

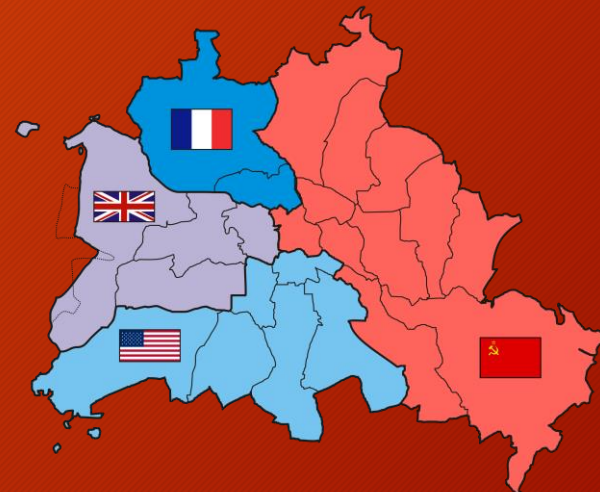
Looking to the East

Youth Identity in Berlin Through Subculture Centered on Consumerism, and Music Following the Fall of the Berlin Wall

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Background

- Berlin and Germany split into 4 zones
- 1949: Creation of GDR and FRG
 - German Democratic Republic: East, Communist
 - Federal Republic of Germany: West, Capitalist
- Construction of Berlin Wall begins: August 13, 1961
- "Mauerfall": November 9, 1989



Thesis and Argument

- In the five years following the Fall of the Berlin Wall, the youth of Berlin identified culturally more Eastern through consumerism, music, and subcultures, though initially the Berliner youth hid their true identities.
- Despite Germany being viewed as Western following the Fall of the Berlin Wall, the youth of Berlin identified themselves more as being a part of the Eastern culture.

Significance and Historiography

- 1990s: Germany was Western according to historians
- Late 1990s/Early 2000s: Eastern Nostalgia [Ostalgie]
- The East and West Berliner youth acted in opposition to popular opinion of identity
 - Berlin subcultures resembled East German life
 - resurgence of Eastern culture and ideals



Primary Sources

- Memoirs/Diaries
- Newspaper Articles
- Photographs
- Interviews
- Music
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWzPcDtZZZo>
 - Nina Hagen- "TV Glotzer"



Theory and Methodology

- Subculture Theory- Dick Hebdige
- Analysis of German Subcultures
 - Comparison of Eastern and Western Subcultures
 - Subcultures with Consumerism
 - Subcultures with Music