1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Music is the best thing that mortals have been discovered in this world, and music is the cultural memoir that discusses all cultural realities. For the Black American culture, music has always been a platform for many relevant discussions; i.e., religion, racism, politics, violence, education and self-awareness. Stewart (1998) considers hip-hop as the newest cultural and artistic development in Black America. While most genres of Black music have been meaningful to the Black American musical culture, such as jazz, blues, rock-n-roll, and gospel, hip-hop is regarded as one of the more relevant genres of the black musical spectrum.

Hip-hop, unlike other black musical genres embodies several important components, Hip Hop culture consists of at least four fundamental elements: Disc jockeying (DJing), break dancing, graffiti art, and rapping (emceeing). Graffiti art and break dancing are nonverbal expressions of hip-hop; rap music is hip-hop’s musical manifestation (Stewart, 1998). Since its emergence in the South Bronx and throughout the northeast during the early and mid-1970s, Hip Hop has encompassed not just a musical genre, but also a style of dress, dialect and language, way of looking at the world, and an aesthetic that reflects the sensibilities of a large population of youth born between 1965 and 1984 (Alridge, 2005: 190).

Hip-hop culture is a highly accessible, quickly incorporative cultural form that presents information through various forms of media (Rose, 1994).
Because of its widespread popularity, hip-hop culture has had a significant impact upon the language that is used by today’s students (Rose, 1994). After integration, African American culture became largely focused upon using language that imitated White culture (Adjaye, 1997). Due to the evolution of today’s African American urban communities, the language that is used by these communities has changed significantly (Wood, 1999).

The complex language of hip-hop derives from the dialect of English which many Blacks speak that is substantially similar in structure to the African languages of their ancestors (Kochman, 1972). The language and issues that hip-hop addresses represent an honest portrayal of inner-city life in America (Baker, 1993).

Over the past three decades, Hip Hop has developed as a cultural and artistic phenomenon affecting youth culture around the world (Alridge, 2005: 190). For many youth, Hip Hop reflects the social, economic, political, and cultural realities and conditions of their lives, speaking to them in a language and manner they understand (Alridge, 2005: 190).

In this period, hip hop came with a culture that affecting people who use english as their mother language. Even within a single language community, slang tends to vary widely across the social, ethnic, economic, and geographic strata. Slang may fall into disuse overtime; sometimes, however, it grows more and more common until it becomes the dominant way of saying something, at which time it usually comes to be regarded as mainstream, acceptable language, although in the case of taboo words there may be no expression that is considered mainstream or
acceptable. Numerous slang terms pass into informal speech, and sometimes into formal speech, though this may involve a change in meaning of usage.

According to Britannica Dictionary online as cited by Rafika (2008), Slang is unconventional words or phrases that express either something new or something old in a new way. It is flippant, irreverent, and indecorous; it may be indecent or obscene. Its colorful metaphors are generally directed at respectability, and it is this succinct, sometimes witty, frequently impertinent social criticism that gives slang its characteristic flavor. Slang, then, includes not just words but words used in a special way in a certain social context.

According to wikipedia (2013), rapping (which also called Mcing, spitting, or rhyming) is the rhythmic spoken delivery of rhymes, wordplay, and poetry, one of the elements of hip hop music and culture. Lyrics in rap music usually use slang words to express taboo words or things that don’t have expression in english language and something new in their community. Some rappers also use slang to abbreviate something and make some words more complex to understand. For example, there are some songs that use slang in their lyric

a. Shotgun formation, no Smithson, no Wesson – Snoop Dogg (Get You Down)

No Smithson, no Wesson = guns, Smithson & Wesson is a gun and arm factory in America

b. Why the black and the brown got to fight in the Pen – Ice Cube (Get You Down)
Pen = jail, abbreviation of penitentiary

c. Had these *ghetto* kids goin, "Huh, what about him?" –KRS One (Hip Hop Knowledge)

Ghetto = gangster

d. *I'ma* prove it – Warren G (Let’s Go)

*I'ma* = i will

Warren Griffin III was born in 1971 in Long Beach, California, better known by his stage names Warren G, and Teacha, is an American rapper of Jamaican descent. His reputation as both a live performer and as Hip Hop’s resident “Teacha” has reached mythic proportions. Throughout his 20 year career trajectory legendary pioneer Griffin who goes by the pseudonym Warren G has given fans over a dozen classic Hip-Hop albums, spoke at more then 500 universities/colleges including Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Spelman, Howard and Oxford, been nominated for Grammy Awards, received multiple RIAA certified gold and platinum sales accolades and become the definitive source for conscious urban music. He is one of the most influential lyricists of all time.

In this case, I want to find out the meaning of each slang words used especially in lyric of song found in Warren G songs. This song is a collaboration between Warren G and other hip hop rappers that i think struggle in hip hop as their part of life; such as Snoop Dogg, B Real, and Ice Cube. The name of the song is “Get You Down”. This song depictures us about being a Black American, beside the story of disaster that happened in California that caused by huricanne katrina.
1.2 Problems of the Study

Based on the background that has been described, it can be identified several issues as follows:

a. Identify the slang words used in hip hop song
b. Meaning of the slang words used in hip hop song
c. Slang word that used in the lyric of song most dominantly

1.3 Scope of the Study

Scope of the study has the important purpose to writing the paper. It used to limit the problem of topic in the paper and be more focussed to the explaining the topic. There are many interesting aspects can be discussed about hip hop rap song lyric, nevertheless the writer is interested to focus to analyse slang words used in the lyric of “Get You Down” song.

1.4 Objective of the Study

The purposes of this paper are to find the meaning of slang words used in the lyric of hip hop song as referred in the background of the study above. Therefore, this paper can be functional for the reader in order to enrich our knowledge on literature.
1.5 Reasons for Choosing the Topic

The writer chooses to analyze slang used in hip hop song lyrics because slang nowadays cannot be separated from English language. In every aspect that use English language we can find slang on it, whether it be in the form of sentences or just words. Slang has been used in worldwide, therefore, the writer are interested in discussing slang as a part of English literature and explore its meaning in the slang used in hip hop song specifically.

1.6 Methods of the Study

This paper is written on based the library research by collecting, reading and taking data from some books that relevant the theme for getting information about the topic of slang words. In addition, the writer also uses internet that have many websites about hip hop lyrics and definition of slang. The writer also interviews people who know about hip hop and rap music and hip hop enterpreneur or hip hop artist.