

# THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



## # 1491 Wait: Baby Boomers Got Something Right? — Part 1

Gen Z and some Millennials have long been critical of their Baby Boomer elders for some time, saying that Boomers had it easier than they did coming up, that things were more affordable and life was less competitive. I'm Jerry Roberts and strangely enough, the tune may be changing a little. I'll explain, next, on The Extra Point.

I caught wind of a "survey" of sorts that was run in the *AskReddit* subforum, where a post asked what younger readers would agree on with the Boomers. I am not a fan of Reddit, but the post got a ton of responses and the answers are worth noting.

Over 4,700 people responded and the most common problems mentioned by the younger generations were over-reliance on technology, the modern world's lack of human touch and how Gen Xers and millennials have raised their children.

We'll split the list over the next two days. In all, there are a ton of things that younger people are thinking the same way as the Boomers.

1. Videos in public. Surprise, some people don't want to be on a video. Just because it's legal to do it doesn't mean everybody wants to be involved.
2. Customer service from human beings. Wow, you mean people think it's better to get service from other people, and not a bot?

Also, train staff members to not only get the information needed to help me, but then to pass that information along to the person they transfer me to. Otherwise, I have to repeat the whole story.

3. Fix the audio in movie theaters so that the music doesn't drown out the dialogue. Yeah, Gen Zers and Millennials said that. Also, would it be okay if we take squirt guns in with us, so we can cool off people who think they're sitting in their living room and yakking away.

4. Bring back buttons in cars. Things are hard to adjust without buttons and automakers are getting rid of them. Buttons made it easy to change radio stations or answer a call in your car, without taking your eyes off the road.

5. This one surprised me — app overload. Yep, even the younger folks have had enough with having to download an app for just about everything.

One poster said this: "I was standing at a car rental counter at an airport to rent a car. While standing at the counter, with a customer service rep right there and not busy, I had to log in to their site, create an account, and reserve a car. Ridiculous.

6. Turn off the speakerphone. People don't want to hear your conversations, and they almost certainly don't want to hear what you think are funny TikTok videos at full blast.

To have Gen Z members say this is somewhat of a breakthrough, I think. Imagine, one day, maybe, we'll have relative silence when we find ourselves in a restaurant, doctor's office, and church. Oh yes, they do play TikToks in church.

7. Let today's kids have the freedom Boomer kids had. This one is interesting. One poster wrote: "A kid in 2024 should have the same freedom to exist unsupervised, and move about their community independently as a boomer did growing up."

Another one posted that the world is safer now than ever before, yet people are more scared than ever. He blamed the media for this.

I don't know about the idea that the world is safer today than ever. I suppose we could get that settled by comparing crime statistics in different eras. That being said, I sense that most people today, in Guam, feel less safe than they did five, ten, or twenty years ago. (Con't.)

We're talking about things that Gen Z youth and Millennials now say Boomers had right. We'll get into more on this tomorrow.

That's the Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3FM, the Ray Gibson Show, and First Hawaiian Bank, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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