

**Analysis of Student Generations adapted from Howe, N. and W. Strauss
Millennials Rising, NY, Vintage Press, 2000**

The Baby Boom Generation, Born between 1943 and 1961.

What historical events shaped most members of the Baby Boom Generation?

- Launch of Sputnik, "Cold War" Cuban missile crisis.
- Vietnam War.
- Assassinations: John F. and Robert F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, and John Lennon.
- Anti-war protests, Woodstock.
- Civil Rights movement.
- Space program, man's landing on moon.
- Women's movement.

What social dynamics influenced most of the Baby Boom Generation?

- 2 to 3 children per family.
- Families moved away from small towns and big cities, but revisited often.
- Beginning of suburbia.
- Mom's work was supplemental income.
- Growth in illicit drug use.
- Neighborhood schools, consolidation.
- Major role of religion in family life.

What new technologies affected the Baby Boom Generation?

- Automobiles in middleclass homes.
- The birth control pill.
- Mainframe computers.
- Television in most homes, plastics.
- Shopping malls.

What values are shared by the Baby Boom Generation?

- Rebellious.
- challenge status quo.
- get on with changes.
- question authority.

What are the ramifications for teaching and learning for the Baby Boom Generation?

- Show respect for their strong opinions by listening intently and reassuring.
- Avoid "hot button" words/phrases.
- Give latitude in assignments.
- explain difficult concepts through stories from real life.

The 13th, or Gen X Generation born between 1962 and 1981.

What historical events shaped most members of the Gen X Generation?

- Watergate scandal, Nixon resignation.
- Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and Challenger disasters.
- Fall of communism AIDS epidemic.
- Stock market downturn (1987).
- Desert Storm.
- Deaths of John Belushi and Kurt Cobain.

What social dynamics influenced most of the Gen X Generation?

- 1 to 2 children per family.
- 50 percent divorce rate, child custody issues.
- Mom's work essential family income.
- Latchkey children common, "blended" families.
- Single heads of households.
- Rise of European Union and Pacific Rim economies.
- Downsizing of corporations.

What new technologies affected the Gen X Generation?

- Calculators, transistors Computer games.
- Color, cable television' remote control.
- Push-button telephones.
- Personal computers, the Internet.

What values are shared by the Gen X Generation?

- Disconnected, fragmented, freelancers
- Inwardly focused, importance of personal benefits.
- Delayed emotional development.

What are the ramifications for teaching and learning for the Gen X Generation?

- Provide structure and support resources.
- Use charts, diagrams, and other visuals, including Internet.
- "Sell" them on the personal benefits of your point of view.
- Use popular personalities as examples.

The Millennial Generation born between 1982 and 2002.

What historical events shaped most members of the Millennial Generation?

- Decade of economic success.
- Oklahoma City bombing, Columbine.
- Princess Diana's death.
- Clinton scandal and impeachment.
- O.J. Simpson trial' Rodney King riots.
- Impact of Title IX.
- Attack on World Trade Center'Pentagon, and its aftermath, terrorism.
- Wars in Afghanistan & Iraq.
- Enron, WorldCom, and related scandals.

What social dynamics influenced most of the Millennial Generation?

- 1 planned child per family.
- Soccer moms, and detailed planning of children's futures.
- Fully integrated schools.
- Falling divorce, abortion, child abuses and crime rates.
- Increased security measures in schools, airports, and public venues.

What new technologies affected the Millennial Generation?

- CNN, MTV, and other niche channels.
- DNA testing, cloning.
- Electronic security devices.
- Cellular phones, beepers, etc.
- Artificial intelligence.

What values are shared by the Millennial Generation?

- Values-conscious.
- team oriented.
- respect for authority.
- race and gender neutral.

What are the ramifications for teaching and learning for the Millennial Generation?

- Lecture only to establish parameters then listen intently.
- Infuse technology whenever possible, e.g., e-mail and Internet.
- Stress the ethical aspects of your point of view.
- Use service learning strategies.