

Millennium Generation _ Global Scenario

Prologue

The millennium generation are to the internet era that they have free access to plenty of information and advancing with every new technology coming up that they wish the teachers to come to their level to offer education through flexible designed environment for themselves. They have mostly both their parents working and since the global system is not to take into the consideration the computers on the saving of time that could be offered to balance the personal and professional life of the individual, the children, builders of tomorrow, find no one to care for them but have more sophisticated environment that they wish a system to take care of them which could be the teacher with whom they stay connected apart from their close sphere of influence. The recent studies all through the globe, registers the negligence exercised by them and need to be seriously addressed for the evolving special



Millennial are gamers,
they like to be
educated with fun,
they are multitasking,
internet savvy and
with high degree of
self esteem and like to
maintain individuality



courts for children and observation homes for the young criminals to the accountability and the depth is much beyond assessment. The education system should get transformed to mean its purpose to draw out the hidden potentials than literacy which deals with only the skills to handle alphabets and numerals to form a meaningful conversation. When literacy accounts for adults, the children need to be educated as ethics is to be instilled in to their programme and their knowledge is enhanced holistically to be confident to face real life situations. They are versatile and hence each one of them need individual attention and the social situation prevailing now demands each one of them to stay connected to their mentors beyond time.

This issue brings out the facts with the status, traits of the millennium generation and the learning environment to be provided to them to draw out their best.

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Introduction

Children are considered to be the wealth of the nation as they build the nation of tomorrow, hold responsibility of future development. As from the famous quote “As you sow, so shall you reap”, we get what we give them today. The materialistic, turbulent world today left them all in pathetic situation without due attention, affection and care from the parents that they become mischievous, notorious, trouble some to draw attention which is true for children of any age. Much attention has to be paid for refining the children with voluntary involvement in education that they become curious, innovative and creative that will make them confident and self supportive in the long run. When they become adult they will exhibit high values of moral, ethics with social awareness to transform to the world of oneness.

Needless to get into the grim statistics of status of children in global scenario, which could be found in plenty in the internet from authenticated departments, we shall see the practical qualitative

status as attributes of the children at and below the age of eighteen, how they grow amidst the turbulence, how they react and settle to form a character unique for them to be constructive or destructive depending on the experience they get all along in their childhood with or without due guidance of their parents. They find no mentors, none to share and spend time for them, care to hear their feelings that they are left amidst their own world and come out with what they perceive.

It is to be understood here clearly that mending is not to give them what is good and what is bad, but to make them experience that they define their own desires, set goals and refine them not to disturb other's personal space that the development will be complimenting each other. Every child is gifted, every child is unique, and every child has innate qualities. The problem arises when they are being compared and criticised to be one among the mass, imitating the one who receives appreciation. The fact is that every one deserves appreciation when they are motivated to perform and for the same, comparison is not the right tool, ranking and scoring is not the right tool, setting goals specific to individual and guiding them to attain the goals with their own strength giving scope for improvement and make them know what they can do and what they can change that they reach the goal in

their own pace. Voluntary involvement and not the compulsion mend them and they learn from everything which they do with their complete involvement and education too could be in the same way note merely transferring the literacy in a forced environment.

Qualitative assessment and consequent constructive criticism from the stake holders convince the children that they will reform their approach. Convincing is the way of approach to the child and no child can be scolded for any situation as it make them learn. Every child is special to their parents, and so to the society that they ought to be brought up with their own light of brilliance. Nothing by force and authority will bring in the changes to the mind but pretention to tackle the situation. The wide exposure on information and technology make them difficult to handle and parenting and taking care of children at school needs special attention and expertise these days.

Status of Millennium children

Analysing the status of children world wide we find two extremities as over protection to the children and leaving the children on their own , both are to the dangerous situation and must be balanced with due care. Standing on their own legs does not mean

they can do anything they wish and care does not mean the elders have to support what ever they do. They must be exposed well to experience different situations and they should compromise their traits, taking the guidance from the stake holders as parents, faculty and teachers that they come out to be outstanding in their expertise. There are situations in the western countries where the children were left on their own that they seek attention of any public or non governmental organisations and in the eastern countries where the parents are over protective to the children that they make them objects to live for the wishes prescheduled by the parents. In both extremities, the children do find their own job much above their ability to carry on their lives.

It must be understood that care do not change with poverty or prosperity. It is in how one gets involved in bringing up the child giving peace right from the beginning with convincing that he comes out with his complete potentials. The faith and encouragement make every one out standing.

The status of children between the two extremities are discussed here,

The population below the age of 14 years are undernourished and which leads to death sometimes on one side and there are over nourished children leading to obesity and related ill health in this young age too.

The children are left to take care of themselves and the children are much helped by the parents that they become completely dependent, the issues will be more complicated if both parents work.

The children do not get what they wish for their poverty and the children get whatever they wish for prosperity that there will be deviation for ethics and they emerge out to be adamant and develop a negative approach towards the entire system.

The children are mostly single in both the extremities that they remain aloof depending on the media for spending their time at home and develop aspergers syndrome in due course of time which is a status where they find it difficult to socialise and communicate what they feel.

The social influences to take a wrong path are more prominent as there is no monitoring and chances to be alone are abundant.

They have no time to think and refine themselves and their time will always be prescheduled with earning and scholastic activities in both cases.

Mostly every child is single from their family and every child wants to be on the front line by themselves or guided by the parents that they instead of enhancing their potentials use every other source to come to the forefront. This is seen in every stage even with the adults and is the reason for the corrosive emotions. They must be brought up appreciating their own skills and framing their future with what they deserve.

They do not want to be restrictive and informed, but want to be free with their own curiosity to move on in the direction to search information with self directive projects.

They want to maintain self esteem and wish to be respected for their dignity.

They respect not the resourceful person but one who shows care and takes interest on them.

They want choice for everything and they wish always to design their own options.

They feel they have the bounded responsibility to their parents and expect them too to fulfil all their desires which sometimes pressurises the parents to handle the situation.

They are absolutely computer and internet savvy and the difference lies in whether they get the opportunity or not. They learn things faster.

They have short time attention span with verbal conversation, where as they can attend to written scripts on the net hours together.

They always wish to be assured that some body is taking care of them though they do things by themselves. They seek constant

encouragement from elders and peers to the level of finding opportunities for the same which leads to flattery.

They always have the check on the information they learn is relevant to them or not, even in the curriculum that they get dragged to the irrelevant information on their own. The secret is in keeping their interest upgraded, beneficial to themselves and the society. But they must be trained to be media literates that what information is authentic and what not as the information on the same concept are plenty in internet that they ought to be given guided personalised learning.

They are fast in response and they do multitasking easily. They pick up advancement in technology that we need to shift incorporating them into education as smart phones, and internet for communication and interaction between them and faculty and among themselves as digital tools and the learning environment must be user specific and flexible to get the maximum output. The same for not being the part of their routine and connectivity to their mentors, for the fantasy use them to enter into illicit and unwarranted conversation wit friends and strangers, which is a dangerous situation.

They wish the elders, society to meet them at their levels and permit them to use the technology which they are familiar with, in learning to come up as unique.

They get involved more if digital tools are into their way of learning, they wish to get involved in social networking too online with face book, twitter and so on and hence if they are brought into curriculum, they can get connected to learning beyond time.

They wish the society to keep up on technology that they could appreciate them using the advancements rather than preventing them for want of authority. This builds gap between them that gave way for negative social influences and bring them closer on the journey to gain knowledge.

The triggered mind with fantasy will never remain calm to receive a command, rather it finds more ways to apply the learning,. To keep them engaged constructively is the prime task before academicians and certainly not providing them information alone.

The technological advancements in using the digital tools are to be appreciated and must be added to our expertise that they learn by assisting us. Hence the guided learning is essential and the class room teaching need to be replaced. When they remain on monitoring, they find more ways to escape, but when they remain connected, they behave ethically for the faith and trust.

They can form groups to support the education activity helping their teacher to enhance the teaching tools and they can apply their innovation to learn things in their own way that the output will be to their best and every one will have scope for creativity and appreciation.

Since the education system and life style today do not cope up with their changing need, they play a dual role for themselves and for the society which seldom meet together and are seen in face book and orkut profiles where you can find them as they are. They do not give out their best, but modify their output to the expectation of society both in personal life and in career. When they are stressed to the high level, they could not maintain their dual role that they burst ,evolve

under pressure , enter into psychic and many goes out of order permanently.

The refining is to bring the best and not squeezing them to reach set standards where they can not remain for a long for their artificiality and their balance is checked for psychological disorders. This is the reason why most of the soft ware engineers go out of way, extremities on recreation causing social calamities and get into psychic problems for the emptiness and peer pressure. The children now a days do not have choices of choosing the profession but to get into software profession for the extraordinary salary package that they sacrifice their self for the social repute demanded by their parents. This contrasting situation of they having plenty of choices, which gets restricted by their parent's wish make them loose their originality.

The opportunities available in the world are plenty and one need not go anywhere but can earn repute sitting in the living room through remote access on internet and this makes life simpler and meaningful. Resourceful personality finds access from anywhere though he remains silent minding his own job and this is to be inculcated where the average wants celebrity status roaming all around the world. The

children for the freedom to live choose western countries where the parents find their roots in the native and they remain separated for the rest of life which make them vacuum in the old age after a tiresome exhaustive routine to bring their children up in career.

Traits of the younger generation

They are diverse, inclusive, powerful, weak on interpersonal skills, activists, support social causes, expects immediate results and are impatient, active hands on learners applying new forms of technology, have high spending power and are close to the family and have strong views.

They focus on money as expected output from education for peer pressure and are driven enhancing their skills for the same and for this the pull downs and negative emotions and activities exist in the social life.

A more dangerous world has created an environment which is more sheltered and structured, and where young people have been protected that they have a closer sphere of influence. The small sphere of influence has contributed to the creation of a generation that is, in

general, pretend to be more polite and considerate, but they ever wish to go beyond boundaries to experience more.

They are pressured to succeed. The parents of younger generation pressured themselves to succeed and also transferred that pressure to their children. In addition, just as they have lived in a world where there was increasing competition for resources, younger generation too have been brought up to the same. The resources are plenty and the competition arises since they do not look to the front but on sides and behind as who are in the race.

They are involved. This is a generation of activists, young people who believe they can make a difference and instilling in them new ideas to face new challenges will be easy. There are students in my own experience who had come forward to spend time beyond college hours on web education, when the same has been denied by the administration.

They want the system to be fair and equal. This cohort often prefers to work in teams or groups. They definitely do not prefer hierarchy. Sometimes faculty finds the lack of authoritarian hierarchy

in their groups creates ambiguity when it comes to having a point of contact for information.

They are open and eager. Student are responsive and "very smart" according to some faculty who brings out their potential.

This group set the bar high for themselves and they, like their parents, expect success. They sometimes "expect" to get good grades and are upset when this does not happen. But can come up to the occasion, accepting the truth if convinced.

They are always stressed for the peer pressure, their parents and the adolescent to make themselves fit in the group especially amidst the other gender. Compared with five years ago, 81% of college mental health service directors in global survey reported an increase in students with serious psychological problems.

Pressure to succeed is one reason identified by some counsellors and this includes the gain of fame in the mass and among the other gender. Dress code is to be left to the responsibility of the students and all students are to come up as students in general beyond gender

based treatments to socialise as good citizens contributing to global cause.

The nature is so precise in providing what and when one needs and giving a pair to share the life ahead mindfully is in its hand and the unwarranted troubles and lack of attention in studies comes when the social influences forces one to find a pair which must be addressed seriously and curtailed for saving the individual of mental agony.

The grooming of self and dressing well is appreciating and honouring ones own self and is to be taken in that way and certainly not to impress others. They are all the forces that back up one in the adolescent stage but they experience failure when the back up forces wind up with life pressures in due course of time. True love and affection is beyond materialistic thoughts and comes on its own without the involved having prepared and expecting of the same.

Having a girl friend is like possessing a bike and cell phone amidst the college goers and need to be reshaped to be as they are with enhancing the innate potentials. This is more important as sex education refines the conscious mind which is temporary and many

times incomplete but giving a holistic education to involve the symbiosis of both genders for a focussed approach is conscience and once instilled will find phenomenal changes to issues threatening gender equality.

Appreciation of ones behaviour, gesture, posture, skills are common in adolescent stage and are to be accepted with pride for the genuineness and move further on to the idea of conversation than to get stagnated with body language to promote and to take it as a sign of falling in love. Every one must be ipsative, comparing his own performance with prior performance to find what their strength and weaknesses are relevant to every life aspects that they will not be preyed into flattery.

Accepting appreciation as a simple gesture promoting conversation to the objective finds the way to be a unique adolescent. Youth is the stage with enormous dynamism and energy which should not get wasted in unwarranted activities for which they need sufficient orientation. Giving them coaching to excel the entrance test is not a must, giving them a coaching to know who they are, is essential during

transition. For, intelligence is not in coaching but in how one gets transformed through experiences.

They are Multi-taskers. They can do more work at a time giving equal priority to all. This generation can easily manage to listen to music, work on the computer and watch television at the same time, and find connectivity to their learning environment too. This means they need a lot of stimulation in their learning environments and may be more focused than it seems to their teachers. They can be allowed with such activities if they are balanced and do not interfere with others freedom.

They are socially conscious. There has been a resurgence of interest in politics and social issues. Their blog and orkut postings show how they are inclined to politics and social reformation. The set back is they do not want to show to the involved, their concern even for they think their standard lies in the respect by words they gain. They feel getting respect from an unethical person is impossible for which they stay away and is not the right attitude of educated. Getting into their mode and deserving respect finally is the success. This needs a lot of courage and refinement but if practised, there will not be ethical

dilemmas as every human has mind if convinced will give up unethical activities.

Guided learning for the millennium generation

The teachers have to take better role close to each student not only to provide him information and knowledge, but to guide him to go deep into to the concept getting wisdom, take different tools of assessment to refine him to be ethic and holistically transforming to universal awareness to contribute to global prosperity. The qualities needed for the teachers are not only the professional expertise but the quality to bring out the best of each student in a way that suits him for better refinement. The guided learning for millennium generation must be to,

- ✚ Develop opportunities for experiential learning. Small group discussions, projects, in-class presentations and debates, peer critiques, team projects, service learning, field experiences, developing simulations and case method approaches have been found to be successful.

- ✚ Encourage the development of learning communities. Small groups of students who can discuss and analyze readings and assignments. This also addresses the need for hands-on activities in the classroom.

- ✚ Provide lots of structure and commitment. Having grown up in a highly structured world, they look for structure in their learning setting. They want to know precisely what is required of them, when work is due and very specific information about expectations.

- ✚ Provide lots of feedback. Providing frequent feedback is essential which allows them to know when they are headed in the right direction and when they are getting off-track. Frequent attention from teachers is expected by them constructively.

- ✚ Use technology. This is a generation that uses technology for "everything." A classroom that does not incorporate it, will not meet students' needs for variety, stimulation, and access to information. Some classrooms still require

students to study and learn in ways that, to them, are completely different from the ways they operate in every other aspect of their daily lives and they lack interest in learning.

- ✚ Make it fun as they want to enjoy their learning. If it is not fun, it will be cast into the category of "boring" and may become less effective. Millennial learn best when they are entertained.

- ✚ Incorporate games using computers as an instructional technique to improve efficacy. These incorporate many of the strategies that they have already developed for learning: multi-media sensory stimulation, interactive (either with other people or with the computer), individualization (customization) of the learning experience, and control over processing time, highly visual.

- ✚ Be relevant as they demand relevance in what they are learning. This will also want to "skip" steps in learning if

there are areas of the information that they have already mastered.

- ✚ Utilize their talents. This is a generation that likes to be useful and helpful. If you have students who know more about a topic than you do, let them talk about what they know. If they finish an assignment early, let them help other students to give their best.

- ✚ Present the big picture. Many in this generation are global or "big picture" learners. They learn better if they have the big picture and then learn more concrete and specific information.

- ✚ Allow for creativity and be creative. This is a generation that thinks in many dimensions at once. Provide opportunities for them to be creative in how they approach and fulfil requirements. Music, art, and games are good teaching tools.

- ✚ Offer multiple options for performance. Try to provide a variety of acceptable, measurable outcomes so that students can optimize their performance.
- ✚ Be visual. This group is the most visual of all learning cohorts and they prefer visual learning by nature which has been the reason for their quick absorption of concepts.
- ✚ Be crisp. Because they must be given a lot of time to interpret. They learn best when materials are presented in a well-organized and rational way. They are much more productive readers, so reading materials for them are not a stumbling block. However, materials should be clear, use lots of white space, and be visually accessible. Summarizing key points is very important for this group. They want to know where they are going with their learning - and why.
- ✚ Be smart. Unlike Generations earlier the current genera will not look at you with disdain if they feel they know more than you about a specific topic. However, they will expect you to be open to hearing their ideas and to demonstrate

competence as a teacher. To this generation being "a good listener" is more important than knowing everything.

✚ Be fair and transparent in assessment. They wish them to be convinced of the assessment and they will come up with enhancements quickly if they accept the changes are needed for them.

✚ Recognize the need for social interaction in its true sense. This is a key of learning strategies that incorporate social interaction which work well. Online sharing provides a wide peer group which can interact, contribute and suggest more for the development that the output will be the best of every student.

✚ Explore communication. Develop activities that encourage students to exchange information effectively. When they get convinced, the message is converted more quickly to long-term memory.

✚ Structure a learning environment that demands respect and positive reinforcement. Positive reinforcement, from teachers and peers improved learning and increases motivation. The discussion and arguments should be positive augmenting the integration and should not move to prove the ego of the individual. Online learning provides them noise free environment. Communication in writing provides additional check on the message being conveyed that emotions are refined to be positive.

✚ Bind every learning to actions. For some key information, students can increase their recall if there is a specific action linked to their learning of a key fact. The tools to provide link to have the facts in memory are abundant and once they get involved into the topic they will develop their own rules to remember facts.

✚ Think positively. Positive thinking stimulates the brain. It increases the likelihood of success. Reinforce confidence into every one that they are born with inbuilt qualities which are to be given out. They should get into voluntary

learning that they bring out the best. Force will not produce the expected results.

- ✚ Guide students to form clear goals, targets and purpose. They particularly want to know precisely what they need to do to meet the requirements of the class. This is not a lack of intellectual curiosity, but a desire to be efficient. Keep in mind that these students have been exposed to more information in their lives than the two preceding generations combined. They know a lot. For them, curriculum is one of the many ways to get information, and they are used to getting what they need or want in ways that are efficient for them.
- ✚ Allow focus time. The attention span declines after 15-20 minutes. Online web education permit them to have a break on their own as they wish as there is difference among the focus of each student and every one is important for the faculty.

- ✚ Interact critically. Interaction stimulates the brain, which controls higher-level thinking and decision-making. Social interaction is important to memory and learning which can be brought to the best by on line sharing where they do not hesitate to give out what they think which is impossible in a class room.

- ✚ Enhance procedural memory with movement. Procedural memory is stored in the body with respect to spatial and temporal intelligence. Relating the event with the environment is procedural memory and is easy to access and recall. That is why hands on experience or experiential learning always prefer their choice.

- ✚ Make learning relevant. Tie learning tasks to real-world problems to have better understanding on life. If it is not seen as relevant, there will be lack of interest.

- ✚ The efforts have been taken from the governance globally through human rights and right to know information, to form an egalitarian society with ethics and equality that

they prefer their future and set goals to achieve them. They should lead the life on their own as an individual without compromising the wishes for the public as a mass which has been exercised by the existing governance. The reforming of education must be in such a way that they become self sustained and cooperate others to reach their goals contributing to equal egalitarian society. When egalitarian society is formed, there is no need for governance but service departments which charge for the service and sustain and availing the service is to the option of the individual. This forms way for anarchy when there is no governance and people take care of themselves.

Egalitarian society

Egalitarianism is derived from the French word “Egali” which means “equal” has two definitions as a political doctrine that holds that all people should be treated as equals and have the same political, economic, social, and civil rights or as a social philosophy advocating the removal of economic inequalities among people. The global scenario of expectation on the student community is to have a civic which will contribute equally and they need to be treated equal in

which case the reservation needs to be eliminated in all the government procedures.

The theory as 'All men are created equal' put forth in United States declaration of independence and in Universal declaration of human rights as "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood". The admission and appointment procedure should now eliminate reservation for minority group as they have got criteria and eligibility to be met with, which could not be relaxed for certain people to relish the advantage by moral luck of simply being born in a specific community. With the increased number of institutions and the option to expand through online education, the intake can be infinite offering equality to all and the criteria is in meeting the set standards of the course.

The preference on caste will then be removed and the humanity will emerge out equally for availing equal opportunity eliminating the caste, religion etc. The reservation to women will not serve to give up gender differences and they are to be instilled in the minds of people. The equality specifies every human being has political right to be equal

and the reservation for women serves no purpose as it restricts the governance to be biased for women. Women have equal potential, emotionally stable and can come up in life on their own as every other individual. As the unique potential is found in every human, women are not distinct in their own way as weak, that they need no support but only way. Making reservation for women is not needed, but when a women candidate comes up to compete she must be given chance for her quality and competence. The great women leaders of the past and present in every sector did not come up in reservation but on their own. Every one in general must be treated with human dignity that enhances their own individual potential and come up.

Conclusion

The children of the present generation are left independent and to live on their own for the forced situation of both parents to work to lead life. In this scenario, the children come out to be curious, active with strong views that they need special efforts from the society to monitor them to take up right direction and convince to be cooperative and move up with team spirit for the common cause.

The children are multifaceted, capable of taking many jobs at a time and they are more prone to written organised forms of information than verbal communication and they lose attention after 15 minutes. This makes unitask, monologous class room teaching a way to be given out. Each student needs to be treated as special, and should derive appreciation that one to one sharing with web education becomes must to engage them voluntarily and enjoy education.

The concepts are to be given coated with fun that they interpret and relish the concept which will remain in their memory to be applied in different situations. They can set goals and design their future, work for the same to be reached and hence the society close to these generations has to play the role of achiever, connector, and liberator depending on the situation.

Till the idea is incubated they need to be achiever that they take a hard face to make them stick to the goals, once they set to reach the goals acquiring potentials, the society or the faculty become the connector to give them all needed to accomplish the aspirations and make them connected to the environment, when they master over the

skills they will be liberated to do what they wish that their output will be creative and innovative.

The era of consumerism throws open a lot of entertainments unethical to the children, and for the social disturbances and influences to provoke them to indulge in these things, the children will be trapped in to these habits. The situation is alarming that they need to be connected to the close group online always. The work environment to derive the advantage of computers would be scheduled to balance personal and professional life and bring up the children with their best.

Taking in to consideration the adverse effects of climate change the curriculum should be instilled with more real time components that they can spend time at home too. Beyond class room activities, making them engaged completely applying the knowledge into more of experiments that they gain mastery over the topic. The lack of interest due to the monotony involved in the class room teaching will be replaced by outdoor hands on experiences that both the teacher and student gain interest for the creativity and innovation involved.

Though the traits and teaching principles pertaining to the millennium generation are specified in general, the children show versatility in nature, which were not addressed for the lack of facility earlier and could be focussed now for the advantage of internet and the system need to be specific for each one that it brings out their best. They need a system for one to one sharing, web education promotes all feature prescribe here for the millennium generation and for the holistic approach to prepare them for the preferred future of positive anarchism where there is no law and every self will be satisfied.

Since the transformation is through silent media, they respond well and the same will be verified for output any time for the procedure that the autonomy offered is utilised to the fullest and the approval to the course and relevant procedures can be done any time online from remote and the system is transparent to the entire society that peer evaluation for the world class status could be to the complete information visualised through internet.

The gamer generation do not have the necessity to earn as most of their parents are well settled and they do not have the need to

compromise for anything that they live for themselves. They are committed to their parents that the same attitude be well formed if curriculum is altered to liberate them to gain knowledge with self responsibility. For the sake of not to score more for their existence, they mostly rely on their own performance as they are and celebrate even when awarded eighth that they need to be focussed to come on themselves to specialise, personalise for their self esteem and drive to establish individuality. This is the right generation to establish the ethics as they have no driving need to survive, but every speciality to live for themselves, that guiding them to have their own environment, and remain connected positively with peers make them good citizens to contribute better stake holders of tomorrow, and the routine restrictive educational environment certainly will produce reversal of situation more drastic for the wealth and power they have.

It should be construed that quality education for all do not depend on the education system we provide, but the education system the student design for establishing their uniqueness, to find more ways to prove their versatility and a platform to portray their development as their own projects as individuals.