

The Hippie Subculture of the 1960s was one the biggest countercultures up until now. Members rejected the established society and instead followed an alternative lifestyle based on values like love, peace and freedom. But did their ethos really make a difference in the world or were they just seeking for pleasure, shirking their responsibilties to the state?

Who were hippies of the 1960s?

 Born around 1950 as part of the baby boom generation 1946

> • Majority grew up in child friendly suburbs, benefiting from all the things their parents could finally afford after the postwar economic boom

• Entering their teen years, they began to oppose the so-called "Establishment" and created a lifestyle 1960s which was more reflective of their personal beliefs

> openjustice mindedness freedom

> > values

peace tolerance

opposed the Vietnam War and tried to get the troops back to the US

1950s

kindness

love

Summer of Love / Woodstock

The Summer of Love describes the summer of 1967, in which between 100.000 and 200.000 people travelled to San Francisco to celebrate the hippie culture. With increased attention by the media, more followers joined the Hippie Movement, while others criticized them for their antiwork and pro-drug ethos.

Woodstock was a 4-days-festival in 1969, where almost 500.000 attendees took part in what was soon to be called the peak of the Hippie Movement.

Sympathisers praised:

- Peaceful and harmonious atmosphere
- Joyful celebration of morally good values like peace





[1: Performance by The Charlatans during the Summer of Love in Golden Gate Park]

Critics complained of:

- Unsanitary conditions
- Excessive use of drugs
- Masses of homeless and unemployed hippies

Free Love (Supporting the LGBT community)

led directly to the Gay and Women's Liberation movements

Ethics of a hippie

turn to buddhism and hinduism rather than christianity

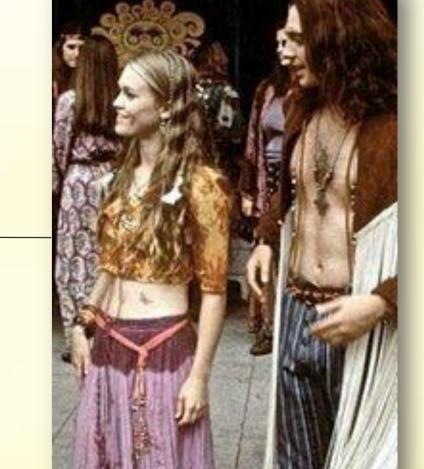
meditation

vegeterian/vegan

respect towards nature and animals

organic or secondhand clothes

aim in working was not to achieve wealth or status, but to express oneself (e.g. through arts)



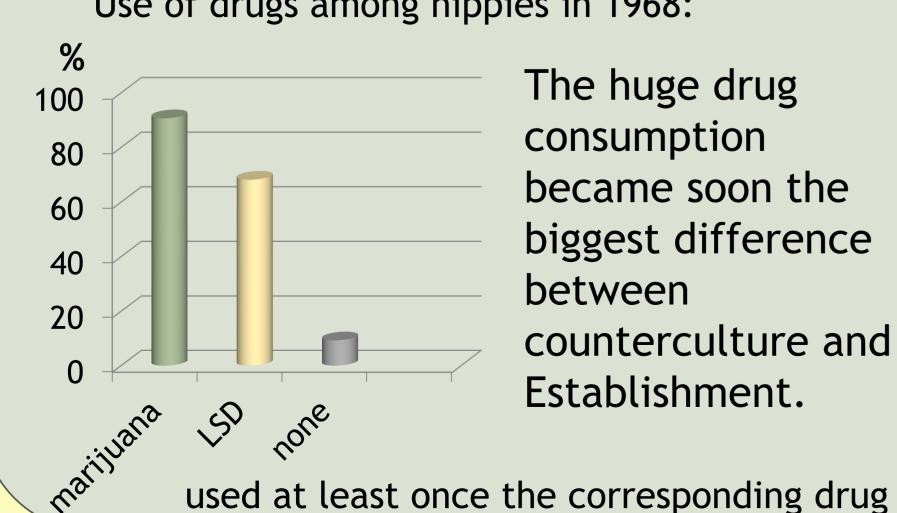
hitchhiking

[4: Two hippies rejecting the prevailing fashion industry]

[2,3: Memorable hippie phrases during an Anti-Vietnam Protest]

Drug Culture

Use of drugs among hippies in 1968:



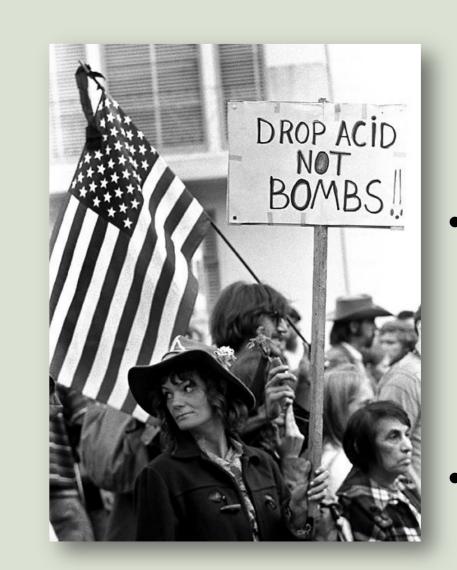
The huge drug consumption became soon the biggest difference between counterculture and Establishment.



[5: Selling LSD at Woodstock, 1969]

Sympathisers justified:

- no harm to outsiders
- desire of self-exploration
- aim in consuming psychedelics was to achieve a higher consciousness instead of inhibiting it
- kept their hands off heroin, cocaine, amphetamine,...



[6: Anti-War Monatorium in San Francisco, 1969]

Critics accuse:

- "Junkies" and "drug addicts" who escape the world, rather than changing it for the better
- Threat to the state (medical costs)

Thanks to Mrs. Wolff for all the kind support

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 - [6]: © Robert Altman
 - Study by Lewis Yablonsky. The Hippie Trip. 1968.