

Generation gap



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The first part of our life was ruined by our parents, and the second-by our children. Th. Scott A “ generation gap” is a popular term used to describe wide differences in cultural norms between the members of a younger generation and their elders. This can be defined as occurring when older and younger people do not understand each other because of their different experiences, opinions, habits and behaviour. The term first came into prominence in Western countries during the 1960s.

Although some generation differences have existed throughout the history, during this era differences between the two generations grew significantly in comparison to previous time, particularly with respect to such matters as musical tastes, fashion, drug use, humour and politics. During what was known as the “ Roaring Twenties” a large generation gap occurred due to the older generation having just fought in the war, finding it inappropriate that the younger were out at dance halls listening to jazz music.

The so called “ MTV Generation” could also be considered a generation gap between older generation in the late 70`s and younger generation in the early 90`s. The gap was created by the reduction of recycled culture with the advancement of original programing on cable television during the later half of the 80`s, limiting the younger generation`s awareness of pop culture references that predate the 1980`s. Nowadays, older generation is thought to be independent, experienced, serious and self-sufficient people.

While younger people have their own subculture with distinct styles, behaviours, and interests. Members of this subculture often signal their membership by making distinctive and symbolic tangible choices in, for

instance, clothing styles, hairstyles and footwear. However, common interests, dialects and slang, music genres and gathering places can also be an important factor. When most young people hear the words “superior music” they immediately associate them with contemporary music act, such as Madonna or something like that.

Elderly, on the contrary, prefer to listen to classical music, because they find it eternal, delightful and tasteful one. Fashion is very important nowadays. Youth consider fashion as a synonym for glamour, beauty and style. For adult people fashion is not so important, that`s why their style is often outdated and out of fashion. According to the words by Henry David “Every generation laughs at the old fashions, but follows religiously the new”.

All things considered, there are so many differences between generations. However, people should not allow these differences to affect the relationships between parents and children. Even if you are lack of common opinions, interests and views towards life, it does not mean you don`t have to get on well with the adult or younger generation. Our life is full of more important things and values, that we have to treasure.