Judicious role played by three generations

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Abstract

These days with the increasing pace of modernization, the scope of evolution in the family relationships has been drastically affected. Family lost their bonding with members. Every generation thinks that they are right in their own thoughts and people of other generation do not understand them in a right way. Values and morals of the family becomes a past feature to young generation. According to young generation it is a ridiculous, orthodox thinking in present era. These kind of thinking slowly increase the gap among generation. Respect to elderly person in family is disappearing day by day which is harmful for both generations. Differences in thinking create conflicts among generations. So, the present study is conducted to assess the best role played by the generations in different aspects. Present study is conducted on 60 respondents of different generations (young age, middle age and old age) of Jhansi city and chi square test was used for data analysis. Results showed that young generation shows their first preference to themselves in different aspects like they are more innovative, modern, egocentric, rigid, doubtful, motivator, social, disciplined and adjusting. While old age generation choose themselves in positive attitude, devotion, moral values, unbiased, faithful, economic, rigid, doubtful, motivator, social, disciplined and adjusting. While middle age generation thinks that they played best role in some aspects like positive attitude, devotion, moral values, unbiased, faithful, economic, rigid, doubtful, motivator, social, disciplined and adjusting. Association was seen between role played with aspects like (Positive Attitude ($\chi^2 = .017$), Doubtful ($\chi^2 = .046$), Social ($\chi^2 = .042$), Disciple ($\chi^2 = .027$), and Adjusting ($\chi^2 = .010$)). The results concluded that middle age respondents were having positive attitude. They were more social, disciplined and adjusting in comparison with other generations while only youngsters were found in the category of doubtful.

Keywords: generation gap, young generation, middle age, old generation

Introduction

These days the difference between the generations has emerged as a problem in the society, which affects the family relations in both ways negatively. In the last 50-60 years, technology and science have made human life easier Torocsik et al (2014) states that young generation cannot be inference as uniform features. It also stressed on their confidence level for money, success as well as identity. Active usages of IT devices, mobile phones and social media was also made the circumstances different for young people. In present era lifestyle, social system, modern education and food habits etc. differ from older era. Recent technology provides comfort to people but also becoming a big cause for family distancing. Lawati (2019) reported that there is huge gap between young generation and their parents, and the reason behind the gap is use of latest technology, way of living, different personality factors and their beliefs about the way they work. Members of older generation expect from young generation to follow their values and norms while new generation wants to live life according to their own. When young people with new and independent ideology does not meet the expectations of their elders, then they become the reason for their disobedience, which creates the conflicts between the family members. Yu et al (2017) unveiled that when the child is born, the parents become their head according to their needs and responsibilities. After some time, children grow up, their needs and thinking changes, then they want to live their life with their own way. These kinds of things weaken and affect their relationships which also creates distance and misunderstanding between them. Parents complaints that their children do not respect them, the way they do. They did not go against their parents. But today’s generation does not want to listen. In this situation parents should not deal with their children harshly.
The elders should respect the thinking of the new generation while in the same way, the children should also give importance to the values and norms of their parents. Many factors are there which are responsible like communication gap, misunderstandings, likes, dislikes, different social life, food habits, daily routines, modern education, social media etc. There is a need for a solution to this problem; a bridge has to be made that strengthens their relationship between the new generation and the old generation without hurting their ideologies. A beautiful environment creates a peaceful scenario in the family which is not only good for healthy relationships with family members also for our society. So, the present study is planned to study the judicious role played by three generations related to different aspects and association between the opinions of three generations.

Methodology
- The study has been conducted in Jhansi city of Bundelkhand (Uttar Pradesh)
- Data of three generations have been taken (Young generation 18-40 years, Middle age generation 41-60 years and Old age generation above 60).
- 60 respondents of different age group taken as sample i.e. Young (22), Middle (19) and Old age (19).
- A self-structured interview schedule was prepared to assess the opinion of all three generations

Survey method was used for data collection.
Mean, Percentage and Chi-square test was applied for data analysis.

Results and Discussion
Results in table 1 depicts youngster’s opinions about the best role played by the generation in various aspects. Young people thinks that youngsters are modern (100%) followed by innovative (95.45%), competitor (90.90%) and inconsistent (81.81%). Few of the aspects like doubtful (72.72%), aggressive (77.27%), egocentric (54.54%) and patriotic (45.45%) were also seen among young generation. Shaban et al (2016) [8] confirms that there is no difference between male and female aggression, both are experiencing equal aggression. As per the youngster’s, middle age generation were having aspects like adjusting (77.27%), economic (72.72%), positive attitude (68.18%), devotion (54.54%), faithfulness (50.0%) and money oriented (50.0%). Some of the other aspects present were rigid (45.45%), discipline (45.45%), motivator (40.45%), unbiased (40.90%) and social (40.90%) among middle age generation. Data in table portrayed that old age generation played best role in moral value (50%), patriotism (40.90%) and Discipline (40.90%).

### Table 1: Youngster’s opinions about best role played by the generation

| S. No | Aspects         | Young Generation (%) | Middle Age Generation (%) | Old Age Generation (%) |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1     | Innovative      | 21 (95.45)            | 1 (4.54)                  | 0 (0)                  |
| 2     | Modern          | 22 (100)              | 0 (0)                     | 0 (0)                  |
| 3     | Positive Attitude | 5 (22.72)             | 15 (68.18)                | 2 (9.09)               |
| 4     | Devotion        | 3 (13.63)             | 12 (54.54)                | 7 (31.81)              |
| 5     | Egocentric      | 12 (54.54)            | 5 (22.72)                 | 5 (22.72)              |
| 6     | Moral Value     | 4 (18.18)             | 7 (31.81)                 | 11 (50.0)              |
| 7     | Inconsistent    | 18 (81.81)            | 0 (0)                     | 4 (18.18)              |
| 8     | Unbiased        | 8 (36.36)             | 9 (40.90)                 | 5 (22.72)              |
| 9     | Faithful        | 6 (27.27)             | 11 (50.0)                 | 5 (22.72)              |
| 10    | Economic        | 4 (18.18)             | 16 (72.72)                | 2 (9.09)               |
| 11    | Patriotic       | 10 (45.45)            | 3 (13.63)                 | 9 (40.90)              |
| 12    | Money Oriented  | 9 (40.90)             | 11 (50.0)                 | 2 (9.09)               |
| 13    | Competitor      | 20 (90.90)            | 1 (4.54)                  | 1 (4.54)               |
| 14    | Rigid           | 7 (31.81)             | 10 (45.45)                | 5 (22.72)              |
| 15    | Doubtful        | 16 (72.72)            | 1 (4.54)                  | 5 (22.72)              |
| 16    | Aggressive      | 17 (77.27)            | 4 (18.18)                 | 1 (4.54)               |
| 17    | Motivator       | 4 (18.18)             | 10 (45.45)                | 8 (36.36)              |
| 18    | Social          | 8(36.36)              | 9(40.90)                  | 5(22.72)               |
| 19    | Discipline      | 3(13.63)              | 10(45.45)                 | 9(40.90)               |
| 20    | Adjusting       | 2(9.09)               | 17(77.27)                 | 3(13.63)               |

Figures in parenthesis indicates percentage
Result in table 2 through light on middle age opinions about different aspects and best role played by generation. In this table, middle age persons think that they played the best role in most of the aspects like positive attitude (78.94%) followed by economic (73.68%), unbiased (68.42%), adjusting (68.42%), discipline (68.42%), devotion (52.63%), social (52.63%), faithful (52.63%) and rigid (47.36%). Equal percentage for moral value (42.10%), aspect was seen in both generations’ i.e. middle age people and old age people. As per middle age generation, they expressed that youngsters are modern (89.47%), competitor (73.68%), aggressive (73.68%), innovative (68.42%), inconsistent (57.89%), egocentric (52.63%), money oriented (52.63%), patriotic (47.36%) and doubtful (42.10%).

Table 2: Middle Age opinions about best role played by the generation

| S. No | Aspects       | Young Generation | Middle Age Generation | Old Age Generation |
|-------|---------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1     | Innovative    | 13(68.42)        | 4(21.05)              | 2(10.52)           |
| 2     | Modern        | 17(89.47)        | 2(10.52)              | 0(0)               |
| 3     | Positive Attitude | 2(10.52)   | 15(78.94)             | 2(10.52)           |
| 4     | Devotion      | 4(21.05)         | 10(52.63)             | 5(26.31)           |
| 5     | Egocentric    | 10(52.63)        | 8(42.10)              | 1(5.26)            |
| 6     | Moral Value   | 3(15.78)         | 8(42.10)              | 8(42.10)           |
| 7     | Inconsistent  | 11(57.89)        | 4(21.05)              | 4(21.05)           |
| 8     | Unbiased      | 3(15.78)         | 13(68.42)             | 3(15.78)           |
| 9     | Faithful      | 2(10.52)         | 10(52.63)             | 7(36.84)           |
| 10    | Economic      | 1(5.26)          | 14(73.68)             | 4(21.05)           |
| 11    | Patriotic     | 9(47.36)         | 6(31.57)              | 4(21.05)           |
| 12    | Money Oriented| 10(52.63)        | 8(42.10)              | 1(5.26)            |
| 13    | Motivator     | 14(73.68)        | 5(26.31)              | 0(0)               |
| 14    | Rigid         | 3(15.78)         | 9(47.36)              | 7(36.84)           |
| 15    | Doubtful      | 8(42.10)         | 8(42.10)              | 3(15.78)           |
| 16    | Aggressive    | 14(73.68)        | 5(26.31)              | 0(0)               |
| 17    | Motivator     | 4(21.05)         | 9(47.36)              | 6(31.57)           |
| 18    | Social        | 3(15.78)         | 10(52.63)             | 6(31.57)           |
| 19    | Discipline    | 2(10.52)         | 13(68.42)             | 4(21.05)           |
| 20    | Adjusting     | 1(5.26)          | 13(68.42)             | 5(26.31)           |

Figures in parenthesis indicates percentage

Results in table 3 affirmed the old age opinions about best role played by the generation. Equal percentage of preference for themselves was seen in some aspects like motivator, social and adjusting (63.15%), devotion, discipline and moral value (57.89%). They gave their preference to middle age people only for two aspects i.e. economic (63.15%) and rigid (57.89%). As per their views young generation are modern (73.68%) followed by money oriented (68.42%), inconsistent and competitor (63.15%), innovative and aggressive (57.89%), egocentric and doubtful (47.36%).
Table 3: Old Age opinions about best role played by the generation

| S. No | Aspects          | Young Generation | Middle Age Generation | Old Age Generation | \( \chi^2 \) | df |
|-------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|----|
| 1     | Innovative       | 11(57.89)        | 6(31.57)              | 2(10.52)          | .0        | 7  |
| 2     | Modern           | 14(73.68)        | 3(15.78)              | 2(10.52)          | .80       | 4  |
| 3     | Positive Attitude| 2(10.52)         | 8(42.10)              | 9(47.36)          | .017*     | 4  |
| 4     | Devotion         | 0(0)             | 8(42.10)              | 11(57.89)         | .139      | 4  |
| 5     | Egocentric       | 9(47.36)         | 5(26.31)              | 5(26.31)          | .027      | 4  |
| 6     | Moral Value      | 2(10.52)         | 6(31.57)              | 11(57.89)         | .010      | 4  |
| 7     | Inconsistent     | 12(63.15)        | 5(26.31)              | 2(10.52)          | .134      | 4  |
| 8     | Unbiased         | 5(26.31)         | 5(26.31)              | 9(47.36)          | .056      | 4  |
| 9     | Faithful         | 1(5.26)          | 8(42.10)              | 10(52.63)         | .017*     | 4  |
| 10    | Economic         | 4(21.05)         | 12(63.15)             | 3(15.78)          | .027      | 4  |
| 11    | Patriotric       | 7(36.84)         | 4(21.05)              | 8(42.10)          | .021      | 4  |
| 12    | Money Oriented   | 13(68.42)        | 5(26.31)              | 1(5.26)           | .046      | 4  |
| 13    | Competitor       | 12(63.15)        | 4(21.05)              | 3(15.78)          | .027      | 4  |
| 14    | Rigid            | 5(26.31)         | 11(57.89)             | 3(15.78)          | .017*     | 4  |
| 15    | Doubtful         | 9(47.36)         | 4(21.05)              | 6(31.57)          | .027      | 4  |
| 16    | Aggressive       | 11(57.89)        | 5(26.31)              | 3(15.78)          | .027      | 4  |
| 17    | Motivator        | 3(15.78)         | 4(21.05)              | 12(63.15)         | .027      | 4  |
| 18    | Social           | 2(10.52)         | 5(26.31)              | 12(63.15)         | .027      | 4  |
| 19    | Discipline       | 5(26.31)         | 3(15.78)              | 11(57.89)         | .027      | 4  |
| 20    | Adjusting        | 2(10.52)         | 5(26.31)              | 12(63.15)         | .027      | 4  |

Figures in parenthesis indicates percentage

Results in table 4 unveiled the association between opinions of generations. It was evidenced from the data that association was seen with aspects Positive Attitude (\( \chi^2 = .017 \)), Doubtful (\( \chi^2 = .046 \)), Social (\( \chi^2 = .042 \)), Discipline (\( \chi^2 = .027 \)) and Adjusting (\( \chi^2 = .010 \)). Narang et al (2013) [5] in their study portrayed that due to love and affection between family members, elderly interpersonal relationships found satisfactory. This group is highly respectable in family and society. According to Afriani et al (2012) [4], male adolescents are having social responsibility on high level in comparison to females. Authoritarian and permissive parenting style was prominent in families. Mackenbach et al (2014) [4] study confirms that harsh discipline in family increases the risk of behavioural problems in young children. Rehman et al (2015) [7] showed that adjustment was more seen in adolescents of joint family. The role of grandparents helps in development of adjustments of adolescents.

Table 4: Association between opinions of respondents with generations

| S. No | Aspects          | Young Generation | Middle Age Generation | Old Age Generation | \( \chi^2 \) | df |
|-------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|----|
| 1     | Innovative       | 45(75.0)         | 11(18.3)              | 04(6.7)           | .073      | 4  |
| 2     | Modern           | 53(88.3)         | 05(8.3)               | 02(3.3)           | .80       | 4  |
| 3     | Positive Attitude| 09(15.0)         | 38(63.3)              | 13(21.7)          | .017*     | 4  |
| 4     | Devoted          | 07(11.7)         | 30(50.0)              | 23(38.3)          | .139      | 4  |
| 5     | Egocentric       | 31(51.7)         | 18(30.0)              | 11(18.3)          | .383      | 4  |
| 6     | Moral Value      | 09(15.0)         | 21(35.0)              | 30(50.0)          | .864      | 4  |
| 7     | Inconsistent     | 41(68.3)         | 09(15.0)              | 10(16.7)          | .134      | 4  |
| 8     | Unbiased         | 16(26.7)         | 27(45.0)              | 17(28.3)          | .056      | 4  |
Conclusion
The above study explains the point of view for young generation, middle age generation and old age generation from the perspective of all three generations. It is concluded that young people tilted towards the modern life, innovative, competitor and inconsistency with addition of other aspects like doubtful, aggressive, egocentric and patriotic. According to young generation the middle age generation and old age generation shows adjustment, positive attitude, faithfulness, discipline etc. which seems to be lacking in young generation, similarly middle age generation which are contrary to their aspects also the old generation find themselves less innovative, less modern as compare to young generation, on the other hand old aged people found themselves less rigid and less economical in comparison to middle age generation. Consequently, the association was evaluated for all three generations, out of twenty aspects positive attitude, doubtful, social, discipline and adjusting were found to be associated with the opinion of all three generations.

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