



**TITLE: Do-It-Yourself: Towards a Genealogy of DIY**

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Do-It-Yourself (DIY) is an important concept in music scenes across the world. Born in post-punk scenes in the early 1980s, the idea of DIY was used to create an alternate space where musicians and likeminded people could work outside of the mainstream commercial music industry to foster a relatively autonomous space for creativity, community building and identity work. Recently, the concept has been reconfigured to think about a variety of ways that young and not so young people practice in ways outside of normative expectations. 'DIY citizenship' has been developed by Anita Harris, and the idea of 'DIY careers' is the topic of a forthcoming special issue of Cultural Sociology. In Risk Society, Ulrich Beck has written about the idea of 'DIY Biography'. Since the 1990s, the concept of DIY seems to have undergone a process of co-optation, where it is now invoked to encourage home renovations and other consumer based forms of selfimprovement. Most recently, there has been a move in what would have been traditionally considered DIY cultural scenes to use the term DIT (Do-It-Together) along with DIY. This paper will discuss the genealogy of DIY and its implications for youth studies.

