

## **(I can't Get No) Satisfaction**

(The Rolling Stones)

{Intro}

I can't get no satisfaction  
I can't get no satisfaction  
Cause I try and I try and I try and I try  
I can't get no, I can't get no

When I'm driving in my car  
And that man comes on the radio  
And he's telling me more and more  
About some useless information  
Supposed to fire my imagination  
I can't get no - oh no, no, no!  
Hey hey hey! That's what I say!

I can't get no satisfaction  
I can't get no satisfaction  
Cause I try and I try and I try and I try  
I can't get no, I can't get no

When I'm watching my TV  
And that man comes on to tell me  
How white my shirts can be  
Well he can't be a man cause he doesn't smoke  
The same cigarettes as me  
I can't get no, oh no no no  
Hey hey hey, that's what I say

I can't get no satisfaction  
I can't get no girl reaction  
Cause I try and I try and I try and I try  
I can't get no, I can't get no

When I'm riding round the world  
And I'm doing this and I'm signing that  
And I'm trying to make some girl  
Who tells me baby, better come back, maybe next week  
Cause you see, I'm on a losing streak  
I can't get no, oh no no no  
Hey hey hey! That's what I say!

"(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" is a song by the English rock band the Rolling Stones, released in 1965. It was written by Mick Jagger and Keith Richards and produced by Andrew Loog Oldham. Richards' three-note guitar riff—intended to be replaced by horns—opens and drives the song. The lyrics refer to sexual frustration and commercialism.

The song was first released as a single in the United States in June 1965 and was also featured on the American version of the Rolling Stones' fourth studio album, *Out of Our Heads*, released that July. "Satisfaction" was a hit, giving the Stones their first number one in the US. In the UK, the song initially was played only on pirate radio stations, because its lyrics were considered too sexually suggestive. It later became the Rolling Stones' fourth number one in the United Kingdom.

In 2004, *Rolling Stone* magazine placed "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" in the second spot on its list of "The 500 Greatest Songs of All Time". The song was added to the National Recording Registry of the Library of Congress in 2006.

The Rolling Stones first recorded the track on 10 May 1965 at Chess Studios in Chicago, Illinois, which included Brian Jones on harmonica. The Stones lip-synched to a dub of this version the first time they debuted the song on the American music variety television programme *Shindig!* The group re-recorded it two days later at RCA Studios in Hollywood, California, with a different beat and the Gibson Maestro fuzzbox adding sustain to the sound of the guitar riff. Richards envisioned redoing the track later with a horn section playing the riff: "this was just a little sketch, because, to my mind, the fuzz tone was really there to denote what the horns would be doing." The other Rolling Stones, as well as producer and manager Andrew Loog Oldham and sound engineer David Hassinger eventually outvoted Richards and Jagger so the track was selected for release as a single. The song's success boosted sales of the Gibson fuzzbox so that the entire available stock sold out by the end of 1965.

The lyrics outline the singer's irritation with the increasing commercialism of the modern world, where the radio broadcasts "useless information" and a man on television tells him "how white my shirts can be – but he can't be a man 'cause he doesn't smoke the same cigarettes as me." Jagger also describes the stress of being a celebrity, and the tensions of touring. The reference in the verse to not getting any "girl reaction" was fairly controversial in its day, interpreted by some listeners (and radio programmers) as meaning a girl willing to have sex. Jagger commented that they "didn't understand the dirtiest line", as afterwards the girl asks him to return the following week as she is "on a losing streak," an apparent reference to menstruation.

In its day the song was perceived as disturbing because of both its sexual connotations and the negative view of commercialism and other aspects of modern culture; critic Paul Gambaccini stated: "The lyrics to this were truly threatening to an older audience. This song was perceived as an attack on the status quo". When the Rolling Stones performed the song on *Shindig!* in 1965, the line "trying to make some girl" was censored. Forty years later, when the band performed three songs during the February 2006 Super Bowl XL halftime show, "Satisfaction" was the only one of the three songs not censored as it was broadcast.