

Bridge the Gap Between Millennials and Boomers

"Team, many of you have probably read about the 'Ok, Boomer" meme making it its way across the Internet. For those of you who haven't, it basically stands for a younger generational feeling that older workers don't understand them and put them down by dismissing their ideas, when it's really the older generation that's the one that's out of touch. You can almost consider it a *digital eyeball roll* similar to when someone feels like they're being talked down to by their parents.

In truth, we all need to learn from one another. I've decided to a call a meeting like this today with no other agenda than to discuss ways that we learn from one another, pass wisdom and knowledge both up and down the generational chain, and find new ways of reinventing ourselves by acknowledging, addressing, and appreciating our differences.

First, I want to ask you to share what this feels like because you're actually living through history—this is the first time that four generations are working side-by-side in the workplace. (Actually, it's five generations if you include the Veteran generation that was born before 1945 and who are now in their 70s.) Second, I'd like your creative ideas in terms of how we can learn from one another, appreciate our different perspectives, and reenergize ourselves in terms of becoming stronger because of our differences.

Who'd like to begin in terms of what you've read or experienced on Boomers and Millennials working side by side, either here or elsewhere, and what these generational differences might feel like? Likewise, who'd like to share what we can learn from one another—whether Boomer, Gen-X, Millennial, or Gen-Z?"



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