

GENERATION GAP

М. С. ХАТЕТОВСКАЯ

Научный руководитель М. А. МОСАР

Белорусско-Российский университет

Могилев, Беларусь

Generation gap describes the differences in opinions, beliefs, and values between each of the seven living generations. The larger the age gap, the more likely the generation gap will appear between older and younger people because each generation had different formative events in their lives. The generation gap can be attributed to several significant factors.

Cultural Changes. Society transforms rapidly, leading to differing values, customs, and trends between generations. New technology, music, and social norms emerge quickly, making it hard for older generations to keep up.

Life Expectancy. With people living longer, there is more time for differences to develop. As each generation experiences unique historical events and social changes, their perspectives and lifestyles diverge.

Mobility. Modern society is highly mobile. People move frequently for work, education, or personal reasons. This mobility exposes individuals to diverse cultures and ideas, contributing to generational differences.

Technological Advances. Rapid advances in technology, including the advent of the internet, AI and social media, have influenced the development of our youth like never before.

Effects of the Generation Gap.

Communication Barriers. Older and younger generations often have different communication preferences. While Boomers might prefer face-to-face conversations or phone calls, younger employees, like Millennials and Gen Z, often lean towards digital communication like emails and messaging apps. This can sometimes result in miscommunication or feelings of being misunderstood.

Work Styles. Generational divides can influence work habits and expectations. Older generations may value traditional work ethics such as punctuality and dedication to a single employer, whereas younger workers might prioritize work-life balance and flexibility. These differing approaches can create friction in the workplace.

Values and Beliefs. Each generation grows up in different social and economic contexts, shaping their core beliefs and values. For example, Boomers are often seen as more hierarchical and loyal, while Millennials and Gen Z are more collaborative and open to change. This diversity can enrich a workplace but also lead to disagreements.

Technology Use. Older generations might prefer face-to-face meetings or phone calls. Younger people often use texting, social media, and video calls instead.