

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



1492 Wait: Baby Boomers Got Something Right? — Part 2

Yesterday, we revealed a survey that showed Gen Z and Millennials were in greater agreement with Baby Boomers on several issues where the groups had battled. I'm Jerry Roberts and we'll get back into this, next, on The Extra Point.

Yesterday, we had the first seven things that Gen Z and Millennials joined Boomers and others on, including that making constant videos in public is not a good idea; that human beings should deliver customer service, not bots; that not everything needs to have its own app; kids of today are too sheltered; and everybody needs to use earbuds or headphones, and turn off the speakerphone.

Today, we add to the list.

8. Kids need to get outside more. Get off the devices, get away from games and online stuff, get their feet on grass and sweat more.

9. Stop being so sensitive. Many in our younger generations are triggered by what they perceive to be some slight or element of disrespect. Back in the day, it was said that a person had a chip on their shoulder.

Every generation has had to learn the art of agreeing to disagree, and Gen Z is going to get there. Another part of that is disagreeing without being disagreeable. Disagreeing isn't a problem. Being a pain in the butt while you disagree is a problem.

10. The behavior of children has to improve. I think this is less of an issue in Guam than it is back in the mainland. I said it's *less* of an issue here, not that it doesn't exist.

Once in a while I hear a teenager or pre-teen get snarky with a parent and say something that people in my generation would have gotten smacked for, or certainly had some privileges taken away.

Parents aren't doormats. If a kid will treat their parents badly, God only knows what they'll do

with the rest of the world. I think the majority of Gen Z kids in Guam get this one.

11. Pride in ownership and understanding the value of money. A lot of Boomers grew up with the knowledge that if they broke something, there was a very good chance it wouldn't be replaced. We took care of our stuff. That idea is taking hold with Gen Z.

Boomers kept fixing our bikes because new ones cost too much. You replaced soles and heels on shoes, rather than buy new ones. We didn't buy jeans with holes in them. We put the holes in ourselves through wearing them. Then, our moms would patch the hole so we could have wear those jeans to school.

12. Gen Z has less of an inclination to follow political leaders. That's a good thing, and I think it matches the growing sentiment of all of the other generations who are tired of politics and the empty promises of political parties.

Gen Z is less connected to politics, in general. Of those who do identify with a specific party or ideology, it would be Democrats in the lead, then independents, and Republicans third.

America, as a whole, leans to the liberal side more than the conservatives, but the fastest growing segment is clearly the independents.

About 30% of Americans reject the two main parties, and are free agents. Roughly another 10% say they don't know, and maybe don't care.

In case you're wondering, Gen Z will make up about one-sixth of the voting age population in the 2024 elections.

As people age, they tend to become more conservative, but it should be noted that the numbers for Millennials are very close to Gen Z. Gen Xers, parents to the older Gen Zs, are closer to Baby Boomers when it comes to political preferences. (Con't.)

So, Gen Z and Millennials have taken some steps to indicate that their elders were right all along about a number of things. It's a positive sign, and may lead to greater agreements in the future.

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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