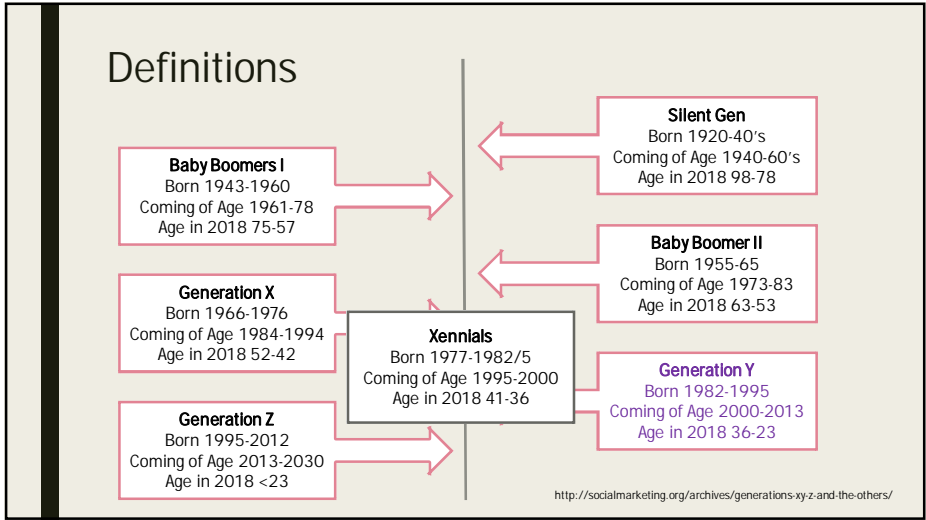


THE MISSING GENERATION

Revd Samantha Sheehan
Ministers to Young Adults (18-25) Project



THE OBSOLETES

A Generation Y child...
Taking his first steps.
Taking his first steps to independent living.

I love my internet
I'm a blogger
I have a blog
I'm a millionaire
I'm a millionaire

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1100710/Generation-Y-are-the-obsolites.html

I now pronounce you husband and wife!
You may update your Facebook status!

Internet addicts:

3hrs 41 min

37bn

The average UK adult spent 3 hours and 41 minutes online every day in 2014

We spent 37bn hours online in 2012. Social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter made up 22% of that time

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1100710/Generation-Y-are-the-obsolites.html

The Missing Generation and the Church...

The decline in church attendance among young people is continuation of a trend set by previous generations – which actually encompasses all types of institutional affiliation, not just religious institution. There has been a progressive atrophy of churchgoing habit since 1960's.

This means today there is neither the expectation that young people will go to church, nor a pattern of churchgoing for young people to follow.

Savage, Collins-Mayo and Mayo, 2006,
Making sense of Generation Y: the World view of 15-25year olds.

The Missing Generation and the Church...

A generation of young Christians believe that the churches in which they were raised are not safe and hospitable places to express doubts.

Many feel that they have been offered slick or half-baked answers to their thorny, honest questions, and they are rejecting the "talking-heads" and "talking points" they see among older generations...

David Kinnamn 2011
You Lost Me. why young Christians are leaving church...and rethinking faith

The Missing Generation and the Church...

The majority of young dropouts are not walking away from faith, they are putting involvement in church on hold...

... those dropping out of conventional forms of Christian communities, not rejecting Christianity entirely.

Most young people are struggling less with their faith in Christ than with their experience of church.

David Kinnamn 2011
You Lost Me. why young Christians are leaving church...and rethinking faith

Summary so far...

- The transition to adulthood is lasting longer
- There is an appetite for spirituality - if not institutional religion
- Life can be quite transient, which often leads to short term commitments
- Technology and social media is an important part of their lives.
- There is a desire to be engaged and challenged
- They want to take action, change the world and make a difference
- They need faith that is resilient.

How can we engage?

- Welcome
- Acknowledge
- Invite
- Be Authentic; Be Transparent
- Be a safe place
- Lean into God's presence

What does or could all this mean to you
in your context?

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Useful books

Savage, S; Collins-Mayo, S; Mayo, B (2006) Making Sense of Generation Y. Church House Publishing

Colin-Mayo, S; Mayo, B; Nash, S (2010) The Faith of Generation Y. Church House Publishing

Kinnaman, D (2011) You Lost Me. Baker Books

Catterton-Allen, H (2018) InterGenerate: Transforming churches through Intergenerational Ministry. Abilene Christian University Press

Barna, G and Kinnaman, D (2014) Churchless. Barna Group. Tyndal House Publisher