

Generational differences



Generational Differences Various individuals have differing characteristics and preferences. This draws influence from their generation bracket and the things and changes they witness while growing up. They view things differently and view other generations from a different angle. Naturally, the older generations tend to be wiser and more cautious compared to the younger generation due to the years of experience. The younger generation is however not as cautious and ventures into greater risks. The different ideas from the different generational groups can be useful if they work together and incorporate each other's strengths in their ideas. There needs to be respect, acceptance and harmony among the different generations in order for smooth progress to occur.

Various characteristics of my generation have enabled me to develop into the kind of individual that I am. Technological advancements have made things much easier such as travelling and getting information. I therefore believe that I am more knowledgeable on a variety of things based on the ease of access of information through the internet. The social life of Generation Y has also expanded through social networks and it is easier to have international friends. This means that communication is fast and effective through text messages emails and social networks and has aided in international marketing through these venues. The generation Y prefers management that caring rather than competent which is another unique factor.

Unfortunately, the other generations may view the ease with which my generation does things in a negative way. They feel that we are after instant gratification and do not care about work yet have high expectations in life. According to them, our generation uses cryptic messages and move from

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one job to another and therefore when assigned to a multi-generational work group the cooperation may not be well enhanced. However, I disagree with this view and believe that they have misunderstood the Y generation. This is because we not only focus on having work, but also working in a comfortable environment that respects and appreciates our opinions. The messages we send are simply short forms to save on time. They mistake our focus to get things done fast and effectively for instant gratifications.

The differences in opinions and judging on different generations, this may lead to conflict at work. The older generation may undermine the opinions of the generation Y because they believe that we are after instant gratification and are not focusing on maintaining one particular job. This would lead to a lack of cooperation among the different generations and in the end produce bad results. Instead of viewing each other as workmates, they may view each other as inferior based on the superior qualities of the generations they come from.

The conflict can however be resolved by maintaining an open mind and embracing the opinions of all generations. This will promote the growth of the industry, as the older generation will have wise opinions on the way to manage and direct while the generation Y will have more information on what is required by the generation Y that increases day by day. Increased mentoring and leading by example will also promote cooperation between different generations.

Work Cited

Generation Y- Changing the Rules of the Game. Retrieved from: <http://www.slideshare.net/accordtraining/gen-y-changing-the-rules-of-the-game>

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