

How Is Your Generation Different?

Key Vocabulary Words

1. Left and right
2. To take a route
3. Bottom of the barrel
4. Glass ceiling
5. To give someone credit
6. To make strides
7. Bright future

Lindsay: Okay. Hey guys. How are you doing today?

Female: Good.

Female: Great.

Female: Wonderful.

Lindsay: Thanks, thanks for coming. Okay

Female: No problem.

Lindsay: All right. Great. So what do you see as the biggest differences between the Generation Y group, so people who are in their 20's or 30's right now and Baby Boomers, (like) maybe your parents' generation,

people in their 50's, 60's, early 70's in terms of -- first of all in terms of career aspirations. What do you see as the differences?

Female 1: Well I know (um) both my parents (sort of) had this expectation that things would continue to be they were, the way they were for them, which is that you get a job and you stay in the same field or with the same company for basically your entire career, (um) and that is definitely not the way that it is anymore. (Um) I find -- basically everyone I know who's my age has already had a couple of different jobs or, (you know), they've stayed within the same career field, but have moved around to different companies in between and that's sort of the norm now, versus the way it used to be before.

Lindsay: Yeah, that's huge. I see a big difference there as well. Have you guys seen that difference also?

Female 2: I totally have. (Uh) in my job that I work in, (um) we do employment-based immigration petitions and so I have to list all of the jobs that the people have and I noticed a lot of different jobs that are listed and I – that was a news shock for me because my dad has had the – literally the same job for the last 26 years and I was really shocked. I was thinking - - this is the first, (like),

exposure that I had ever had to people having more than one job, and -- but I think that I'm probably going **to take that same route, the new route**, not the route of my father.

Lindsay: Probably a good idea.

Female 3: (Um) something that I have noticed, (uh), being a Generation Y is I was – I grew up being told that you can do anything, you can be anything, you should do what you love, not necessarily what you're supposed to do so, (um), graduating from college, I think (um) my generation, Generation Y, is looking for a job that is fulfilling and satisfying in addition to paying, and you know, satisfying in both aspects of life and I think that's where (um) a big difference between the two generations lies.

Female 1: I also think there's (um) a less, lots more less traditional jobs as opposed to my parents, a nurse, and my dad works in business and --

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but now there's -- even like this, there's (there are) start-up companies **left and right** in the city and there's (there are) all these new technology companies and all that kind of thing so there's (there are) so many more choices and it's not just limited to teacher, medicine, nurse, that type of thing is what I think of with traditional jobs.

Female 3: Yeah. And I think a lot more legitimacy (is) given to jobs that (like) 20 or 40 years ago really would have been seen as, (you know), really like **scraping the bottom of the barrel**. (Um) that,

(you know), people who make a career out of working in retail, or, (you know), similar fields like that, that usually would have been seen as (like) jobs for people with no degree or no skills actually (like) are highly skilled and a lot more (um), **just given a lot more credit** than they used to be.

Lindsay: Totally. That's true and I think the internet has played a big role. As you guys mentioned technology, the internet's played a big role in what's possible with our careers these days. And so like leading into that, the internet and the way your parents' generations uses technology, what are the differences?

Female 2: They try. They're trying. They try so hard.

Female 1: I actually know (um) one of the big differences- I've been trying for the past several months to convince my mom to give up her landline and just keep her cell phone because she doesn't really use the landline. She basically just has it for comfort because she's always had it and giving it up -- the first time I brought it up she was like "Why would I get rid of my phone?" And I was (like) "Well, you have another phone that you carry with you 24/7. It's literally always in

your pocket.” She’s like “But I can’t give up my landline.” So I don’t know, it’s just – I think that there are some of those (kind of like) things that have been staples for their whole lives, they would never really think about getting rid of them, even if there’s a better option out there.

Lindsay: Yeah, for sure.

Female 2: (Um) for my parents, (um), they explained it in a kind of interesting way. For me I grew up with technology. I grew up with the internet, with the computer, (um), and the way I learned to use the computer was by playing on it and just kind of clicking on things and figuring it out whereas my parents’ generation, they click on something and they’re afraid the computer is going to internally combust. So (um) (uh) the way that they’ve learned to use the computer has been completely different. So it’s been a lot more difficult for them because they didn’t grow up with that ability just to play on the computer so I think that’s a big difference.

Lindsay: That’s a really good point. Absolutely and it reminds me of the way we learn languages too. (You know) a lot of times when you become a near-native speaker, you’re just kind of playing around with the language and you’re immersed in it, but different topic. Okay and just -- we touched on this briefly before, but just the idea of (like) life goals, (like) what do you see as the biggest differences in terms of -- even like having a car or buying a home or wanting to have a family.

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Female 3: (Um) well from a female's perspective, I think (um) the world has changed entirely for women. (Um) I think that you have more options, (um), outside of getting married and, and college isn't just to find a husband, which is awesome. And (um), (you know), that there's a lot more opportunity for women and women are **making strides** and breaking the **glass ceiling** and, and, and things like that so, (um), I think for, for women in my generation, (um), **our future is looking pretty bright. So...**

Lindsay: Do you guys drive cars at

all? Do any of you have a car?

Female 3: Yeah, I do. Yeah, I have a car, yeah.

Female 2: I have a moped.

Lindsay: That's super cool. Wow. Do you have a car?

Female 1: I do. Yeah.

Lindsay: Okay. You guys have cars, but I've noticed a trend in the city, that fewer people, young people tend to have cars.

Female 2: I had a car, but I crashed it last winter, so now I don't have a car anymore.

Lindsay: Oh no. Oh no.

Female 2: But parking's impossible, so it's fine.

Female 1: I actually, (um) I used to have a pretty long commute so I used to need a car, so when my last car (um) broke down, I actually (um) had to (sort of) make do (um) with public transportation and stuff. (Um)

and my current car was (uh) a hand-me-down. I've never actually bought a new car. It's all been either (like) purchased off of, (you know), Craigslist, or (um) my first car was a gift from a family member, so, but yeah, no, I, I think that (like) goal, buying a car is definitely a goal but it's for something that – it's something that you do when you're already (like) settled and you have a lot of money to spare.

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Lindsay: Right. So a really different perspective.

Female 2: I actually bought my first car this past summer and it was the most scary and exciting thing I've ever done, (um), but I love it and it's my baby so, (uh), worth it.

Lindsay: Yeah. All right. That's cool. It's an interesting topic. I feel like could talk forever about this but (uh) thanks for chatting with me today guys.

All: No problem. Awesome.