

Boomers Need to Chill Out!

Written by Jacqueline Lawson
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How do you know if you are a boomer? Do you remember the Temptations? Did you participate in the Civil Rights marches? The Baby Boomers were known to be progressive. Black or White, the boomers were in the forefront of the civil rights movement and produced some of the most ground-breaking music ever recorded. Thank you. Now, Boomers are more than just Internet Savvy!

Internet Savvy - Defined as adults between the ages of 50 and 64, Baby Boomers make up one quarter of the US population. Eighty-one percent own desktop computers, 61 percent use laptops, and another 30 percent have smartphones. Twenty percent use tablets to conduct online transactions. So in terms of overall digital savvy, Baby Boomers hold their own.

Dangling without a Net - However, among Americans 50 to 64 years old, only about half have saved enough money to cover more than 16 months of expenses. That is a huge percentage of people who have to remain in the workforce because of a sagging economy. It also accounts for a large number who, when they lost their job, moved to the unemployment line instead of retiring; competing with younger adults for fewer jobs.

Hey 19 - What's so different? The language, music, and clothing are different from the geeky, conservative apparel of the older crowd. Dress codes have changed to suit the environment, so ties and panty hose are no longer a requirement in the office. Still, for those Boomers who have a job, it's hard for them to watch the younger generation not live up to the same standards, and work ethics they were taught to be successful.

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Moving Forward - Well, times are a changin! And I am glad. Boomers in authoritative positions have a tendency to expect more from young people, and over react to situations. Most young people do not know who Steely Dan is (Hey 19). Boomers are 'old school!' The Goodnews : the gap is closing with Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Linkedln, video, voice mail, gadgets and what nots!

Kumbaya Moment - We need each other for the generations to come, and to right a system that is broken, using technology to get us to the future! So let's all take a chill pill, understand we need to work together, help elect the next President by exercising our right to vote and build a better future.

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