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Millennial Searching

The current millennial generation prides itself in some of the advanced technological forms and aspects of life that the world before did not see, with more yet to be experienced in the near future. The fact that these individuals face the most recent dynamics of world situations in terms of the market and economic shifts and the need to achieve success in challenging times, prompts apt decisions and actions that spur judgment of their nature and behaviors. The millennials, therefore, exhibit different attributes, ranging from the consideration of meaning and purpose of life as well as the achievement of their own happiness through financial breakthroughs and family relationships.

Just as it is, the millennials are the most educated generation in the history of the United States due to the introduction of new technology and advancement in existing ones through the education systems and all sectors concerning human life. The fact that these generations of young adults have found themselves in a great economic recession forces them to face the worst of the situations that the previous generations did not experience in their youth. For example, the unemployment situation and the gap in income between those that are employed are so broad that it is obvious to see the differences in situations between generations (Smith & Jennifer 1). Therefore, these millennials should not be blamed for “millennialistic behavior” because they are prompted by the hard times they face. In my opinion, millennials value meaning in life; living to

achieve a specific purpose for which they think they were born for. In this accord, this generation of individuals find themselves out to help each other as they feel that their satisfaction stems from the welfare of others, rather than through material prosperity. These millennials often are interested in achieving the purpose of making a difference in life, which is in line with the current economic situations and serves to motivate them towards the development of their careers. They often embrace the mindset of meaning, looking for networking opportunities, lending a helping hand to others, as well as angle themselves to garner a much more purposeful existence. This, in turn, has resulted in defined advantages such as increased creativity as seen in the current times with the new inventions seen each day, improved performance in the workplace, and increased emphasis on the psychological well-being of these individuals, making them more engaged in the provision of services to the benefit of the common good and further attachment to their current roles and positions.

The millennial generation has changed the pre-existing ladder to success which had previously ranged from graduating from college to finding a job, to getting married, to starting a family, and finally, to accepting retirement. Millennials seem to develop without much thought about the ladder and the majority of millennials prioritize getting rich with whatever means necessary (Črešnar et al. 61). Often, college was considered a sure path to success in the past. However, today's millennials consider college as a sure path to end up living via their parents' couch as well as a means to gain loads of money in student loans. Since the rate of unemployment in the current economy equals more than double the previous rate, these young adults of the current generation struggle to fit in the society and fend for themselves. They find themselves in a situation where they are open to anything opportunity that comes their way,

without considering the means through which they acquire it or who suffers in their quest for happiness in this tense economy. These individuals do not want to risk it all while hoping that the economy will improve. They are endeavored to do unskilled jobs and some even get into social misfit activities just so they can fend for themselves while giving little to not care about the impacts of their actions on the common society. According to Stein (5), for most of the individuals in the millennial generation, there is a shift in equilibrium from the life with purpose and meaning in the common good to the life that is self-centered and focused on materialistic perspectives to enrich themselves so that they can fill in the gap that is created by the income between them and previous generations. The economic ladder is abridged to fragments with the current struggles of the economic recession and increased cost of living that prompts egocentric and self-centered behavior from these individuals

Accordingly, these individuals in the millennial generation simply outdated the concept of marriage and opt-in for new forms of family that were not common before, as well as just choosing cohabitation instead of the traditional married life (Credo et al. 192). The fact that every individual should focus on building his or her own home has brought down the economy to the ground, with individuals depressing their expectations and accepting a reality where there is no security in the employment sector or social security at retirement. The millennials, therefore, measure success by the degree of happiness. They gauge their success from their satisfaction in terms of achievement, be it academic excellence or financial and materialistic breakthrough, which is mainly considered and hoped for by many as the best success an individual could ever wish for. In a recent study by Okulicz-Kozaryn et al. (201), national authoritative figures and economists have advocated for the measurement of success by happiness in the current

generation to adjust and conform to the millennial generation's directions. As much as it would not be easy to gauge success in terms of happiness, the devotion to happiness and the determination to achieving it is possible through the valuation of output based on success.

According to Bergman et al. (709), success for the millennial generation has shifted from the usual business to the emphasis on "betterness". This dynamic shifts the hierarchy of fruitless consumerism and expectations from the society into one that paves a path focused on well-being, guided by the community, and sustained through a holistic approach. Millennials have indicated that with money, there is happiness. Their happiness and satisfaction are linked to stability and financial accountability. As much as some individuals describe their lives in terms of meaning and purpose, a significant number feel happy with their status financially speaking. In contrast, others have a generalized aspect on financial stability and the meaning or purpose to their existence, integrating the two components to become one and providing reason and logic to the insatiability of human wants that continue to recur each time. The systems of belief, as well as attitudes on the career, financial comprehension, relationships, and happiness of the millennials, are gauged altogether.

Happiness does not only concern the material and financial capabilities of this millennial generation (Yap et al. (1)). According to Giambatista et al. (176), the millennials consider life to entail their own happiness as opposed to prosperity in terms of financial and material breakthrough. To them, love and family hold a greater concern, with a substantial number not caring at all about money. Actually, a good number of millennials often struggle with debt, with some having troubles with meeting the expenses of healthcare as well as relying on family and

friends for financial support on a regular basis. Their awareness of the financial burdens bestowed upon them creates anxiety that surrounds their concerns for financial issues. However, these millennials indicate great strength and readiness in believing that they are going to find the light at the end of the tunnel through this anxiety and financial stress someday. The financial issues affecting these millennials draw them back from developing their visions. There is a general lack of trust that millennials face in terms of world investment and they prefer not to invest in the risky nature of the stock market, while some state that they would never put their investment in equities, barring them from investment and hence leading to greater financial stress and anxiety. Despite all of this, these millennials still enjoy their lives without being held back and thus find meaning in their everyday existence.

As much as the individuals in the millennial generation connect their happiness with the relationships they forge and experience, another motivational factor of financial satisfaction brings happiness to their lives. According to research by Suar et al. (11), the more involved the millennial generation becomes in terms of their financial performance, the happier they become. This statement is supported by how clearly the millennials have determined that being preemptive with their finance brings about great happiness. Varied financial involvement stretches from the assumption that active responsibilities in creating monetary objectives as well as achieving them can be rewarding. A significant percentage of millennials are engaged in saving money for future requirements and needs as well as after retirement. Similarly, a large portion of these individuals feels that they have their financial lives in the palm of their hands and feel in control while at the same time participating actively in setting and completing their own financial goals in life. In addition, an outstanding percentage can meet their monthly

expenses and billings. These millennials find saving of money and long-term investment valuable and, as such, consider the accumulation, protection, as well as conservation facets of financial planning to be key.

The significant and best cause of happiness for these millennials is the love and relationships they have with each other and with their families. As much as they consider a career as one of the major fulfillments in their lives and feel happy attending work daily, they spend time with their loved ones more specifically and contribute to their physical as well as the mental state of health. While being intimidated by financial stresses and anxiety, they find themselves happy in love and relationships with those around them. In the affirmative, spending time with their relations, experiencing investment, preferring alternatives to material possession, and achieving meaning in life by impacting the lives of other individuals, all contribute to the satisfaction of millennials. As much as money cannot buy satisfaction and happiness, involvement in the attainment of financial security is vital for these millennials and promotes a sense of well-being.

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