MILLENNIALS: EVOLVING GENERATIONS, SHAPING EDUCATION

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One of the hotly contested issue nowadays involving schools and communities is the surging tide of generational demographic cohort also known as the Generation Y or the Millennials. This term may sound a bit strange or never heard for many, especially adults of different generations, but this indeed a talk-about topic (terminology) in the recent time whether personal, political, in economic and even in education. This reached its fruition during the birth of the new millennium or by that the year of 2000.

Defining the term, millennial is used to generally describe a person who born between the year 1980 and 2000 or those who had reached adulthood stage in the early 21st century. Indeed, there are many of us who actually not aware that we are in fact millennials or belonged to the era of Generation Y. However, there are still issues concerning the start and end birth dates of those categorized as part of the Generation Y. There were studies, various proponents/authors, and media documentaries which claimed and regarded that those with 1970s to early 90s as birth years are millennial babies as well. Perhaps, it may be challenging to determine the start and end birth dates of these persons, but allowing to identify this may help researchers to design tool which can provide an avenue to better understand with breadth and depth how the evolving experiences and social events interact with one another. Through these come up with a principle or build theoretical foundation of how an individual behaves or how an adult person view the world.

But in what particular aspect or manner it affects the implementation of education or of that the educational communities? The answer is very simple. It is because mostly of our
students nowadays be it in primary level, secondary, or tertiary are identified as millennial babies and they may affect in one way or another the education being offered within the country.

A concrete example of this is how a millennial learner views or perceives learning, technology, and social media. A person who is not categorized as generation y may regard learning or education with books, libraries, encyclopedias, almanacs, card catalogues, manipulatives, dioramas, lectures, puzzles and the like. While a millennial learner may view learning in terms of e-books, internet, netbook, computers, laptops, Youtube, Google and more? Another comparison is how these groups of people view economy or work in particular. A non-millennial person may regard work as body-driven or by utilizing your physical state. On the other hand, millennials perceives work as technology-driven; everything will workout with the help of technology. Still, similarities also exist between millennials and those who were not millennials. Traditions, customs, beliefs, and norms are continuously passed down from generation to generation so it is expected that they perceive this equally and similarly.

References:

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