseph Scott	Never Let Me Go			
		7	Curtis Mayfield	"Minstrel and Queen (Queen Majesty)"	Love	OTHER	
		8	Curtis Mayfield	I'm the One Who Loves You	Love	OTHER	
		9	Curtis Mayfield	Sad, Sad Girl and Boy	Love	OTHER	
		10	Curtis Mayfield	As Long as You Love Me	Love	OTHER	
		11	Curtis Mayfield	Twist and Limbo	Jamaica-Dance	OTHER	

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1964	THE NEVER ENDING IMPRESSIONS	1	Curtis Mayfield	Sister Love	Family-Phycology	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Little Boy Blue	Symphathy	OTHER	
		3	Duke Ellington, Johnny Mercer, Billy Strayhorn	Satin Doll			
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Girl You Don't Know Me	Love- cheating	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	I Gotta Keep on Moving	Hope	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		6	Doris Fisher, Allan Roberts	You Always Hurt One You Love			
		7	Curtis Mayfield	That's What Love Will Do	Love-Social	OTHER	
		8	Curtis Mayfield	I'm So Proud	Love-woman respect	OTHER	
		9	Maxwell Anderson, Kurt Weill	September Song			
		10	Will Holt	Lemon Tree			
		11	Curtis Mayfield	Ten to One	Love	OTHER	
		12	Curtis Mayfield	A Woman Who Loves Me	Love	OTHER	

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1964	KEEP ON PUSHING	1	Curtis Mayfield	Keep On Pushing	Resistance	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		2	Curtis Mayfield	I've Been Trying	Love	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	I Ain't Supposed To	Love	OTHER	
		4	Mayfield, Alice Beard	Dedicate My Song to You			
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Long, Long Winter	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Somebody Help Me	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		7	Traditional African-American spiritual; arranged by Jester Hairston, Mayfield, and Johnny Pate	Amen			
		8	Curtis Mayfield	I Thank Heaven	Love	OTHER	
		9	Curtis Mayfield	Talking About My Baby	Love	OTHER	
		10	Curtis Mayfield	Don't Let It Hide	Love	OTHER	
		11	Curtis Mayfield	I Love You(Yeah)	Love	OTHER	
		12	Curtis Mayfield	I Made a Mistake	Love-Pain	OTHER	

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1965	PEOPLE GET READY	1	Curtis Mayfield	Woman's Got Soul	Love-woman respect	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Emotions	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Sometimes I Wonder	Love-Social	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	We're in Love	Love	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Just Another Dance	Love	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Can't Work No Longer	Love-Complain	OTHER	
		7	Curtis Mayfield	People Get Ready	Religious	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		8	Curtis Mayfield	I've found out that I've Lost	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		9	Curtis Mayfield	Hard to Believe	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		10	Curtis Mayfield	See the Real Me	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		11	Curtis Mayfield	Get up and Move	Hope	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		12	Curtis Mayfield	You must believe me	Love-Pain	OTHER	

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1965	ONE BY ONE	1	Artie Dunn, Al Nevins, Buck Ram, Morty Nevins	Twilight Time			
		2	Johnny Mercer, Sadie Vimmerstadt	I wanna be around			
		3	Eden Ahbez	Nature Boy			
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Just one Kiss from you	Love	OTHER	
		5	Lee Adams, Charles Strouse	I want to be with you			
		6	Fred Rauch, Carl Sigman, Gerhard Winkler	Answer me, My Love			
		7	Gordon Mills, Leslie Reed	It's not Unusual			
		8	Edward Eliscu, Billy Rose, Vincent Youmans	Without a song			
		9	Curtis Mayfield	Falling in love with you	Love	OTHER	
		10	Georges Boulanger, Jimmy Kennedy	My Prayer			
		11	Jay Livingston, Raymond Evans	Mona Lisa			
		12	Curtis Mayfield	Lonely Man	Love-Pain	OTHER	

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1966	RIDIN' HIGH	1	Curtis Mayfield	Ridin' High	Love	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	No One Else	Love	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Gotta Get Away	Love	OTHER	
		4	Mayfield and Sam Lead	I need to Belong to Someone			
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Right On Time	Love	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	I need a Love	Love	OTHER	
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Too Slow	Love	OTHER	
		8	Curtis Mayfield	Man's Temptation	Love	OTHER	
		9	Curtis Mayfield	That's what Mama Say	Parent Advice for Love	OTHER	
		10	Gilbert Bécaud, Pierre Delanoë, Mann Curtis	Let it be me			
		11	Curtis Mayfield	I'm a telling you	Longing for inner peace	OTHER	

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1967	THE FABULOUS IMPRESSIONS	1	Curtis Mayfield	You Always Hurt Me	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	It's all Over	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Little Girl	Social	OTHER	
		4	Luther Dixon, Bob Elgin, Kay Rogers	One Hundred Pounds of Clay			
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Love's a Comin	Love	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	You ought to be in Heaven	Religious	OTHER	
		7	Curtis Mayfield	I can't stay away from you	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		8	Jerry Butler, Mayfield	Aware of Love			
		9	Curtis Mayfield	Isle of Sirens	Love	OTHER	
		10	Curtis Mayfield	I'm still waitin	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		11	Curtis Mayfield	She don't love me	Love-Pain	OTHER	

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1968	WE'RE A WINNER	1	Curtis Mayfield	We're a Winner	Social Rights-Racial Discrimination	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Moonlight Shadows	Love	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Let Me Tell the World	Love	OTHER	
		4	Mayfield, Phil Upchurch	I'm Gettin Ready			
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Nothing Can Stop Me	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	No One to Love	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Little Brown Boy	Racial Discrimination	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		8	Curtis Mayfield	I Loved and I Lost	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		9	Curtis Mayfield	Romancing to the Folk Song	Love	OTHER	
		10	Jimmy Webb	Up, Up and Away			
		11	Curtis Mayfield	We're Rolling On, Part 1	Social-Gospel	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		12	Curtis Mayfield	We're Rolling On, Part 2	Unavailable reach		

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1968	THIS IS MY COUNTRY	1	Curtis Mayfield	They Don't Know	Leader loss	SOCIAL	Assassination of politicians
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Stay Close to Me	Love	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	I'm Loving Nothing	Love-pain	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Loves Happening	Social	OTHER	
		5	Donny Hathaway, Mayfield, Leroy Hutson	Gene Away			
		6	Billy Griffin, Donny Hathaway	You want somebody else			
		7	Curtis Mayfield	So Unusual	Love	OTHER	
		8	Curtis Mayfield	My Woman's Love	Love-woman respect	OTHER	
		9	Curtis Mayfield	Fool for You	Love	OTHER	
		10	Curtis Mayfield	This is my Country	Rights-Racial Discrim	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1969	THE VERSATILE IMPRESSIONS	1	Leslie Bricusse, Anthony Newley	Once in a Lifetime			
		2	Lennon-McCartney	Yesterday			
		3	Lee Adams, Charles Strouse	This is the Life			
		4	Mack David	Just Before Sunshine			
		5	Burt Bacharach, Hal David	The Look of Love			
		6	Oscar Brown, Jr., Curtis Mayfield	Don't Cry, My Love			
		7	Oscar Brown, Jr., Curtis Mayfield	Sermonette			
		8	Mack David	East of Java			
		9	Johnny Pate	Go You're a Livin' Doll			
		10	Lennon, McCartney	The Fool on the Hill			

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1969	THE YOUNG MODS' FORGOTTEN STORY	1	Curtis Mayfield	The Young Mods' Forgotten Story	War	SOCIAL	War&Peace
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Choice of Colors	Rights-Racial Discrim	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		3	Curtis Mayfield	The Girl I find	Love	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Wherever You Leadeth Me	Love	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	My Deceiving Heart	Love	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Seven Years	Love pain	OTHER	
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Love's Miracle	Love	OTHER	
		8	Curtis Mayfield	Jealous Man	Love	OTHER	
		9	Curtis Mayfield	Soulful Love	Love	OTHER	
		10	Curtis Mayfield	Mighty Mighty (Spade & Whitey)	Leader loss	SOCIAL	Assassination of

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1970	CHECK OUT YOUR MIND!	1	Curtis Mayfield	Check Out Your Mind	Social	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Can't You See	Love	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	You're Really Something Sadie	Love	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Do You Wanna Win	Social-Peace	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		5	Curtis Mayfield	You'll Be Always Mine	Love	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Only You	Love	OTHER	
		7	Curtis Mayfield	(Baby) Turn On To Me	Love	OTHER	
		8	Curtis Mayfield	Madam Mary	Love	OTHER	
		9	Curtis Mayfield	We Must Be In Love	Love	OTHER	
		10	Curtis Mayfield	Say You Love Me	Love	OTHER	

APPENDIX 2

CURTIS MAYFIELD SOLO ALBUMS INFORMATION

CHARTS

Discography list is prepared using: www.curtismayfield.com/music.html

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1970	CURTIS	1	Curtis Mayfield	(Don't Worry) If there is a hell below, we are going to	Social Issues	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		2	Curtis Mayfield	The other Side of town	Social Justice	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		3	Curtis Mayfield	We the People Who Are Darker Than Blue	Racial Discrimination	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Move On Up	Social-Hope	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Miss Black America	Racial Discrimination	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Wild and Free	Social Justice	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Give it up	Love	OTHER	
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1971	CURTIS LIVE	1	Curtis Mayfield	Mighty Mighty (Spade and Whitey) (REPEAT)	Social (Leader Ass.)		
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Rap		OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	I Plan to Stay a Believer	Social Justice-INDIANS	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		4	Curtis Mayfield	We're a Winner (REPEAT)	Social Rights-Racial Discrimination-Succe		
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Rap		OTHER	
		6	P.Williams,R.Nichols	We've only just begun	Racial Discrimination		
		7	Curtis Mayfield	People Get Ready (REPEAT)	Religious		
		8	Curtis Mayfield	Rap		OTHER	
		9	Curtis Mayfield	Stare and Stare	Racial Discrimination- bus, church, salary inequality	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		10	Curtis Mayfield	Check Out Your Mind (REPEAT)	Social		
		11	Curtis Mayfield	Gypsy Woman (REPEAT)	Love		
		12	Curtis Mayfield	The makings of you	Humantiy	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		13	Curtis Mayfield	Rap		OTHER	
		14	Curtis Mayfield	We the People Who are Darker Than Blue	Racial Discrimination-all races	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		15	Curtis Mayfield	(Don't Worry) If there is a hell below, we are going to	Social Issues		
		16	Curtis Mayfield	Stone Junkie	Racial Discrimination-Drugs	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1971	ROOTS	1	Curtis Mayfield	Get down	Love	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Keep on Keeping on	Hope-Freedom	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Underground	Equality	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		4	Curtis Mayfield	We got to have peace	Peace-War Against	SOCIAL	WAR&PEACE
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Beautiful Brother of Mine	Equality	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		6	Mayfield, J.Scott	Now You're Gone	Love-Pain		
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Love to Keep You in My Mind	Love	OTHER	
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1972	SUPER FLY	1	Curtis Mayfield	Little Child Runnin' Wild	Social Rights	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Pusherman	Drug	SOCIAL	DRUG
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Freddie's Death	Social-Drug	SOCIAL	DRUG
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Junkie Chase (instrumental)			
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Give Me Your Love (Love Song)	Love	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Eddie You Should Know Better	???	SOCIAL	DRUG
		7	Curtis Mayfield	No Thing on Me (Cocaine Song)	Drug	SOCIAL	DRUG
		8	Curtis Mayfield	Think (instrumental)			
		9	Curtis Mayfield	Super Fly	Drug	SOCIAL	DRUG

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1973	BACK TO THE WORLD	1	Curtis Mayfield	Back to the World	War	SOCIAL	WAR&PEACE
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Future Shock	Drug-Poverty	SOCIAL	DRUGS-IISBP
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Right On for the Darkness	Equality	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		4	Curtis Mayfield	If I Were Only a Child Again	Peace	SOCIAL	WAR&PEACE
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Can't Say Nothin	Love	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Keep on Trippin	Love	OTHER	
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Future Song (Love a Good Woman, Love a Good	Religious Gospel	OTHER	
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1973	CURTIS IN CHICAGO	1	Curtis Mayfield	Super Fly (REPEAT)	Drug		
		2	Curtis Mayfield, Jerry Butler and The Impressions	For Your Precious Love	Love		
		3	Curtis Mayfield	I'm so Proud (REPEAT)	Love		
		4	Curtis Mayfield	For once in my Life	Love	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Preacher Man (REPEAT)	Religious-Peace		
		6	Curtis Mayfield	If I Were Only a Child Again (REPEAT)	Peace		
		7	Gene Chandler	Duke of Earl	Love		
		8	Leroy Hutson	Love Oh Love	Love		
		9	Curtis Mayfield, Gene Chandler, Leroy Hutson	Amen	Religious Gospel		
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1974	CLAUDINE	1	Curtis Mayfield	Mr. Welfare Man	Social Justice	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		2	Curtis Mayfield	To be Invisible	Freedom	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	On and On	Love	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	The Makings of You (REPEAT)	Humantiy		
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Claudine Theme (Instrumental)			
		6	Jessica Mayfield	Hold On	??		
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Make Yours a Happy Home	Love	OTHER	
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1974	SWEET EXORCIST	1	Curtis Mayfield	Ain't Got Time	Love	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Sweet Exorcist	Religious	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	To be Invisible (REPEAT)	Freedom		
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Power to the People	Social Justice	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Kung Fu	Social	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		6	Donny Hathaway	Suffer	Love-Pain		
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Make Me Believe in You	Love	OTHER	
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1974	GOT TO FIND A WAY	1	Curtis Mayfield	Love Me (Right in the Pocket)	Love	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	So You Don't Love Me	Love	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Prayer	Religious	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Mother's Son	Social	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Cannot Find a Way	Social Rights-Racial Discriminat	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Ain't No Love Lost	Love-Pain	OTHER	

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1975	LET'S DO IT AGAIN(WITH STAPLE SISTERS)	1	Curtis Mayfield	Let's Do It Again	Love	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Funky Love(UNAVAILABLE LYRICS)	??		
		3	Curtis Mayfield	A Whole Lot of Love	??	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	New Orleans	Love	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	I Want to Thank You	Religious	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Big Mae	Instrumental		
		7	Curtis Mayfield	After Sex	Instrumental		
		8	Quinton Joseph, Phillip Upchurch, Gary Thompson, Floyd Morris, Joseph Scott, Mayfield	Chase	??		
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1975	THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE AMERICA TODAY	1	Curtis Mayfield	Billy Jack	murder	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	When Seasons Change	POVERTY	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		3	Curtis Mayfield	So in Love	Love	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Jesus	Religious	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Blue Monday People	Social-Love-POVERTY	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Hard Times	Social-BLACK PSYCHOLOGY	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Love to the People	Social Rights-Poverty-unemployment	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1976	GIVE,GET,TAKE AND HAVE	1	Curtis Mayfield	In Your Arms Again (Shake It)	Love	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	This Love Is Sweet	Love	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	P.S. I Love You	Love	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Party Night	Love	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Give a Little Bit (Give, Get, Take and Have)	Love	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Soul Music	Social-Music	OTHER	
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Only You Babe	Love	OTHER	
		8	Curtis Mayfield	Mr. Welfare Man (REPEAT)	Social Justice		
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1976	SPARKLE	1	Curtis Mayfield	Sparkle	Love	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Something He Can Feel	Love	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Hooked on Your Love	Love	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Look into Your Heart	Love	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	I get high	Pressure for making a family	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	Jump	Social_dance	OTHER	
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Loving You Baby	Love	OTHER	
		8	Curtis Mayfield	Rock with Me	Love	OTHER	
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1977	NEVER SAY YOU CAN'T SURVIVE	1	Curtis Mayfield	Show Me Love	Love	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Just Want to Be with You	Love	OTHER	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	When We're Alone	Love	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Never Say You Can't Survive	Love-Pain	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	I'm Gonna Win Your Love	Love	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	All Night Long	Love	OTHER	
		7	Curtis Mayfield	When You Used to Be Mine	Love	OTHER	
		8	Curtis Mayfield	Sparkle	Love	OTHER	

YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1977	SHORT EYES	1	Curtis Mayfield	Do Do Wap is Strong in Here	Love	OTHER	
		2	Curtis Mayfield	Back Against the Wall	PRISON	SOCIAL	
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Need Someone to Love	Love	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	A Heavy Dude	Love	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	Short Eyes/Freak, Freak, Free, Free, Free	Violence	OTHER	
		6	H.P. Denenberg, Martin Hirsch	Break it down	??	OTHER	
		7	Curtis Mayfield	Another Fool in Love	Love	OTHER	
		8	Curtis Mayfield	Father Confessor	Instrumental		
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1978	DO IT ALL NIGHT	1	Askey, Mayfield	Do It All Night	Love		
		2	Askey, Mayfield	No Goodbyes	Dance		
		3	Askey, Mayfield	Party, Party	??		
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Keeps Me Loving You	??	OTHER	
		5	Curtis Mayfield	In Love, In Love, In Love	Love	OTHER	
		6	Curtis Mayfield	You Are, You Are	Love	OTHER	
YEAR	ALBUM	No	CREDITED	SONG	CONTENT	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1979	HEARTBEAT	1	Curtis Mayfield	Tell Me, Tell Me (How Ya Like to be Loved)	Love	OTHER	
		2	Bunny Sigler	What is My Woman For	Love		
		3	Curtis Mayfield	Between You Baby and Me	Love	OTHER	
		4	Curtis Mayfield	Victory	Love	OTHER	
		5	Bunny Sigler	Over The Hump	Resistance		
		6	Bunny Sigler	You Better Stop	Love_pain		
		7	Mayfield, Gil Askey, Keni Burke	You're So Good to Me	Love		
		8	Mayfield, Askey	Heartbeat	Love		
		9	Curtis Mayfield	Tomorrow Night for Sure	??	OTHER	

APPENDIX 3

ALBUMS WITH SOCIAL CONTENT

	SOCIAL THEME ALBUMS WITH THE IMPRESSIONS			
	YEAR	ALBUM	SONG	SOCIAL THEME
1	1963	THE IMPRESSIONS	It's All Right	S.A.R.S.D.S.
2	1964	THE NEVER ENDING IMPRESSIONS	I Gotta Keep on Moving	S.A.R.S.D.S.
3	1964	KEEP ON PUSHING	Keep On Pushing	S.A.R.S.D.S.
4	1965	PEOPLE GET READY	People Get Ready	S.A.R.S.D.S.
5			Get up and Move	S.A.R.S.D.S.
	1965	ONE BY ONE		
	1966	RIDIN' HIGH		
	1967	THE FABULOUS IMPRESSIONS		
6	1968	WE'RE A WINNER	We're a Winner	S.A.R.S.D.S.
7			Little Brown Boy	S.A.R.S.D.S.
8			We're Rolling On, Part 1	S.A.R.S.D.S.
9	1968	THIS IS MY COUNTRY	They Don't Know	Assassination of politicians
10			This is my Country	S.A.R.S.D.S.
	1969	THE VERSATILE IMPRESSIONS		
11	1969	THE YOUNG MODS' FORGOTTEN STORY	The Young Mods' Forgotten Story	War&Peace
12			Choice of Colors	S.A.R.S.D.S.
13			Mighty Mighty (Spade & Whitey)	Assassination of politicians
14	1970	CHECK OUT YOUR MIND	Check Out Your Mind	S.A.R.S.D.S.
15			Do You Wanna Win	S.A.R.S.D.S.

	SOCIAL THEME ALBUMS WITH THE IMPRESSIONS				
	YEAR	ALBUM	SONG	THEME	SOCIAL THEME
1	1970	CURTIS	(Don't Worry) If there is a hell below, we are going to go	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
2			The other Side of town	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
3			We the People Who Are Darker Than Blue	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
4			Move On Up	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
5			Miss Black America	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
6			Wild and Free	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
7	1971	CURTIS LIVE	I Plan to Stay a Believer	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
8			Stare and Stare	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
9			The makings of you	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
10			We the People Who are Darker Than Blue	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
11			Stone Junkie	SOCIAL	SARSDS- DRUGS
12	1971	ROOTS	Keep on Keeping on	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
13			Underground	SOCIAL	SARSDS-OTHER
14			We got to have peace	SOCIAL	WAR&PEACE
15			Beautiful Brother of Mine	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
16	1972	SUPER FLY	Little Child Runnin' Wild	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
17			Pusherman	SOCIAL	DRUG
18			Freddie's Death	SOCIAL	DRUG
19			Eddie You Should Know Better	SOCIAL	DRUG
20			No Thing on Me (Cocaine Song)	SOCIAL	DRUG
21			Super Fly	SOCIAL	DRUG
22	1973	BACK TO THE WORLD	Back to the World	SOCIAL	WAR&PEACE
23			Future Shock	SOCIAL	DRUGS-SARSDS
24			Right On for the Darkness	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
25			If I Were Only a Child Again	SOCIAL	WAR&PEACE
26	1974	CLAUDINE	Mr. Welfare Man	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
27	1974	SWEET EXORCIST	Power to the People	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
28			Kung Fu	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
29	1974	GOT TO FIND A WAY	Mother's Son	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
30			Cannot Find a Way	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
31	1975	WHEN SEASONS CHANGE	When Seasons Change	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
32			Blue Monday People	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
33			Hard Times	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.
34			Love to the People	SOCIAL	S.A.R.S.D.S.

APPENDIX 4

THE IMPRESSIONS ALBUMS LYRICS

All lyrics are sourced from genius site “**Genius | Song Lyrics & Knowledge.**”
Genius, 2019, genius.com/.

1- IT'S ALL RIGHT (1963)

Say it's all right (it's all right)
 Say it's all right (it's all right)
 It's all right, have a good time
 'Cause it's all right, whoa, it's all right

We're gonna move it slow
 When lights are low
 When you move it slow, it sounds like more
 And it's all right, whoa, it's all right

Now listen to the beat
 Kinda pat your feet
 You got soul, and everybody knows
 That it's all right, whoa, it's all right

When you wake up early in the morning
 Feelin' sad like so many of us do
 Hum a little soul
 Make life your goal
 And surely something's got to come to you
 And say it's all right (it's all right)
 Say it's all right (it's all right)

It's all right, have a good time
 'Cause it's all right, whoa, it's all right
 Now everybody clap your hands
 Give yourself a chance
 You got soul, and everybody knows
 That it's all right, whoa, it's all right

2- I GOTTA KEEP ON MOVING (1964)

[Intro]
 Ba do, ba do do do do

[Chorus]
 Lord, I got to keep on movin'
 Lord, I got to get on down
 I say Lord, I got to keep on movin'
 'Cause Lord, I can't be found
 'Cause Lord, they're comin' after me

[Verse 1]
 Listen to me
 I've been accused for a killin'
 Lord knows I didn't do
 But hatin' me they are willin'

And that's a why (I got to get on) got to get on through
'Cause Lord, they're comin' after me

[Chorus]

Yeah, I say Lord, I got to keep on movin'
I say Lord, I got to get on down
Lord, I got to keep on movin', mm mm
'Cause Lord, I can't be found
'Cause Lord, they're comin' after me

[Verse 2]

Now listen!
I've got two boys and a woman
They're gonna suffer now
Lord, forgive me for not going back
But I'll be dead anyhow
I say I'll be dead anyhow

[Chorus]

Yeah, I say Lord, I got to keep on movin'
Lord, I got to get on down, mhm
Lord, I got to keep on movin' yeah yeah
'Cause Lord, I can't be found
Because Lord, they're comin' after me

[Bridge]

Now maybe someday I'll find a piece of land
Somewhere not botherin' anyone
Then I'll send for my love love sweet woman
And my two grown up sons
And my two grown up sons

[Outro]

One more time
I say Lord, I got to keep on movin'
I say Lord, I got to get on down
Lord, I got to keep on movin' yeah yeah
'Cause Lord, I can't be found
Because Lord, they're comin' after me
A one more time
Now Lord, I got to keep on movin'
I say Lord, I got to get on down
Lord, I got to keep on movin', mhm
Because Lord, I can't be found
'Cause Lord, they're comin' after me

3- KEEP ON PUSHING (1964)

Keep on pushing
 Keep on pushing
 I've got to keep on pushing (mmm-hmm)
 I can't stop now
 Move up a little higher
 Some way, somehow
 Cause I've got my strength
 And it don't make sense
 Not to keep on pushin'

[Chorus]
 Hallelujah, hallelujah
 Keep on pushin'

Now maybe some day
 I'll reach that higher goal
 I know that I can make it
 With just a little bit of soul
 Cause I've got my strength
 And it don't make sense
 Not to keep on pushin'

Now look-a look (look-a look)
 A-look-a yonder
 What's that I see
 A great big stone wall
 Stands there ahead of me
 But I've got my pride
 And I'll move on aside
 And keep on pushin'

4- PEOPLE GET READY (1965)

People get ready, there's a train a-comin'
 You don't need no baggage, you just get on board

All you need is faith to hear the diesels hummin'
 Don't need no ticket, you just thank the Lord

[Verse 2]
 So, people get ready for the train to Jordan
 Picking up passengers coast to coast
 Faith is the key, open the doors and board 'em
 There's hope for all among those loved the most

[Verse 3]
 There ain't no room for the hopeless sinner
 Who would hurt all mankind just to save his own, believe me now
 Have pity on those whose chances grow thinner

For there's no hiding place against the kingdom's throne

[Verse 1]

So, people get ready, there's a train a-comin'

You don't need no baggage, you just get on board

All you need is faith to hear the diesels hummin'

Don't need no ticket, you just thank the Lord

5- GET UP AND MOVE (1965)

Whenever you've got a little problem

And misery's payin' it's dues

You can't get ahead layin' in bed

Get up and put on your shoes, baby

Get up and move

Get up and move

Get up and move 'fore sundown

Get up and move

Get up and move

Get up and move 'fore sundown

Now how do I win my baby

On a train she's leavin' today

I admit I was wrong

She'll be gone much too long

And how much I need her to stay

What do I do

Get up and move

Get up and move

Get up and move 'fore sundown

Get up and move

Get up and move

Get up and move 'fore sundown, sundown

Now I ain't got no money

Last week I spent my last dime

I'm so broke and that ain't no joke

And I'm 'bout to go out of my mind

What do I do

Get up and move

Get up and move

Get up and move 'fore sundown

Get up and move

Get up and move

Get up and move 'fore sundown

Get up and move

Get up and move

Get up and move 'fore sundown

6- WE'RE A WINNER (1968)

We're a winner
And never let anybody say
Boy, you can't make it
'Cause a feeble mind is in your way
No more tears do we cry
And we have finally dried our eyes
And we're movin' on up (movin' on up)
Lawd have mercy
We're movin' on up (movin' on up)

We're living proof in alls alert
That we're two from the good black earth
And we're a winner
And everybody knows it too
We'll just keep on pushin'
Like your leaders tell you to
At last that blessed day has come
And I don't care where you come from
We're all movin' on up (movin' on up)
Lawd have mercy
We're movin' on up (movin' on up)

Hey, Hey
We're movin' on up (movin' on up)
Lawd have mercy
We're movin' on up (movin' on up)
I don't mind leavin' here
To show the world we have no fear
'Cause we're a winner
And everybody knows it too
We'll just keep on pushin'
Like your leaders tell you to
At last that blessed day has come
And I don't care where you come from
We're just go move on up (movin' on up)
Lawd have mercy
We're movin' on up (movin' on up)
We'll just keep on pushin'
We're a winner
Lawd, baby
Everybody
Hey, you know we're movin' on up
We're a winner

7- LITTLE BROWN BOY (1968)

Little brown boy with your eyes so wide
 Your Daddy's joy and your Mama's pride
 Now all candles burning, are just for you
 But when you go out into the world
 You'll be missing quite a few child

They say there's no heat
 Though the Sun is so bright now
 And out in the street, you're not protected late at night
 But there's a candle burning
 Every night when you're away
 And don't forget to mind your Mom
 And get on your knees and pray every day
 You better believe me now

Little brown boy with your eyes so wide
 Your Daddy's joy and your Mama's pride
 Now all candles burning, are just for you
 And remember baby
 We send our love, to you

Woo whoo whoo ooh
 Woo whoo whoo ooh
 Woo whoo whoo ooh

8- WE'RE ROLLING ON, PT. 1 (1968)

People get ready, I've got good news for you
 How we got over, like we all supposed to do
 Let us all say amen and together we'll clap our hands
 'Cause we rollin' on, we're rollin' on, we're rollin' on, we're rollin' on

The road is hard to find and it's hard to climb
 But we cannot stop, until we reach that mountain top
 And we've been tryin' tryin' so hard but it takes a little time
 Brothers and Sisters don't you worry you get yours and I'll get mine

And we'll all say amen and together we'll clap our hands
 'Cause we rollin' on, we're rollin' on, we're rollin' on, we're rollin' on

The road is hard to find and it's hard to climb
 But we cannot stop, until we reach that mountain top
 Roll roll roll on

Wooh, the road is hard to find, and it's hard to climb
 But we cannot stop, until we reach that mountain top
 We're rollin' on
 We're rollin' on, (rollin' on)

Brothers and Sisters child we're rollin' on
 Ain't nobody worry (c'mon now) we're rollin' on

The road is hard to find and it's hard to climb
 But we cannot stop, until we reach that mountain top
 I've got to get it
 Got to get it, uh
 C'mon
 Keep on pushin'

9- THEY DON'T KNOW (1968)

Another friend has gone
 And I feel so insecure
 Brother if you feel this way
 You're not by yourself

We have lost another leader
 Lord how much must we endure
 If you feel this way
 You're not by yourself

Funny they think
 We have no-one to lead us
 That then we've lost the fight
 And in the night no-one can breed us

But they don't know
 Every brother is leader
 And they don't know every sister is a breeder

And our love you see
 Is gonna help the world be free
 We're gonna move at a steady pace
 Keep every brother on the case

They don't know
 To help us is to help themselves
 We cannot let our people be
 Until we're all out of poverty
 And never think, we have no-one to lead us
 Don't think we've lost the fight
 And in the night no-one can breed us

For they don't know
 Every brother is leader
 And they don't know every sister is a breeder

They don't know, they don't know
 They don't know, they don't know
 They don't know, they don't know

They don't know, they don't know

We've got love you see
And make note of the information
Don't matter about the operation
We shall control the situation

They don't know
To help us is to help themselves
We cannot let our people be
Until we're all out of poverty

And never think, we have no-one to lead us
Don't think we've lost the fight
And in the night no-one can breed us
But they don't know
Every brother is leader
And they don't know every sister is a breeder

And our love you see
Is gonna help the world be free
We're gonna move at a steady pace
Keep every brother on the case

They don't know
They don't know
They don't know
They don't know, oh child
They don't know
They don't know, have mercy now
They don't know, they don't know

10- THIS IS MY COUNTRY (1968)

[Intro]
Doo doo doo
Doo doo doo

[Verse 1]
Some people think we don't have the right
To say it's my country
Before they give in, they'd rather fuss and fight
Than say it's my country
I've paid three hundred years or more
Of slave driving, sweat, and welts on my back
This is my country

[Refrain]
Doo doo doo

Doo doo doo

[Verse 2]

Too many have died in protecting my pride
 For me to go second class
 We've survived a hard blow and I want you to know
 That you'll face us at last
 And I know you will give consideration
 Shall we perish unjust or live equal as a nation
 This is my country

[Refrain]

Doo doo doo
 Doo doo doo

[Bridge]

And I know you will give consideration
 Shall we perish unjust or live equal, as a nation
 This is my country

[Outro]

Doo doo doo
 Doo doo doo
 Doo doo doo

11- THE YOUNG MODS' FORGOTTEN STORY (1969)

Let me sing a song
 I won't make it too long
 About the young mods' forgotten story
 Some say by hand of fate
 But the young make no mistakes
 They know why the shots rang out
 While all's confused
 Where whereabouts
 And why and when
 And who to do

Shall I tell it like it is
 Ain't none of your business
 Yes it is
 So let me use the so called right of my opinion
 Our people fightin' day and night
 For country pride they have died
 So the world might see we humanely
 Human we
 Preciously
 Are blind and cannot see

So let me sing a song

I won't make it too long
 About the young mods' forgotten story
 If we don't come up to date
 I'm afraid we'll be too late
 And bombs will fall out
 While all confused
 With whereabouts
 And why and when
 And who to do
 And you know who

Sing a song
 About the young mods
 Ain't none of yer's business
 Yes it is
 Why and when, who to do
 To you know who

12- CHOICE OF COLORS (1969)

[Intro]
 If you had a choice of colors
 Which one would you choose, my brothers?
 If there was no day or night
 Which would you prefer to be right?

[Bridge]
 How long have you hated your white teacher?
 Who told you, you love your black preacher?
 Do you respect your brother's woman friend?
 And share with black folks not of kin
 People must prove to the people
 A better day is coming for you and for me
 With just a little bit more education
 And love for our nation
 Would make a better society

[Verse]
 Now some of us would rather cuss and make a fuss
 Than to bring about a little trust
 But we shall overcome, I believe, someday
 If you'll only listen to what I have to say

[Bridge]
 And how long have you hated your white teacher?
 Who told you, you love your black preacher?
 Can you respect your brother's woman friend
 And share with black folks not of kin?
 I say now people must prove to the people
 A better day is coming for you and for me

With just a little bit more education
 And love for our nation
 Would make a better society

13- MIGHTY MIGHTY - SPADE AND WHITEY LIVE @ BITTER END, NYC (1969)

Everybody's Talking
 About This Country's State
 We Get A New Power Every Hour
 Just About In Every Christian Fate
 We're Killing Up Our Leaders
 It Don't Matter None
 Black Or White
 And We All Know It's Wrong
 And We're Gonna Fight To Make It Right

And Mighty, Mighty Spade And Whitey
 Your Black And White Power
 Is Gonna Be A Crumbling Tower
 And We Who Stand Divided
 So God d*** Undecided
 Give This Some Thought
 In Stupidness We've All Been Caught
 There Really Ain't No Difference
 If You're Cut You're Gonna Bleed
 Might I Get A Little Bit Deeper
 Human Life Is From The s**** Seed

Now I'm Gonna Say It Loud
 I'm Just As Proud As The Brothers Too
 And Just Like The Rest
 I Don't Want No Mess About
 Who's Taking Who
 Repeat

14- CHECK OUT YOUR MIND (1970)

Here's something that you never had
 It slid in on an oily rag
 The price is right up on the tag
 I'll put it in a brand new bag
 This thing will let you be yourself
 And won't offend nobody else
 Nothin' like you ever saw
 An' it's not against the law

Why don't you check out your mind
 Been with yer all the time

Why don't you check out your mind
 Been with yer all the time

People thinking they've been took
 Just finding out they over looked
 They never found the missing link
 Forgot they had a mind to think

Why don't you check out your mind
 Been with yer all the time
 Why don't you check out your mind
 Been with yer all the time
 Check out your mind
 Check out your mind
 Check out your mind

Trust in me and I in you
 No matter what you see me do
 I'm doing me for all I'm worth
 None do be better on this earth

Why don't you check out your mind
 Been with yer all the time
 Why don't you check out your mind
 Been with yer all the time
 Why don't you check out your mind
 Been with yer all the time
 Why don't you check out your mind
 Been with yer all the time

Check out your mind [repeat x17]

15- DO YOU WANNA WIN (1970)

Do you wanna win
 Where people can see
 Do you have the strength
 Well chile you've got to show me

This is the hour to be rough
 Now is the time to get tough
 We're here to see what you can do
 The world of judges eyes on you

Do you wanna win
 Then here are the rules
 The weapons are love
 Without them you lose, you lose, you lose
 And we wanna win

The peace sign weapons now we have
For all across the land
To win you must have peace so shortly
The world of judges eyes will see
And we wanna win
And we wanna win
And we wanna win

The next choice of weapons fit
Is your love which could do the trick
To win you must have a good heart
Lovin' you brothers from the, very start

Do you wanna win
Where people can see
Do you have the strength
Well chile you've got to show me

This is the hour to be rough
Now is the time to get tough
We're here to see what you can do
The world of judges' eyes on you

And we wanna win, we wanna win
And we wanna win, we're gonna win
We're gonna win, we're gonna win
Do you wanna win, we're gonna win
You gonna win, love's got ta win

You've got to win, you wanna win
Do you wanna win, you got ta win
Do you wanna win, we're gonna win
You gonna win, you gonna win
Love's got ta win, you got ta win
Do you wanna win, do you wanna win
You gonna win

APPENDIX 5

CURTIS MAYFIELD SOLO ALBUMS LYRICS

All lyrics are sourced from genius site “**Genius | Song Lyrics & Knowledge.**”
Genius, 2019, genius.com/.

1- (DON'T WORRY) IF THERE'S A HELL
BELOW, WE'RE ALL GOING TO GO (1970)

[Spoken: Woman]

Last night, I was so depressed
And I went and got the Bible
And I turned to the book of Revelations
And if people would just get and read the
Bible
And read the book of Revelations
They would really turn around and
straighten up
This is all we need to do, is just get the
good book
And read it and put it to everyday life

[Spoken: Curtis Mayfield]

Sisters
Niggers
Whiteys
Jews
Crackers
Don't worry
If there's hell below
We're all
Gonna go

[Vocal]

Sisters
Brothers and the whiteys
Blacks and the crackers
Police and their backers
They're all political actors
Hurry
People running from their worries
While the judge and his juries
Dictate the law that's partly flaw

Cat calling
Love balling, fussing and a-cussing
Top billing now is killing
For peace, no one is willing
Kind of make you get that feeling

Everybody smoke
Use the pill and the dope
Educated fools
From uneducated schools
Pimping people is the rule

Polluted water in the pool
And Nixon talking 'bout, "Don't worry"
He say, "Don't worry"
He say, "Don't worry"
He say, "Don't worry"
But they don't know
There can be no show
And if there's hell below
We're all gonna go
Everybody praying
And everybody saying
But when come time to do
Everybody's laying
Just talking 'bout, "Don't worry"
They say, "Don't worry"
They say, "Don't worry"
They say, "Don't worry"

Sisters
Brothers and the whiteys
Blacks and the crackers
Police and their backers
They're all political actors

Smoke
The pill and the dope
Educated fools
From uneducated schools
Pimping people is the rule
Polluted water in the pool
And everybody's saying, "Don't worry"
They say, "Don't worry"
They say, "Don't worry"
They say, "Don't worry"
But they don't know
There can be no show
And if there's hell below

We're all gonna go
 Lord, what we gonna do?
 Tell me what we gonna do?
 If everything I say is true
 This ain't no way it ought to be
 If only all the mass could see
 But they keep talking 'bout, "Don't worry"
 They say, "Don't worry"
 They say, "Don't worry"
 They say, "Don't worry"

2- THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN(1970)

I'm From The Other Side Of Town

Out of bounds
 To anybody who don't live around
 I never learned to share
 Or how to care
 I never had no teachings about being fair

Depression is part of my mind
 The sun never shine
 On the other side of town
 The need here is always for more
 There's nothing good in store
 On the other side of town

It's hard to do right
 In this filthy night
 Just plain simple comfort
 Is completely out of sight
 My little sister
 She hungry for bread to eat
 My brother's hand-me-down shoes
 Is now showing his feet

Ghetto blues showed on the news
 All is aware
 But what the hell do they care?
 You across the track
 Completely relaxed
 You take a warning fact
 Don't you never come back
 I'm from the other side of town
 Out of bounds
 To anybody who don't live around

I never learned to share
 Or how to care
 I never had no teachings about being fair

Depression is part of my mind
 The sun never shine
 On the other side of town
 The need here is always for more
 There's nothing good in store
 On the other side of town
 Oh, baby
 It's hard to do right, you know
 On the other side of town
 This depression really got a hold on me
 Oh, baby, on the other side of town
 The other side of town
 Out of bounds

3- WE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE DARKER THAN BLUE (1970)

We people who are darker than blue
 Are we gonna stand around this town
 And let what others say come true?
 We're just good for nothing, they all figure
 A boyish, grown-up, shiftless jigger
 Now we can't hardly stand for that
 Or is that really where it's at?

We people who are darker than blue
 This ain't no time for segregatin'
 I'm talking 'bout brown and yellow, too
 High yellow gal, can't you tell
 You're just the surface of our dark, deep well?
 If your mind could really see
 You'd know your color the same as me
 Pardon me, brother, as you stand in your glory
 I know you won't mind if I tell the whole story

Get yourself together, learn to know your sign
 Shall we commit our own genocide
 Before you check out your mind?

I know we've all got problems
 That's why I'm here to say
 Keep peace with me and I with you
 Let me love in my own way
 Now I know we have great respect
 For the sister
 And mother, it's even better yet
 But there's the joker in the street
 Loving one brother and killing the other
 When the time comes and we are really
 free
 There'll be no brothers left, you see

We people who are darker than blue
 Don't let us hang around this town
 And let what others say come true
 We're just good for nothing, they all figure
 A boyish, grown-up, shiftless jigger
 Now we can't hardly stand for that
 Or is that really where it's at?

Pardon me, brother, while you stand in
 your glory
 I know you won't mind if I tell the whole
 story
 Pardon me, brother, I know we've come a
 long, long way
 But let us not be so satisfied
 For tomorrow can be an
 An even brighter day

4- MOVE ON UP (1970)

Hush now, child
 And don't you cry
 Your folks might understand you
 By and by
 Just move on up
 Toward your destination
 Though you may find, from time to time,
 complication

Bite your lip
 And take a trip
 Though there may be wet road ahead
 And you cannot slip

Just move on up
 For peace you'll find
 Into the steeple of beautiful people
 Where there's only one kind

So hush now, child
 And don't you cry
 Your folks might understand you
 By and by
 Move on up
 And keep on wishin'
 Remember your dream is your only
 scheme
 So keep on pushin'
 Take nothing less
 Than the supreme best
 Do not obey rumors people say
 'Cause you can pass the test
 Just move on up
 To a greater day
 With just a little faith
 If you put your mind to it, you can surely
 do it

Just move on up
 Move on up
 But move on up
 Oh, child, but just a-move on up
 But move on up
 Move on up

5) MISS BLACK AMERICA (1970)

[Spoken: Girl and Curtis Mayfield]
 Hello, daddy
 Hello, baby, how is my love child?
 Fine
 Tell me of all your dreams
 What most do you hope to be when you
 become a big girl?
 Daddy, I would like to be Miss Black
 America

[Vocal]
 Hurryingly stepping so proud
 Mother nature's only godchild

Society salutes you today
And we'd like to say

God bless Miss Black America
Watch over Miss Black America
She cried tears of success
We wish her long happiness
Miss Black America

Sisters, we're all so very proud
Of that natural look we see among the crowd
Worldwide admiration
From nation to nation

They love you, Miss Black America
We love you, too, Miss Black America
You're such wonderful people
And so beautifully equal
Miss Black America
A culture no one can deny
If a young child should ask
Then tell them why
They should not be ashamed
Of their past, just explain

The true mother is Black America
None other than Miss Black America
She cried tears of success
We wish her long happiness
Miss Black America
Miss Black America
We're so proud of you
Miss Black America
Miss Black America
We're so proud, so proud
Miss Black America
Miss Black America
Miss Black America
Miss Black America
Miss Black America

6) WILD AND FREE (1970)

Wild and free
Is the way I wanna be
Making a new day

Leading in a new way

Respect for the steeple
Power to the people
Setting down the old crew
Bringing in the brand new

Wild and free
With peace finally

Wild and free
Is the way I want my life
Nature's way for me
Without pain and strife

Fighting what is wrong
Across the world as well as home
But respect for everybody's right
Could be really out of sight

Our great obligations
Would not be mad situations
If the young would be listened to
For what they really know is true
Respect for the steeple
Power to the people
The old people who worry 'bout me
'Cause I'm so wild and free

Wild and free
Is the way I wanna be

Making a new day
Leading in a new way

Respect for the steeple
Power to the people
Setting down the old crew

7) I PLAN TO STAY A BELIEVER (1971)

I Plan To Stay A Believer
I Met A Friend Of Mine The Other Day
He Said He Couldn't Stay
Because The World Was Going To End
At The End Of May.

Well, May Done Passed,
And EveryBody Still Sittin Here On Their
Ass.
With Some Talk,
They're Now Waiting For The Judgment
Day.

But Why Wait,
Why Don't You Look Around,
Haven't You Found,
That The Judgment Day
Is Already In Play,
For The Black,
And Now Come Time,
For The Old Faye
And I Plan To Stay A Believer

I Plan To Stay A Believer
I Plan To Stay A Believer

I Got An Indian Friend
Who Says He's Some Kin To Another
Indian,
He says He's Filled With Hate
Because His Tribe They Waited Too Late
To Protest The Past
Instead They Just Sat There On Their Ass,
Signing On The Dotted Line,
When They Didn't Have Indian Lawyers At
That Time.

We're Over 20 Million Strong
And It Wouldn't Take Long
To Save The Ghetto Child,
If We'd Get Off Our Ass,
A Man Yearly

Think Awhile
20 Million Times 10 Yearly
Would Surely Then Set Our Brothers Free
What Congregation With Better Relations
Would Demand More Respect From
Society...

I Plan To Stay A Believer
I Plan To Stay A Believer
I Plan To Stay A Believer

Lyrics found
<https://www.elyrics.net/read/c/curtis-mayfield-lyrics/i-plan-to-stay-a-believer-lyrics.html>>here

8) STARE AND STARE (1971)

Stare and stare
I look across the aisle at the process he
wears
While people sitting back digging my
nappy hair
A sister standing and no one even cares
We're all just riding with our nose in the
air

Another stop on the bus
Some people boarding different color then
us
They hate to mingle but no one makes a
fuss
The thing about it, there's no one here we
can trust

Of all the Sunday times of preaching
Where all the folks that the scripts been
reachin'
They're hard to find
Like it's a crime to do of good and
brotherhood

Seems no one will and the only thrill
Is doing bad and that's kind of sad
So all I'm trying to say is what a way
What a way to waste the day

The black and the ofay
Working the same jobs for the pay
But it seems here lately
We have nothing to say
Stare and stare
I look across the aisle at the process he
wears
While people sitting back digging my
nappy hair

A sister standing and no one even cares
We're all just riding with our nose in the
air

Another stop on the bus
Some people boarding, different color
than us
They hate to mingle but no one makes a
fuss
The thing about it, there's no one here we
can trust

Of all the sunday times of preachin'
Here all the folks that the scrpts been
reachin'
They're hard to find
Like it's a crime to do of good and
brotherhood

Seems no one will and the only thrill
Is doing bad and that's kind of sad
So all I'm trying to say is what a way
What a way to waste the day

The black and the ofay
Working the same jobs for the pay
But it seems here lately
We have nothing to say

9) THE MAKINGS OF YOU (1971)

Add a little sugar, honeysuckle and
A great, big expression of happiness
Boy, you couldn't miss with a dozen roses
Such would astound you
The joy of children laughing around you
These are the makings of you
It is true, the makings of you

The righteous way to go
Little one would know
Or believe if I told them so
You're second to none

The love of all mankind
Should reflect some sign

Of these words I've tried to recite
They are close, but not quite
Almost impossible to do
Reciting the makings of you

The righteous way to go
Little one would know
Or believe if I told them so
You're second to none

The love of all mankind
Should reflect some sign
Of these words I've tried to recite
They are close, but not quite
Almost impossible to do
Reciting the makings of you

10) STONE JUNKIE (1971)

Stone junkie, stone, stone junkie
Stone junkie, stone, stone junkie
Stone junkie, stone, stone junkie
Stone junkie, stone, stone junkie

Times have now arrived in this nation
There's now a people with a different
relation
Black and white, yellow, red and blue
All in the same bag we know it's true

They're just stone junkies
Stone, stone junkies, stone junkies, stone,
stone junkies

Don't let your mind become offended miss
Lady, 'cause you ain't no better than our
typical Sadie
You just got money, you can spend out at
will
But when comes aches and pains, you still
use the pill

I don't mean nothin', stone junkie, stone,
stone junkie
Mean nothin', stone junkie, stone, stone
junkie
Mean nothin', stone junkie, stone, stone

junkie

Mean nothin', stone junkie, stone, stone
junkie

Mean nothin', stone junkie, stone, stone
junkie

Mean nothin', stone junkie, stone, stone
junkie

Mean nothin', stone junkie, stone, stone
junkie

I know everybody whose heart is still
thumping thing

Now that might sound funky and I don't
mean to mislead

So you can retract the thought

Is drinking, shooting, snorting, smoking on
something

Of you on drugs or on weed

That ain't my business you know what you
do

I'm just singing for the majority of you

Should I say, mister, stone junkie?

Stone, stone junkie

Stone, stone junkie

11) KEEP ON KEEPING ON (1971)

[Intro]

Everybody gather 'round and listen to my
song

I've only got one

[Verse 1]

We who are young should now take a
stand

Don't run from the burdens of women and
men

Continue to give, continue to live for what
you know is right

Most of your life can be out of sight

Withdraw from the darkness and look to
the light

For everyone's free

At least that's the way it's supposed to be

[Refrain]

We just keep on keeping on

We just keep on keeping on

Many think that we have blown it

But they too will soon admit

That there's still a lot of love among us

And there's still a lot of faith, warmth and
trust

When we keep on keeping on

[Verse 2]

Before we dismiss, one thing I insist

When you have your young, remember
this song

And our world surroundings

Its leaps and bounds, ups and downs, is
reality

Teach them to be strong and when they
are grown

They can proudly imply that we were an
alright guy

For all the wrong now is right

This nation's people are now united as one

[Refrain]

And we just keep on keeping on

We just keep on keeping on

Many think that we have blown it

But they too will soon admit

That there's still a lot of love among us

And there's still a lot of faith, warmth and
trust

When we keep on keeping on

[Break]

Keep on keeping on, y'all

Keep on, keep on, keep on, keep on

Keep on keeping on (Keep on keeping on)

We got to move on up, y'all (We got to
move on up)

Keep on, keep on, keep on, keep on, keep
on

Ooh-ooh-ooh, ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh (Ooh-
ooh-ooh, ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh)

[Verse 3]

Some years back I remember, still in my

mind so well
 My mama made this one point clear and I
 find it never fails
 Never worry too long (Worry too long)
 About what goes wrong (About what goes
 wrong)
 Today in sorrow (Today in sorrow)
 We got joy tomorrow (We got joy
 tomorrow)
 Keep on keeping on (Keep on keeping on)
 Keep on, keep on (Keep on, keep on)

12) UNDERGROUND (1971)

[Intro]
 Underground
 We now have to deal with our own self-
 destruction
 We cannot live on the surface of our Earth
 any longer
 There is now pollution in every natural
 mineral and material taken from the land
 We have truly become a vast wasteland
 And now, underground
 How will we deal with our society of
 discrimination among people?
 Near to Hell
 It's just as well
 What will become of our children?
 Underground

[Refrain]
 Familiar music
 Familiar sound
 There's mutual thoughts
 For the underground
 Long-range sight
 For an eternal night
 Future prophecy
 For the mass, you see
 There'll be equal stay
 And equal play
 The underground
 Where none can betray

[Chorus]
 The underground

The underground

[Verse]
 There will be no light
 So there can be no sight
 And you'll judge your fellow man,
 understand
 By what is right
 We'll all turn black, black, black, black,
 black
 So who's to know?
 As a matter of fact
 Color, creed, and breed must go

[Chorus]
 The underground
 The underground

[Refrain]
 Familiar music
 Familiar sound
 There's mutual thoughts
 For the underground
 Long-range sight
 For an eternal night
 Future prophecy
 For the mass, you see

[Chorus]
 The underground
 The underground
 The underground

13) WE GOT TO HAVE PEACE (1971)

[Verse 1]
 We got to have peace
 To keep the world alive and war to cease
 We got to have joy
 True in our hearts with strength we can't
 destroy
 People hear us
 Through our voice, the world knows
 there's no choice
 We're begging, save the children
 The little ones who just don't understand
 Give them a chance
 To breed their young and help purify the

land
 People hear us (People hear us)
 Through our voice the world knows
 there's no choice

[Chorus]
 And the people in our neighborhood
 They would if they only could
 Meet and shake the other's hand
 Work together for the good of the land
 Give us all an equal chance
 It could be such a sweet romance
 And the soldiers who are dead and gone
 If only we could bring back one

[Post-Chorus]
 He'd say "We've got to have peace"
 To keep the world alive and war to cease
 [Verse 2]
 We got to have joy
 True in our hearts with strength we can't
 destroy
 People hear us (People hear us)
 Through our voice the world knows
 there's no choice

[Chorus]
 And the people in our neighborhood
 They would if they only could
 Meet and shake the other's hand
 Work together for the good of the land
 Give us all an equal chance
 It could be such a sweet romance
 And the soldiers who are dead and gone
 If only we could bring back one

[Post-Chorus]
 He'd say "We've got to have peace"
 Ah-hah, we got to have peace
 Let the world know it
 Peace, peace, peace
 Ah-hah, we got to have peace

[Refrain]
 People hear us
 Through our voice the world knows
 there's no choice

[Break]
 Save the children
 Save the children
 Save the children

[Chorus]
 And the people in our neighborhood
 They would if they only could
 Meet and shake the other's hand
 Work together for the good of the land
 Give us all an equal chance
 It could be such a sweet romance
 And the soldiers who are dead and gone
 If only we could bring back one

[Post-Chorus]
 He'd say "We've got to have peace"
 Lord, we got to have peace

[Outro]
 Let the people say it
 Peace, peace, peace
 Ah-hah, we got to have peace
 I say, peace, peace, peace
 Ah-hah, we got to have peace
 Peace, peace, peace
 Ah-hah, we got to have peace

14) BEAUTIFUL BROTHER OF MINE (1971)

[Verse 1]
 Beautiful brother of mine
 Whatever may be your birth sign
 We are not of the same seed
 Although we are both the same breed
 Together we're truly Black power (Power)
 Learning to trust by the hour (Hour)
 Loving our women now more (We love
 more)
 Respecting what Black is now for

[Chorus]
 And we've got love
 We've got love
 We've got love (We got love)
 We've got love (We got love)

[Verse 2]

Beautiful sister of mine
 I'm glad we both think it's now time
 To really show what we can do
 Improving Black pride is now true
 At last we've outgrown Uncle Tom (Uncle Tom)
 Devoting more time in the slum (In the slum)
 Showing our own a new pride (We have pride)
 That makes us feel all good inside
 [Chorus]
 And we've got love
 We've got love
 We've got love (We got love)
 We got love

[Bridge]
 At last the mass agree
 As how we want to be
 With love, respect and pride
 Success will be on our side, side
 At last we are now on the right case
 Inspiring the young of our race
 Pushing all opposition out
 Success is now without a doubt

[Verse 1]
 Beautiful brother of mine
 Whatever may be your birth sign
 We are not of the same seed
 Although we are both the same breed
 Together we're truly Black power (Power)
 Learning to trust by the hour (Hour)
 Loving our women now more (We love more)
 Respecting what Black is now for
 [Chorus]
 And we've got love
 We've got love
 We've got love (We got love)
 We got it (We've got love)

[Post-Chorus]
 Three centuries ago (We got love)
 Few people would know (We got love)
 That we the strong Black (We got love)

Would survive the attack (We got love)
 After the paying finally (We got love)
 We set out to be free (We got love)
 Now what have we got? (We've got love)
 We got it (We got love)
 We got it (We got love)
 We got it (We got love)

[Chorus]
 We've got love
 We've got love
 We've got love (We got love)
 We got it (We got love)

[Verse 2]
 Beautiful sister of mine
 I'm glad we both think it's now time
 To really show what we can do
 Improving Black pride is down truth
 At last we've outgrown Uncle Tom (Uncle Tom)
 Devoting more time in the slum (In the slum)
 Teaching our own a new pride (We have pride)
 That makes us feel all good inside
 [Chorus]
 And we've got love
 We've got love
 We've got love (We got love)
 We got love

[Outro]
 We got love (We got love)
 We got love
 We got it (We got love)
 We got love
 We got it (We got love)
 We got it

15) LITTLE CHILD RUNNIN' WILD (1972)

Little child
 Runnin' wild
 Watch a while
 You see he never smiles

Broken home
 Father gone
 Mama tired
 So he's all alone

Kind of sad
 Kind of mad
 Ghetto child
 Thinkin' he's been had

In the back of his mind he's sayin'
 Didn't have to be here
 You didn't have to love for me
 While I was just a nothin' child
 Why couldn't they just let me be
 Let me be, let me be, let me be

One room shack
 On the alley-back
 Control, I'm told
 From across the track
 Where is the mayor
 Who'll make all things fair
 He lives outside
 Our polluted air

And I didn't have to be here
 You didn't have to love for me
 While I was just a nothin' child
 Why couldn't they just let me be
 Let me be, let me be, let me be

I got a Jones
 Runnin' through ma' bones
 I'm sorry son
 All your money's gone

Painful rip
 In my upper hip
 I guess it's time
 To take another trip

Don't care what nobody say
 I got to take the pain away

It's getting worser day by day
 And all my life has been this way
 Can't reason with the pusher man
 Finance is all that he understands
 You junkie, mama cries, you know
 Would rip her, but I love her so
 Love her so, now

16) PUSHERMAN (1972)

[Verse 1]
 I'm your mama
 I'm your daddy, I'm that nigga
 In the alley, I'm your doctor
 When in need, want some coke?
 Have some weed, you know me
 I'm your friend—your main boy
 Thick and thin

[Chorus]
 I'm your pusherman
 I'm your pusherman
 Hahaha

[Verse 2]
 Ain't I clean?
 Bad machine, super cool
 Super mean, feelin' good
 For the man, super fly
 Here I stand, secret stash
 Heavy bread, baddest bitches
 In the bed

[Chorus]
 I'm your pusherman
 I'm your pusherman
 I'm your pusher, man

[Bridge]
 Silent life
 Of crime
 A man of odd circumstance
 A victim of ghetto demands
 Feed me money for style
 And I'll let you trip for a while
 Insecure from the past
 How long can a good thing last?

Woohoo, oh, no
 Got to be mellow, y'all
 Got to get mellow now
 Pusherman gettin' mellow, y'all

[Verse 3]
 Heavy mind
 Heavy sign, makin' money
 All the time, my 'El D'
 And just me, for all junkies
 To see, ghetto prince
 Is my thing, makin' love's
 How I swing

[Chorus]
 I'm your pusherman
 I'm your pusherman
 Huh, ha

[Bridge 2]
 "Two bags, please"
 For a generous fee
 Make your world
 What you want it to be
 Got a woman
 I love desperately
 Wanna give her somethin'
 Better than me
 Been told I can't be nothin' else
 Just a hustler in spite of myself
 I know I can break it
 This life just don't make it
 Lord, Lord, yeah
 Got to get mellow now
 Got to be mellow, y'all
 Got to get mellow now

[Verse 1]
 I'm your mama
 I'm your daddy, I'm that nigga
 In the alley, I'm your doctor
 When in need, want some coke?
 Have some weed, you know me
 I'm your friend—your main boy
 Thick and thin

[Chorus]
 I'm your pusherman
 I'm your pusherman

I'm your pusherman
 Your pusherman

[Outro]
 Lord, Lord
 It's all messed up

17) FREDDIE'S DEAD (Theme From
 Superfly) (1972)

[Intro]
 Hey, hey
 Lord, Lord
 Yeah, yeah
 Ah, ha
 Freddie's dead
 That's what I said
 Let the man rap a plan
 Said he'd sing him home
 But his hope was a rope
 And he should've known

[Verse 1]
 It's hard to understand
 There was love in this man
 I'm sure all would agree
 That his misery
 Was his woman and things

Now Freddie's dead --
 That's what I said

[Verse 2]
 Everybody's misused him
 Ripped him off and abused him
 Another junkie plan
 Pushin' dope for the man
 A terrible blow
 But that's how it goes
 A Freddie's on the corner now
 If you wanna be a junkie, well
 Remember Freddie's dead

[Verse 3]
 We're all built up with progress

But sometimes, I must confess
 We can deal with rockets and dreams
 But, reality -- what does it mean?

Ain't nothing said
 'Cause Freddie's dead

Hey, hey
 Lord, Lord
 Hey, hey
 Yeah, yeah
 Ha, ha
 Lord, Lord
 Yeah, yeah!
 Ha, ha
 Yeah, yeah
 Freddie's dead

[Verse 4]
 All I want is some peace of mind
 With a little love I'm trying to find
 This could be such a beautiful world
 With a wonderful girl
 Ooh, I need a woman child
 Don't wanna be like Freddie, now
 'Cause Freddie's dead

Hey, hey
 Yeah, yeah
 If you don't try
 You're gonna die

[Verse 5]
 Why can't we brothers
 Protect one another?
 No one's serious
 And it makes me furious

Don't be misled
 Just think of Fred

[Verse 6]
 Everybody's misused him
 Ripped him off and abused him
 Another junkie plan
 Pushin' dope for the man

A Freddie's on the corner now
 If you wanna be a junkie, well
 Remember, Freddie's dead
 Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha
 Freddie's dead
 Hey, hey....

18) EDDIE YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER (1972)

[Verse 1]
 Eddie, you should know better
 Brother, you know you're wrong
 Think of the tears and fears
 You bring to your folks back home
 They'd say, "Where did he go wrong, my
 Lord?"

We planned and worked hard
 From the very start
 Tried to make him better
 Than all the rest
 But the brother proved to be
 So much less

[Verse 2]
 Eddie is everybody's friend
 But sometimes, you wonder now and then
 The only time he'll choose you
 When theres's something to lose through
 His personal loss
 And the friend pays the cost
 All the time
 Must be something' that's freezin' his
 mind
 That has made him, through greed, so very
 blind
 And I don't think he's gonna make it this
 time

19) NO THING ON ME (Cocaine Song)
(1972)

[Intro]

I've met many people over the years
And in my opinion I have found that
People are the same everywhere
They have the same fears
Shed similar tears
Die in so many years
The oppressed seem to have suffered the
most
In every continent - coast to coast
Now our lives are in the hands of The
Pusherman
We break it all down
In hopes that you might understand how
to protect yourself
Don't make no profit for The Man

[Chorus]

I'm so glad I've got my own
So glad that I can see
My life's a natural high
The man can't put no thing on me
I'm so glad I've got my own
So glad that I can see
My life's a natural high
The man can't put no thing on me

[Verse 1]

There's somethin' kinda funny
How The Man take your money
He's shrewd as he can be
In such a way you'll never see
It's a terrible thing inside
When your natural high has died
The weaker turn to dope
And put all aside their hope

[Chorus]

And I'm so glad I've got my own
So glad that I can see
My life's a natural high
The man can't put no thing on me
I'm so glad I've got my own
So glad that I can see

My life's a natural high
The man can't put no thing on me

[Verse 2]

Twinkling twinkling grains
They do all sorts of things
While your inner mind is pleased
Your conscience is only teased...

[Verse 3]

More and more you feed
Until you grow another need
Playing fantasy
You have no reality

[Chorus]

I'm so glad I've got my own
So glad that I can see
My life's a natural high
The man can't put no thing on me
I'm so glad I've got my own
So glad that I can see
My life's a natural high
The man can't put no thing on me

[Verse 4]

Sit down and take a listen
This may be something that you're missin'
I know your mind, you want it funky
But you don't have to be no junkie

[Chorus]

Just be glad you've got your own
So glad that I can see
My life's a natural high
The Man can't put no thing on me
I'm so glad I've got my own
So glad that I can see
My life's a natural high
The man can't put no thing on me

[Outro]

Sure is funky
Sure is funky
I ain't no junkie
I ain't no junkie
Sure is funky
Sure is funky

I ain't no junkie
 I ain't no junkie
 I'm so glad I've got my own
 So glad that I can see...

20) SUPERFLY (1972)

[Verse 1]
 Darkest of night with the moon shining
 bright
 There's a set goin' strong; lotta things
 goin' on
 The man of the hour has an air of great
 power
 The dudes have envied him for so long

[Chorus]
 Oooh, Super Fly
 You're gonna make your fortune by and by
 But if you lose, don't ask no questions why
 The only game you know is do or die
 Ah-ha-ha

[Verse 2]
 Hard to understand what a hell of a man
 This cat of the slum had a mind, wasn't
 dumb
 But a weakness was shown cause his
 hustle was wrong
 His mind was his own but the man lived
 alone

[Chorus]
 Oooh, Super Fly
 You're gonna make your fortune by and by
 But if you lose, don't ask no questions why
 The only game you know is do or die
 Ah-ha-ha

[Verse 3]
 The game he plays, he plays for keeps
 Hustlin' times and ghetto streets
 Tryin' to get over
 That's what he tryin' to do, y'all
 Taking all that he can take
 Gambling with the odds of fate

[Bridge]
 Tryin' to get over
 Tryin' to get over
 Tryin' to get over
 Tryin' to get over
 Woo, Super Fly, huh, huh

[Verse 4]
 The aim of his role was to move a lot of
 blow
 Ask him his dream: what does it mean? He
 wouldn't know
 "Can't be like the rest" is the most he'll
 confess
 But the time's running out and there's no
 happiness

[Chorus]
 Oooh, Super Fly
 You're gonna make your fortune by and by
 But if you lose, don't ask no questions why
 The only game you know is do or die
 Ah-ha-ha
 [Bridge 2]
 Super Fly
 Super Fly
 Super Fly
 Super Fly

[Outro]
 Tryin' to get over

21) BACK TO THE WORLD (1973)

[Intro]

Back in the world
 Back in the world
 Back in the world
 Back in the world

[Verse 1]

Crawlin' through the trees
 Stuck in mud up to the knees
 Fightin' this damn war
 Wonderin' if the Lord knows what it's for
 Six long years stretch
 And we boys was in a hell of a mess
 I gotta keep my mind; take it slow
 Fightin' hard for what I don't know

[Chorus]

I wanna get back home, gotta get back
 home
 Back to the world

[Bridge]

I had a talk with little mom
 Strenuous face as she began to hum
 She said: Boy, it's good to see ya
 My prayers must've been with ya
 And now that you're back and done
 Let me tell ya, son
 The war was never won
 The war was never won

[Verse 2]

In these city streets everywhere
 You gotta be careful where you move your
 feet
 How you part your hair
 Do you really think that God could ever
 forgive this life we live?
 Back in the world
 Back in the world
 Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh
 My, my, my, my
 It's so hard, it's so hard, it's so hard
 This life is so hard

I've been beaten up and robbed
 Soldier boy ain't got no job
 Back in the world

[Bridge]

Had a long stretch of sacrifice
 Gettin' back home will be awful nice
 Child, your woman has long been gone
 The doggone war just lasted too long
 People don't give a damn
 People don't give a damn
 People don't give a damn

[Verse 3]

So I'm standin' here in future shock
 It can give the mind an awful knock
 Talkin' 'bout hard times, hard times, hard
 times
 Back in the world
 Oh-oh-oh
 My, my, my, my, my, my
 It's so hard, it's so hard
 This life is so hard
 I been beaten up and robbed
 Soldier boy ain't got no job
 Back in the world
 [Chorus]
 Back in the world
 Uh huh, back in the world
 Back in the world
 Uh huh, uh huh

[Bridge]

Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh
 My, my, my, my
 It's so hard, it's so hard, it's so hard
 This life is so hard
 Back in the world
 Ooh ooh ooh hoo
 Ooh ooh ooh hoo
 Ooh ooh ooh hoo
 My, my, my, my
 Back in the world
 Back in the world

[Outro]

Forgiveness instead of amnesty

Simple words that seem so clear to me
 Forgive our country
 Forgive your man, wastin' love for hate
 Truth from honesty is true
 We don't seem to know what to do, do
 Yeah, yeah, yeah
 Back in the world

22) FUTURE SHOCK (1973)

[Intro]
 Future shock
 Ooh hoo

[Verse 1]
 Hey, little sister, where's your brother?
 See your mother standing on the soup line
 God bless your father
 Ain't got the strength to be bothered
 The almighty world hear me now
 Was bound to weigh him down

[Chorus]
 We got to stop all men
 From messing up the land
 When won't we understand
 This is our last and only chance
 Everybody, it's a future shock
 Future shock, future shock
 Future shock, future shock

[Verse 2]
 All worldly figures playing on niggers
 Oh, see them passing
 See how they're dancing to the superfly
 Oh, ain't it wrong when you don't know
 where we come from
 Dancing in our youth
 Dying at the truth, to get over
 (Over, over, get over)

[Chorus]
 We got to stop all men
 From messing up the land
 When won't we understand
 This is our last and only chance
 Everybody, it's a future shock
 Future shock, future shock

Future shock, future shock

[Verse 3]

The price of the meat
 Higher than the dope in the street
 Is it any wonder
 For those with nothing to eat?

[Chorus]
 We got to stop all men
 From messing up the land
 When won't we understand
 This is our last and only chance
 Everybody, it's a future shock
 Future shock, future shock
 Future shock, future shock

23) RIGHT ON FOR THE DARKNESS (1973)

I am blind and I cannot see
 You are there, your petty evil don't bother
 me
 Playing all the clothes you wear
 Laugh at me, pressed and clean, and I
 don't care

Right on for the darkness
 Right on for the darkness

You pity fools, you pity fools
 You better have some sympathy, yeah
 'Cause this educated people
 Running the lives of high society

Making up the blues
 Holding back schools
 Lot of greed, lot of temptation
 Proof of one thing, we're a hell of a nation

Right on for the darkness
 Right on, right on

Right on, right on
 Right on, right on
 Right on, right on for the darkness
 Right on for the darkness

I am blind and I can't see
 [incomprehensible]
 What do we need for justice
 Is there really enough room to demand?
 Old man you know too well us
 You gain all your children's trust

Right on for the darkness
 Right on for the darkness
 Right on for the darkness

Right on, right on
 Right on, right on for the darkness
 Right on

Well the message with the tears
 Through the eyes is everyone will see
 I can hear the people's fears
 [Incomprehensible] everywhere to me

Right on for the darkness
 Right on, right on
 Right on, right on for the darkness

I am blind and I cannot see
 You are there, your petty evil don't bother
 me
 Playing all the clothes you wear
 Laugh at me, pressed and clean, and I
 don't care

Right on for the darkness
 Right on for the darkness
 Right on for the darkness

24) IF I WERE ONLY A CHILD AGAIN (1973)

[Verse 1]
 If I were only a child again
 No one's ever been, oh, good to me since
 then
 Everywhere I looked it seemed so color
 bright
 There were never such things to me as
 black and white
 The idea of just going, letting all come
 what may

Yesterday to the latest, everything seems
 quite okay
 Remember when we were part of that
 precious few
 Everything it seemed was so pure and true
 I guess we were just too young to
 understand
 The unselfish cause of death and war and
 roles of man

[Chorus]
 Only, only, only a child
 Only, only, only a child
 Only, only, only a child
 Only a child again, hey, hey

[Verse 2]
 If I were only a child again
 I would never want to venture life like this
 again
 People of the world hurling sticks and
 stones
 Like the sore fates of one come up and
 break my bones

[Chorus]
 Only, only, only a child

[Verse 3]
 If I were only a child again
 And have the ability to understand
 I'd speak for little people from the date of
 birth
 And ask the grown ups, when will there be
 peace on earth?
 Grown ups, when will there be peace on
 earth?
 Brother, when will there be peace on
 earth?

[Outro]
 Only, only, only a child
 Only, only, only a child
 Only, only, only a child
 Only a child again, hey, hey
 Only, only, only a child
 Only, only, only a child

25) MR. WELFARE MAN (1974)

[Intro, repeat x3]

Welfare

[Verse: 1]

A hard sacrifice

I wanna testify, staying a loving man

Society gave me no choice, tried to silence
my voice

Put my woman on the welfare

I'm so tired, I'm so tired of trying to prove

My equal rights

Though I've made some mistakes

For goodness sakes

Why you gonna keep messing up my life?

[Chorus]

Keep away from me, Mr. Welfare

Keep away from me, keep away, keep
away

Mr. Welfare

Ohhh

[Verse: 2]

Holding me back, using your tax

To make me kneel against my will

That's how it go

Why, I don't know, I don't believe

This life's for real

Like the private eye for the FBI

Just as envious as the Klu Klux Klan

Though I'm a passing fate

And I'm trying to escape

I got to do what I think I can

[Chorus]

Keep away from me, Mr. Welfare

Didn't you hear me, don't come near me,
babe

Mr. Welfare, Mr. Welfare

They wanna say I'm a lazy man

But you got to understand

There's a thing about my pride

You can't make me move

If there ain't no groove

Because it eats me all up inside

[Interlude, repeat x2]

Welfare

Just another day, trying to make a way

All I see outside of me is crime

What can I do to make it through

Ain't gonna say nobody's crying

I got a woman, true

And a baby too

With a love that grows and grows and
grows

Here come the bills, there go the thrills

And a job, all doors are closed

[Chorus]

Keep away from me, Mr. Welfare

Mr. Welfare, Mr. Welfare

Keep away from me, Mr. Welfare man

They wanna say I'm a lazy man

But you got to understand

There's a thing about my pride

You can't make me move

If there ain't no groove

Because it eats me all up inside

[Interlude, repeat]

Welfare

Hey, hey, hey!

26) POWER TO THE PEOPLE (1974)

[Chorus]

We want the power for the people

That's all we ask in our country, dear

The sick and the hungry are unable

Protect them and those who may live in
fear

[Verse 1]

We as the young wish to say in this song

God bless great America

We give thanks to the old for acheiving
their goal

It is now up to us and we know we must
build up a trust

[Chorus]

And we want the power for the people
That's all we ask in our country, dear
The sick and the hungry are unable
Protect them and those who may live in
fear
Power for the people
Power for the people
Power for the people
Power for the people

[Verse 2]

Hardening crimes is a part of the times
And it's rough for some people to live
Disease can move fast but it don't have to
last
It is now the nation's turn for all to be
concerned

We can be freer still, it is the people's will

[Chorus]

And bring back the power for the people
That's all we ask in our country, dear
The sick and the hungry are unable
Protect them and those who may live in
fear

[Outro]

Power for the people
Power for the people
Power for the people
Power for the people
Pow-pow power
Pow-pow power
27) KUNG FU (1974)

Our days of comfort, days of night
Don't put yourself in solitude
Who can I trust with my life
When people tend to be so rude?

My mama borned me in a ghetto
There was no mattress for my head
But, no, she couldn't call me Jesus
I wasn't white enough, she said

And then she named me, (y'all), Kung Fu
Don't have to explain it, no, Kung Fu
Don't know how you'll take it, (here), Kung
Fu
I'm just trying to make it, (love), Kung Fu

I've got some babies and some sisters
My brother worked for Uncle Sam
It's just a shame, ain't it, Mister?
We being brothers of the damned

But loving brings about a difference
You are my love...I do believe
Shall we join hands for tomorrow?
Don't carry nothin' up your sleeve

Keep your head high, Kung Fu
I will 'til I die, yeah, Kung Fu
Don't be too intense, no, Kung Fu
Keep your common sense, yeah, Kung Fu

...

Don't be mistaken for a secret
There is no secret part of you
You bet your life if you think wicked (don't
think wicked child)
Someone else is thinking wicked, too

Keep your head high, Kung Fu
I will 'til I die, yeah, Kung Fu
Don't be too intense, no, Kung Fu
Keep your common sense, yeah, Kung Fu

...

Our days of comfort, days of night
Don't put yourself in solitude
Who can I trust with my life
When people tend to be so rude?

My mama borned me in a ghetto
There was no mattress for my head
But, no, she couldn't name me Jesus
I wasn't white enough, she said

And then she named me, (y'all), Kung Fu
Don't have to explain it, no, Kung Fu

Don't know how you'll take it, (here), Kung
Fu
I'm just trying to make it, (love), Kung Fu
(y'all), Kung Fu
Yeah, Kung Fu

28) MOTHER'S SON (1974)

[Verse 1]
Raining and the weather's foul
Think I better rest a while
Mother, mother's son
Think I'll make a great big kiss
Pray they don't need much to cease
Mother, mother's son
Get down and get funky
Watch out for damn junkies
Mother, mother's son
Mother

[Chorus]
Mother's son
Mother

[Verse 2]
In the street with the people you meet
Getting tired, want something to eat
Mother, mother's son
No, you won't be a superstar
But try to be the child you are
Mother, mother's son
Can't let 'em fool ya
Or we'll have to school ya
Mother, mother's son

[Chorus]