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## Generation Z

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# Generation

~~Self-Absorbed~~

~~Unmotivated~~

~~Antisocial~~

~~Phone-Obsessed~~

~~Inarticulate~~

~~Unproductive~~

Z.

When adults gripe about Gen Z, they're usually picturing something like **this**.



I just wish they would get off their phones and DO something!

And it usually all comes back to that ubiquitous refrain...

(Which is ironic, because...)





WE  
wish

you would  
get your  
heads



out of  
the sand



BLACK  
TRANS  
PERIOD

TRANS  
YOUTH  
POWER!

AND



DEFEND  
DACA  
DEFEND  
DREAMERS



DO

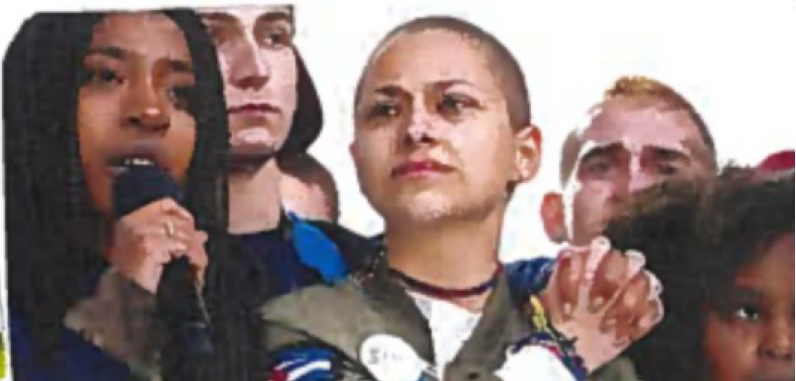
PROTECT  
RESPECT  
SUPPORT  
OUR  
ELDER

I AM  
THE  
NEXT

WE ARE  
AAPI  
WE ARE  
AMERICAN



SOMETHING!!



Generation Z has been the target of significant criticism. But stereotypes like the ones on the cover obscure the realities of our generation—ignoring our passion, thoughtfulness, and resilience. We've come of age during years when the word 'unprecedented' became a cringy cliché. We experienced a global pandemic during one of the most formative periods of our lives. Our mental health is on average worse than that of previous generations. White supremacy, cis heteropatriarchy, transphobia, ableism, xenophobia, and far too many other forms of hate have surged to prominence. Projections of the planet's future look increasingly grim. Yet when young leaders try to change things, they're too often given recognition, awards, and perhaps high-profile speaking opportunities that make adult leaders look open-minded—but no real power. And most young people are dismissed and left out of the conversation entirely.



"Unfortunately, we have once again witnessed **tokenism** at its highest. Youth were invited as speakers to the [U.N.'s Generation Equality Forum], but it seemed like we were there as **window decorations**..."

- Selin Ozunaldim, age 18



"When I arrived at **COP26**, I could only see **white middle-aged men** in suits. And I thought, "Hold on, is this a climate conference or some corporate event?"

- Magali Cho Lin Wing, age 17

**TAKE YOUTH SERIOUSLY!!**

"We the successors of a country and a time/Where a skinny Black girl/descended from slaves and raised by a single mother/can **dream** of becoming **president**/only to find herself **reciting** for one..." - Amanda Gorman, age 22



"[World leaders] invite **cherry-picked** young people to meetings like [the Youth4Climate summit] to **pretend** that they listen to us. But they clearly don't... Our emissions are still rising. The science doesn't lie... We can no longer let the people in power decide what hope is... **Hope** is taking **action**. And hope always comes from the **people**." - Greta Thunberg, 18

A lot of us are **fed up**. And contrary to all those stereotypes, we're doing something about it. If any of this resonated with you, we encourage you to **take action!**



**Educate** yourself, and try to keep an open mind to different perspectives and ideas.

**Vote** as soon as you turn 18! Make sure to vote in local and state elections as well as high-profile national ones.

**Call** your representatives! This can feel intimidating at first, but remember, it's literally their job to listen to what you have to say and take it into account!

**Advocate** for the things you care about by joining a related organization, attending a protest, submitting testimony, writing a letter to the editor, etc.

**Take care** of yourself! It's easy to get overwhelmed—take time to recharge and heal! ❤️







"This is the difference between earlier generations and ours: for us politics is life, for our lives depend on the form taken by our society."

- Gerda Lerner, later a trailblazing feminist historian, in 1939, shortly after being imprisoned by Nazis for five months at age 18

"Fight for your lives, before it's someone else's job."

- X González, March for Our Lives organizer and survivor of the U.S.'s deadliest ever high school shooting at age 18, in 2018

