Sometimes a great sounding song is not okay for 4-H use because of what the words (lyrics) say or imply. Read your lyrics carefully before you start to practice for a 4-H presentation and use the lyrics checklist (questions below) to see if you should pick another song. If the answer to any question below is “yes”, you should pick another song.

Suggestion: have at least two adults review the lyrics too using the checklist to make sure you haven’t missed anything.

When in doubt... check with your 4-H Educator OR PICK ANOTHER SONG

Songs deemed inappropriate may make a performance ineligible for State Day or ESE.

**Program Content/Presentation:**

Lyrics, costumes, signs, dialogue and other program content should support the positive ideals of the 4-H program. 4-H works to help young people develop skills for success in life; for example: conflict resolution, solving problems by peaceful methods, modeling respect for all groups of people, and appreciating differences.

With this in mind, all activities at University of Vermont 4-H events:

1. Will discourage the use/display of any items or activities which promote violence.
2. Will not promote one religion over another; please see page 8 of the UVM Extension Policy Guide for 4-H Volunteers and staff on religion and 4-H for additional information.
3. Will not include sexually explicit material or profanity.
4. Will not be degrading to any population group based on race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, ethnicity, or any other protected group.