Generations Gaps- Issues and Challenges

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Abstract: Bridging the generation gap between parent and children is essential. Parents often contribute their share in digging gap between parents and children by pushing the kid's beyond their limits. This happens in two ways. Parents either demands higher than the limits of the child or pushes the child beyond the economical or social limits of parents themselves. This, in future, makes the child going astray from the lifestyle and status of parents. The present paper is an attempt to find out the reasons of Generation Gap. It has been observed that as the parents fussy with the behavior of the children, arguments convert into disputes and there is a high degree of disagreement between how adult children and their parents view their relationship. There are a number of other factors that affect the generations; the strongest and most consistent predictors are sex, age, child's marital status, and residential proximity.
Keywords: generation gap, parents, children

Introduction

There always has been generation gap has its impact since the dawn of advancement. Generation Gap is also affected by upbringing, lifestyle and realize in their achievements and psychology. There is significantly uproar erect by the elders and the young they criticize each other for and deplore this situation. Old people behave similar to a toad in the well. They are completely satisfied with their suggestions. They shrug off mandatory aspect that is no longer valid in contemporary world[1]. The senior age group does not modify their attitudes for young. They consider them as kids which creates rebelliousness in the young generation for seniors[2]. This separation begin in 1990s at the interpolate of cell phones, & intercom, television entertainment, Computers, etc. Both age groups are not similar in their opinions, priorities, viewpoint etc. The issue of generation gap creates negative consequences[3].

History of Generation Gap in India[3]

The generation gap introduced in 1920s but the real cause of that lies in 1950s when the soldiers returned from the wars and had joined their families. The veterans faced tough environment that's why they despise the youth who were extremely affected by rock culture. Beside that in 1980s at the origin of telecasting age, sputter etc. overcome the new generation entirely very much off from their seniors. At the earlier in the 1920s, the ménage in India reside by unquestionable directives. Almost the families were poor, many another were from the sovereign, & the leftover was quite well off.

As time go forward (nearby 1950s and 60s), India had just got freedom & growth was in the crib. Western lifestyle had acquired by Indians. The senior age group at that time, having vigorous devotion towards own country, highly abominate the current media of amusement. There is an additional ground for aforesaid was that a large number of populations had moved to the advance cities (Mumbai, Calcutta, etc.) and there was a intense hindrance between the burgess & the rustic. The youngster was obviously fascinated towards the vitality of city.

This caused the lifestyle of peoples has converted desperately. The elders gave priority to traditional way of working and thinking. Besides that youngster disgruntled with the constant condemnation of the seniors, having dependency of alcoholic drink, smoking, and other substances[4]. They move up towards rapid and adventurous life, whereas the elders promote the healthy, unflagging and well balanced lifestyle. Similarly other elements as globalism, development in inter communications also generate space between generation.

Factors affecting generation gap:
Social Expectation

Both generations expects from other generation to behave like them. The elders progressively have a great collection of complaints hostile the youngsters and the youngsters usually prone to shrug off the protestation of the senior age group.

The difference among the expectations of the two produces age bias [5].

Economic development

Realizing the need for mitigating the problem of unemployment, young generation has to depart far away. In that situation they neglect the responsibility towards their elders.

Let us understand stubble distinction between modern and traditional generation in the word of 'Sri Satya Sai Baba' when you walk you use both feet and not one. It must be same here. Modern generation must focus on their development, it can be economically, socially or whatever but at the same time they should have a positive attitude and to give due regards to their elders[6].

Distinct attitude

Both generations have distinct attitude as they have different likes, dislikes and frequency of thought flow. Traditional generation like books, classical music, walk with friends and family and believes in reuse of used products. But modern generation prefers to spend time at social sites, pop music, at night parties, and long drive etc. Both have different taste for musical taste, fashion, marriage, food habits, culture and politics etc.

Traditional generation is likely to have observed these differences in modern generation. These are
- Work ethics
- Regard for others
- Governmental observation
- Opinion about dissimilar breed
- Spiritual faith [6]

Communication gap

Usually, the parents are matured, have not sympathized with the transforming moral principles and way of thinking of the contemporary society.

Education

The most important difference is the Education which leads to job, money, living style and reputation. In modern generation, we have all the facilities and opportunities to get education and learn more and more. There are so many schools, colleges and universities that help us to achieve our educational goals. And which ultimately lead us to have a brightening and successful future.

But in traditional generation, they get education to understand life not only to get educational goals, job, money etc.

Technology

Today, there is revolution in technology in every field it may be computers, other electronic gadgets, science or any other field. These days our lives have become more dependent on machines and we all have become lethargic as compared to our parents who used to do most of their regular tasks themselves and stay active.

Kids be in the habit of expend maximum of their time along electronic gadgets and social media that they do not explore their issues with their parents. The internet deliver way out to majority of the globally issues[7].

Review of Related Literature[8]

The review of literature gives a outlook about the research Gap in the existing research. It also strengthens the theoretical base of research study.

Crandall et al. [7] in their research highlighted that parental factor and child rearing techniques are very important in shaping the cognitive development of children. They further stressed that Parental practices which engender emotional security and low anxiety, independence and high internalized goals for achievement are associated with accelerated cognitive development. Mothers who value achievement, set high achievement standards, and reward their children for satisfactory performance have boys and girls who have high achievement.

Marfatia [11]in his study stressed that absence of parental warmth, extra rigidity, over control attitude generally of father, continual arguments between their parents, isolation and absence of entertainment channels are some of the reasons responsible for imbalance among the youngster in many field.

Barren and Earls [12] in their study focused that adverse parent-child dealings and great family pressure are connected with fussy conduct of children. Adverse parent-child dealings embrace low parental love and attachment.

Hurlock [13] in his study observed that parents are good if they help the children but bad if they frustrate them. Children perceive mothers as having greater authority over them than fathers. Older children also perceive the mother primarily in terms of what she does for them. Basically parent child relationship is dependent on parental attitude. It may be that if adolescents perceive the parental attitudes to be favorable, the relationship will be better than when perceived unfavorable. It is probable that if the adolescent perceives the child rearing practices authoritarian, he will conform to their standard, but will harbor resentment, be defiant and willfully disobedient.

Thapar [9] conducted a study on value profiles of parents and their offspring and generation gap of the Indian urban, middle class parents and their offspring. Rokeach's Value Survey (Form E) was

administered. He stated that parents and the offspring had maximum concern for family, security, freedom, self respect, ambition, honesty, self control and helpfulness and least concern for values like salvation, mature love and pleasure, world of beauty, being imaginative and cheerful. While the value structures of the fathers and the mothers fitted well in their respective gender stereotypes, the children had imbibed an androgynous value profile, reflecting the respective role of both the parents in child rearing.

Objectives of the study:
- To find out the causes of generation gaps among various stakeholders
- To find out their preferences regarding use of technology source of entertainment
- To suggest the remedial measures

Experimental Section:
The present study was undertaken in Nabha city of District Patiala. The total population of Nabha city is 67,972 of which 36,528 males while 31,444 are females as per report released by census India 2011.Population of children with age of 0-6 is 6674 which is 9.82f of total population of Nabha. Literacy rate of Nabha city is 85.61percent higher than state average of 75.84percent. In Nabha, Male literacy is around 88.79percent while female literacy rate is 81.94percent.[10] Due to wide coverage area 50 respondents selected as Previous Generation of age which are divided in two groups (above 60, 40-60) and young generation of age (Below 20, 20-40) were selected randomly. In the present research, the researcher has collected both primary and secondary data. The primary data have been collected through questionnaire. For collecting information face to face interaction was made with the respondents. Whereas the secondary data collected from Statistical report of Punjab, journals, magazines , online sources and websites .The data collected has been analyzed in percentages.

Table-1 (Type of respondents)

	Gender			Type of respondents						Family			Priorities					
	Male	Female		Govt. job	Business	Student	Housewives	Private job and other		Joint	Nuclear		Younger	Elder	Friends	Life partner	Internet	
Below 20	13	3	16	0	0	16	0	0	16	11	5	16	6	6	10	0	4	**26**
20-40	10	7	17	1	4	6	0	6	17	11	6	17	6	6	6	2	6	**26**
40-60	2	5	7	0	3	0	4	0	7	1	6	7	3	0	1	3	0	**7**
Above 60	7	3	10	2	3	0	3	2	10	8	2	10	5	0	3	2	0	**10**
Total	32 64%	18 36%	50 100%	3 6%	10 20%	22 44%	7 14%	8 16%	50 100%	31 62%	19 38%	50 100%	20 29%	12 17%	20 29%	7 10%	10 15%	**69 100%**

Source: Personal prove survey

Table 1 shows that out of total respondents of 50 nos, 64 percent are male and 36 percent Females were engaged in different types of working areas such as 6 percent in Government job, 20 percent, were in business, 44 percent students, 14 percent housewives and 16 percent were in private and other sectors. In case of types of family 62 percent respondents lives in joint family and 38 percent in nuclear family respectively.

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Among surveyed respondents 29 percent had shown their priority towards younger 17 percent towards elder 29 percent towards friends, 10 percent towards life partner and 15 percent towards internet respectively. It is clear from the above that the priorities and preferences of every generation are contrast to some extent with each other. Their likes, dislikes differ from each other such as reading books, listen music, type of music, games, television, type of programme on television and use of internet.

Table-2 : Type of activity in free time

	Preference in free time							Open with parents		Spend time on internet					Use of internet					Frequency of arguments with parents				
	Books	Music	Games	Television	Internet	Other			Total	No use	<2 hours	2-4 times	>4 hours		No use	Social sites	Edu.	Profession		Once a week	2-3 times per	Frequently	Not at all	
Below 20	2	8	6	0	6	1	**23**	14	**16**	0	9	3	4	**16**	0	12	9	0	**21**	6	3	2	5	**16**
20-40	4	7	1	2	6	2	**22**	14	**17**	0	9	5	3	**17**	0	11	9	4	**24**	5	6	3	3	**17**
40-60	1	1	0	5	0	1	**8**	4	**7**	5	2	0	0	**7**	5	2	0	0	**7**	0	0	0	7	**7**
Above 60	0	1	2	6	0	2	**11**	7	**10**	8	1	1	0	**10**	8	2	0	0	**10**	2	0	0	8	**10**
Total	7 11%	17 27%	9 14%	13 20%	12 19%	6 9%	**64 100%**	39 78%	**50 100%**	13 26%	21 42%	9 18%	7 14%	**50 100%**	13 21%	27 44%	18 29%	4 6%	**62 100%**	13 26%	9 18%	5 10%	23 46%	**50 100%**

Source: Personal prove survey

Table 2 depicts that Out of 50 surveyed respondents 26 percent respondents explained that they don't use of internet, 42 percent use internet for less than 2 hours daily , whereas 14 percent use internet more than 4 hours per day . It is also found that among surveyed respondents 44 percent use internet of social sites such as Face book, What's App etc, 29 percent use for educational purpose and 6 percent use for professional purpose respectively.
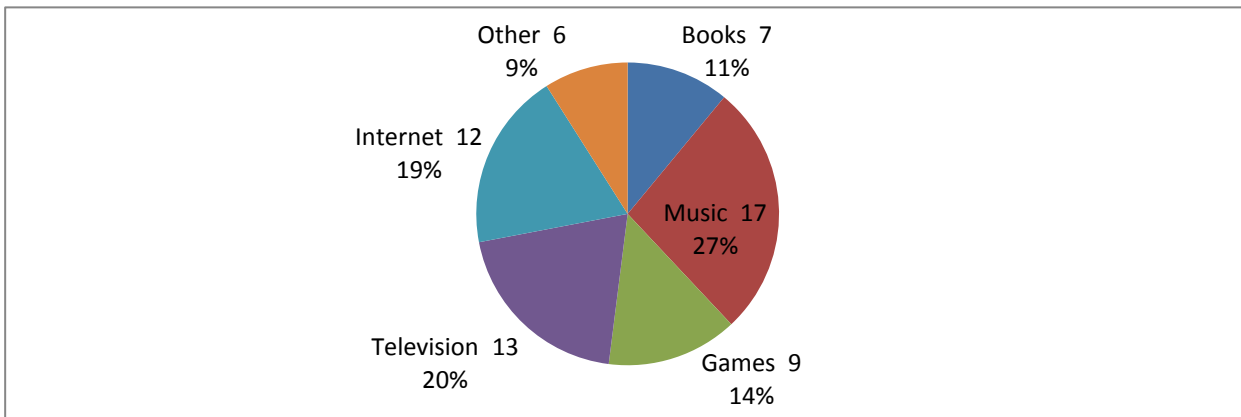

Fig-1: Preference in free time

Fig-1 shows that Out of 50 sample respondents 11 percent respondents told that they use to read books in their free time, 27 percent respondents said that they give preference to music, 14 percent respondents said that they give preference to games whereas 20 percent respondents said that they give preference to television, 19 percent respondents said that they give preference to internet and 9 percent respondents said that they give preference to others.
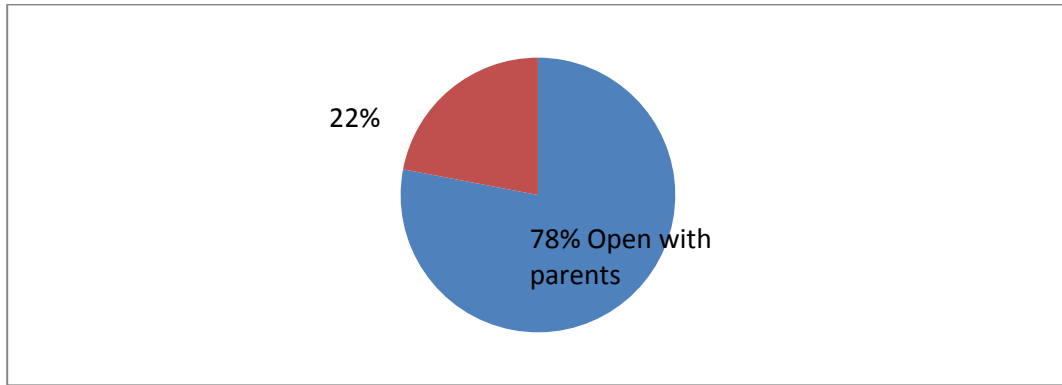
Fig-2: Open with parents

Fig-2 depicts that Among surveyed respondents 78 percent respondents said they can freely share their feelings, thoughts with their parents.
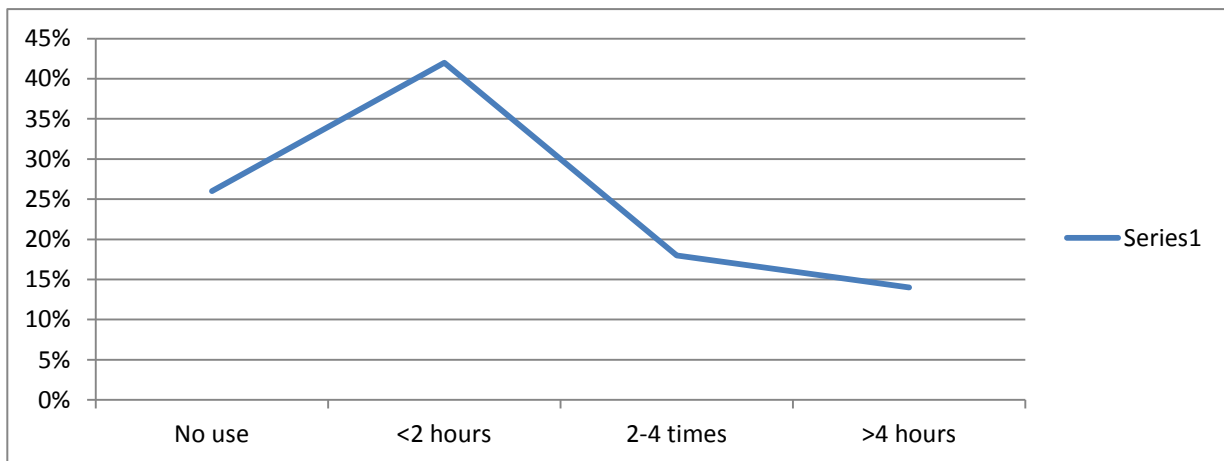

Fig-3: Number of respondents spends time on internet

Table -3: Frequency of generation disputes

	Reason of arguments						Frequency of generation disputes		Reason of generation disputes								
	Behaviour	Edu	Spend money	Friends	No			Total	Lack of respect	Lack of tolrence	Abusive lang	Diff. perspective	Diff approach to best	Communication Dnr.	Education	Rules/regulation	
Below 20	7	**12**	0	3	0	22	**11**	16	6	4	4	**4**	4	5	3	7	**37 48%**
20-40	12	**4**	4	0	0	20	**14**	17	3	5	0	**2**	3	5	1	3	**22 29%**
40-60	1	**2**	0	0	4	7	**0**	7	0	2	0	**4**	1	1	0	0	**8 10%**
Above 60	7	**2**	0	0	1	10	**2**	10	0	1	0	**4**	0	3	0	2	**10 13%**
	27 46%	**20 34%**	4 7%	35%	58%	59 100%	**27 54%**	50 100%	9 12%	12 16%	4 5%	**14 18%**	8 10%	8 10%	4 5%	12 16%	**77 100%**

Source: Personal prove survey

Table-3 depicts that Out of 50 sample respondents 46 percent said that reason of arguments with parents is behavior of youth, 34 percent said educational matters, 7 percent said that they don't like habit of youth to spend money casually and for 8 percent respondents give the reason of arguments are the friends of youth. It was also observed that among surveyed respondents 54 percent respondents got frequently disputed with their parents. In the answer of most important question of reason of generation disputes/ Gap was that among surveyed respondents according to 12 percent said lack of respect of elders, 16 percent said lack of tolerance in youth , 5 percent said use of abusive language for elders, 18 percent said different perspective of youth and elders, 10 percent said different approach to technology, 10 percent said communication Gap between both, 5 percent said education and 16 percent said rules/ regulation does not followed by youth.
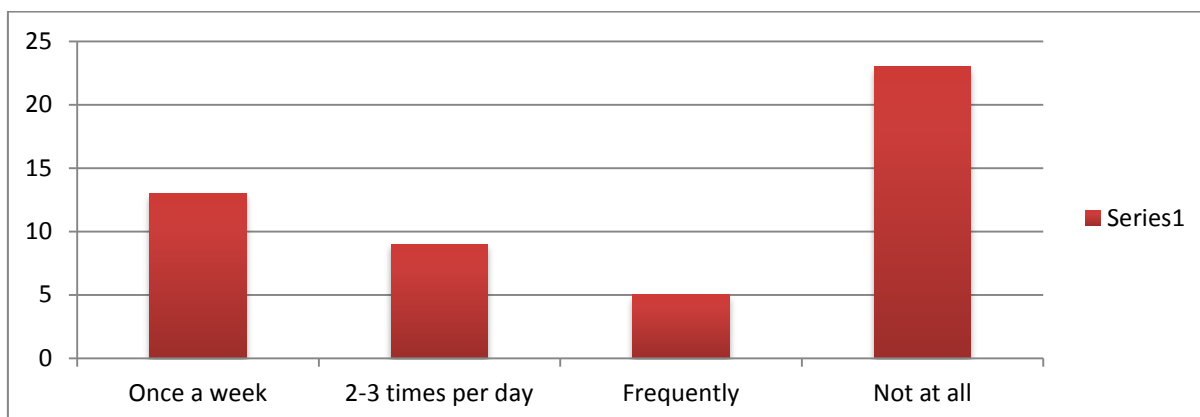

Fig-3: Frequency of arguments with Parents

In the field of study it is observed that youth give more priority to internet. They keep in contact of their friends on social sites (what's app, face book, Skype etc.) but they don't have any time for their parents. Frequency of arguments with parents of youth is more than previous generation.
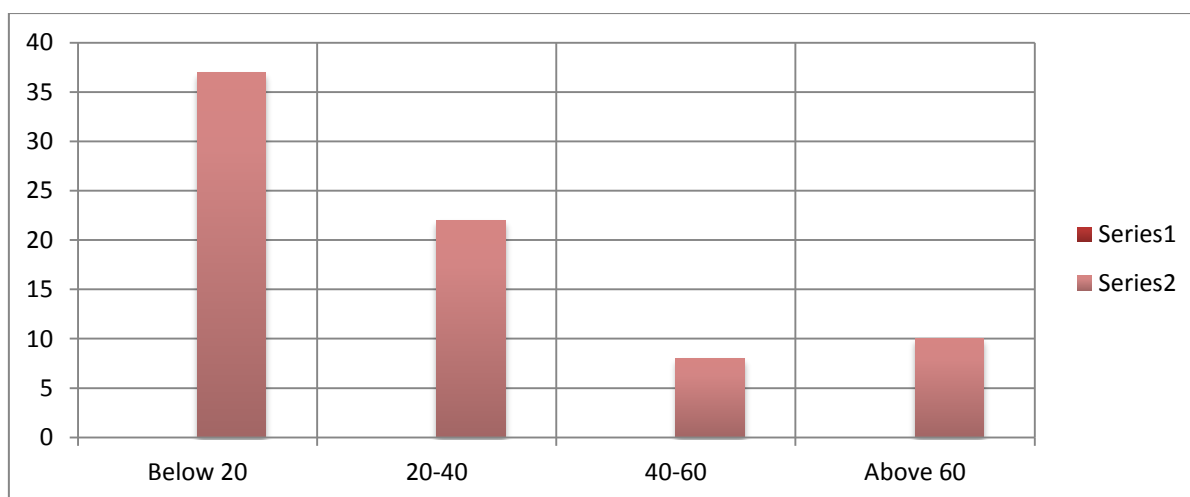

Fig-4: Levels of Generation Disputes

It has been observed that sometimes parent's fussy with their behavior of children, results in to arguments and converts into disputes. From the analysis we have found that generation disputes augmented day by day. It was also observed that parents don't take interest in their children problems. As result children draw the picture in their mind of parents as authoritative attitude, because of that the children develop psychologically barricade, separate from their parents.

Suggestions

- Misunderstanding among children be removed and parents should come up with the modern world. If children express his desires on the look or behavior or his/her parents, be ready to change for him/her, attitude accordingly. But monitoring of parents makes children feel oppressed and they tend to turn rebellious.
- Parents should know about the changed psychology of their kids as per their age. It is

suggested that in rapidly changing society provide constant guidance to their children be imparted.

- Government should make laws to provide human values and ethical education at school level to the children.
- Our media should focus on those serials which enhances our societal value system.
- The government should establish guidance and counseling centre in the district hospitals and Counseling of parents and children be done on regular basis.

Conclusion

Today's generation are born into a competitive world and have a struggle to get everything. Many a time their true potential gets overshadowed in the rat race. The issue of generation gap generates obstructive consequences and both generations already start to depart with each other cognitively. Due to psychologically conflicting discussions arguments about stupid phenomenon began to develop constantly. It has been found that which parents become too engaged with their obligations that they couldn't spend their precious time with their family and by this caused they left unfamiliar regarding growth and developed thinking of their children. Parents' burden, expectations of the society forcing certain careers up on their children as a result they are left lost and suffered. This ultimately creates a gap between them. In nutshell, we find that the Gap between two generations tremendously develop and both parties find it crucial to grapple this transformation.

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