

THE ABC'S OF GENERATIONS X, Y, Z

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From cradle to coffin, a single generation will move from creators of the future to the curators of the past. Each age group is experiencing a different chapter in American history, and offers a unique perspective sculpted by their individual blend of culture of years past and years to come. At Broughton, each generation, from the Traditionalists, born before the year 1945, to Generation Z, born 1996 and after, are represented among the diverse ages of students and faculty. Together they form a melting pot of ideas, morals, and beliefs that overwhelmingly contribute to a creative and knowledgeable educational environment. A historical event might be a textbook chapter to a student, but perhaps it is a memory to a teacher. A current event may be a surreal, distant happening to a teacher, but perhaps it is the centerpiece of a student's life. Drawing wisdom, advice, and mentality from each is a generational foundation that stands true among the halls of Broughton. Abraham Lincoln once said "the philosophy of the school room in one generation will be the philosophy of government in the next". Now is the time, within these walls of learning, to seek out both the creators of the future and the curators of the past, and create a present enriched with harmony and wisdom.

TRADITIONALISTS - 1945

The traditionalists were rule followers - expected to graduate high school, whereas now, they'd be expected to graduate from college...and make more money than their parents
- John Rudder
"I never went to school with a minority student, both in college and in high school" - Clerical Assistant John Rudder.

Millennials (Generation Y) 1977 ↔ 1995

With the birth of Google and video games, and the deaths of 9/11 and Columbine, the Millennial Generation is fast paced, progressive, and digitally innovative.
This is the first generation to grow up with the Internet.
"My generation is very egocentric. I was raised at a time where everything gets a trophy and gets praise for how smart they are, not for what they are actually doing." - English teacher Erin Coonfer.

BABY BOOMERS 1946 - 1964

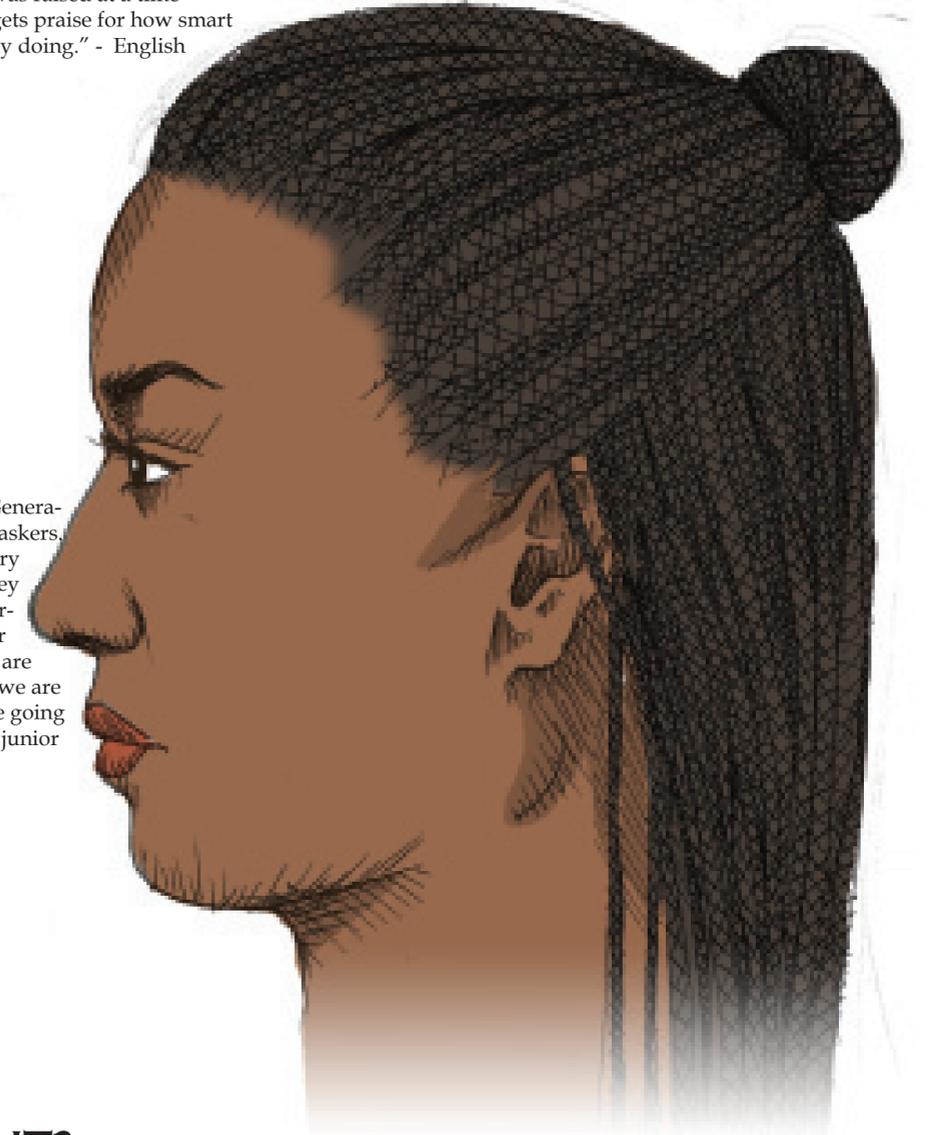
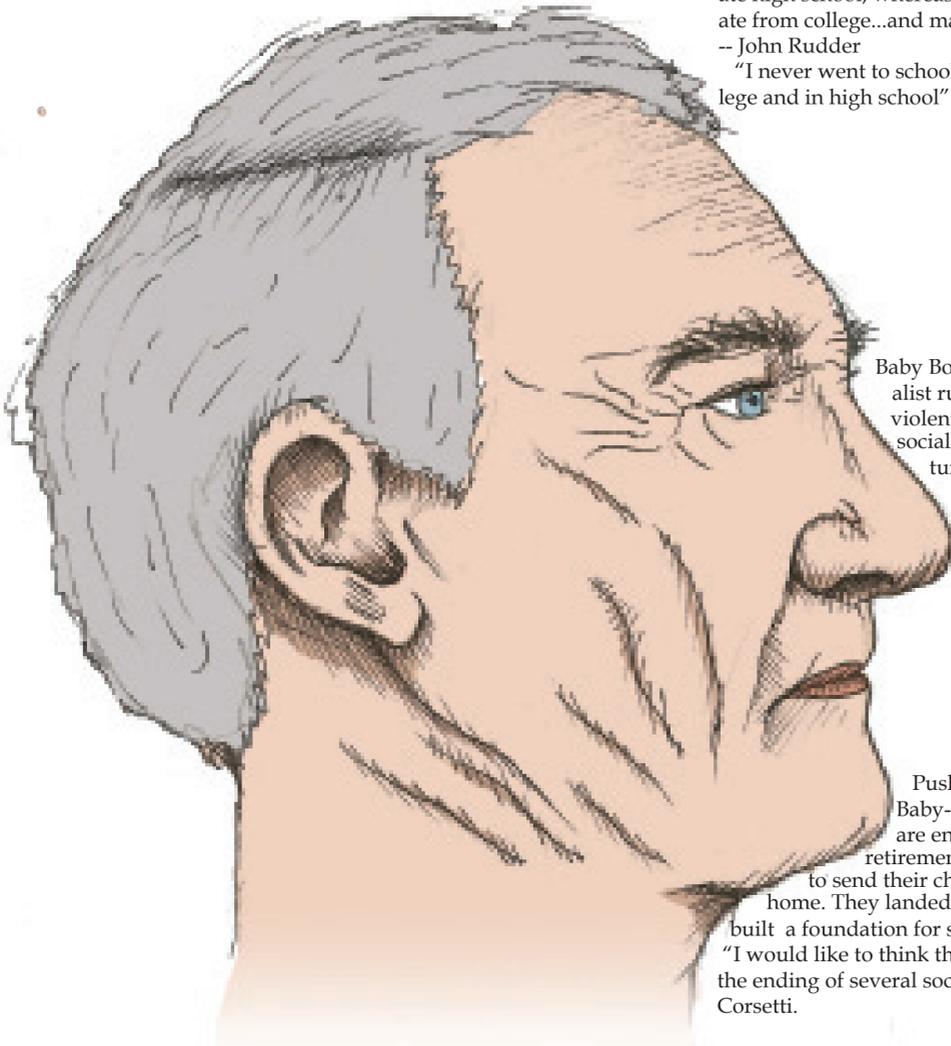
Baby Boomers stepped away from the traditionalist rule following, with both non-violent and violent protests and movements uprooting the social norms. "I don't like to see Americans turn away from our traditional values that have made our country very special." - media specialist Linn Ginsler.

GENERATION Z 1996 - PRESENT

The generation creating the future, Generation Z is volatile, adaptable, and multitaskers. Described as socially inept and hungry for gratification by past generations, they are actually focused and practical: determined to not make the mistakes of their predecessors. "I think a lot of times we are underrated you either hear people say we are too obsessed with our phones or we are going to change the world - why not both?" - junior Zoe Dion.

Generation X 1965 - 1976

Pushed towards adulthood faster than their Baby-Booming parents, Generation X'ers are entrepreneurs resigned to a life with no retirement. They are hard workers, determined to send their children to college and build a stable home. They landed on the moon, ended the Cold War, and built a foundation for social movements to come.
"I would like to think that my generation was the beginning of the ending of several societal issues" - chemistry teacher Dave Corsetti.



artwork by Camryn Darragh

WHAT MAKES GENERATION Z DIFFERENT?

On September 11th, 2001, four planes plummeted out of the sky, killing 2,996 people and permanently terrorizing an entire population.

The 9/11 terrorist attack infused America with an uncompromising, all-consuming fear, a fear that instantaneously affected every life, communication, and action in the entirety of the United States of America thereafter. That fear is a cloud that indefinitely presides over the nation.

Seventeen years later, the effects are being seen in the divides of generations. Generation Z, born from 1996 to present, is the first and only living generation to not know a world without terror. Defined specifically for this reason, Generation Z is cut from Millennials and all other previous generations, simply due to the fact that to Generation Z, 9/11 is a history lesson, confined to the two dimensional pages of a textbook, and to all predecessors, it was a life altering experience.

This causes a sharp contrast in attitudes - an American above the age of 22 "almost waits for them (terrorist attacks) to happen" said humanities teacher Chris Jones. Whereas, Generation Z overflows with desensitization baffling to those who look at the sky and recall the day where airplanes were deemed safe and so were their lives. As the creators of the future and the parents of tomorrow, the way Generation Z conquers terror will be a defining seam in the fabric of America.