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# Generational Transmission of Parenting Values: Parental Goals and Their Impact on Shaping Children's Personalities— from Baby Boomers to Millennials and Generation Alpha

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## Abstract

**Research objectives (aims) and problem(s):** The study aimed to understand how parenting goals have changed across generations, with a focus on the role of mothers in shaping children's traits. It analyzed shifts in parenting values from Baby Boomers and Generation X to Millennials and their impact on raising daughters and sons from Generation Alpha. Key issues examined included differences in parenting approaches between fathers and mothers and the evolution of parental values in response to societal changes.

**Research methods:** The study employed semantic analysis and Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) to investigate shifts in parenting goals. Data were collected from 402 mothers through an online research platform. Statistical methods and text analysis tools were used to identify the key personality traits valued by parents and their perception by adult daughters.

**Structure of the article:** The article is organized into several sections. It begins with an exploration of parenting values and their evolution across

generations. It then discusses differences in raising daughters and sons, along with the influence of parental goals and cultural factors on shaping a child's personality. The empirical section presents data analysis, while the final sections discuss the results and provide conclusions.

**Research findings and their impact on the development of educational sciences:** The study found shifts in parenting goals. Traditional values such as courage, often promoted by fathers, have been replaced by mothers emphasizing independence, empathy, and creativity. For sons, mothers focus on practical skills and independence, while for daughters, they prioritize strength of character. These differences reflect changing social realities and a growing awareness of gender equality.

**Conclusions and/or recommendations:** The study highlights the need for a holistic approach to parenting that addresses both emotional and intellectual development in children. The findings indicate that evolving parenting goals play a crucial role in shaping future generations. Further research is recommended to explore how these changes affect education and parenting, considering broader societal expectations.

**Keywords:** Parenting values, Intergenerational transmission, Gender differences in upbringing, Evolution of parental goals, Personality development

## Introduction to Parenting Values

Parenting values, such as honesty, responsibility, independence, empathy, and diligence, play a key role in shaping children's personalities and behaviors which affect their ability to cope with challenges and build relationships (Grusec & Goodnow, 1994). Cultural background influences the values transmitted to children, reflecting the diversity of norms, traditions, and living conditions, educating children in a manner consistent with a given culture (Hofstede, 2001).

The changing social, economic, and technological realities contribute to the evolution of parenting values between generations. Modern approaches emphasize independent thinking and creativity over obedience

and traditional gender roles. Such shifts can lead to intergenerational conflicts but also enrich the social discourse on upbringing (Twenge, 2017).

In the face of increasing diversity and pluralism, understanding the impact of parenting values on children's development is crucial for creating inclusive, supportive, and adaptive educational environments. Research in this field can contribute to a deeper understanding of the dynamics between cultural values and children's needs, supporting their well-being and development.

### **Differences in Raising Girls and Boys: The Impact of Social Expectations on Parental Approach**

Analyzing the upbringing of girls and boys reveals the influence of gender-based social expectations on parenting methods. Despite efforts to dismantle stereotypes, parents often shape children's behaviors differently based on gender. Girls are typically guided toward empathy and cooperation, which reflects traditional roles that may promote the development of social skills (Gilligan, 1982; Leaper & Bigler, 2004). Boys, on the other hand, are encouraged toward independence and competition, which can influence their propensity for risk-taking and preference for physical activities (Pleck, 2010; Eagly & Wood, 2013).

These differences affect children's development and personalities. Critically reflecting on these stereotypes is key to balanced upbringing, allowing children to develop comprehensively and free from gender-based limitations. Research into these differences helps determine areas of focus to ensure equitable development for all children.

### **The Impact of Parental Goals and Culture on Shaping a Child's Personality**

Shaping a child's personality is a complex process in which parents, guided by cultural values, impart desired traits and values to their children. Gurycka (1979) and Muszyński (1972) emphasize that purposeful

and conscious upbringing actions are the foundation for the development of character traits. Culture influences upbringing goals, shaping parental expectations and directly affecting the upbringing process. These goals, reflecting cultural values, shape key aspects of personality, preparing the child for life in society.

Parents use upbringing goals to convey values such as respect, responsibility, and empathy, which are expressions of cultural belonging and methods for providing children with tools for social functioning. This process, rooted in cultural values, is crucial for a child's personal development and adaptive abilities in society.

### **Changes in Parenting Values: The Evolution of Intergenerational Approaches**

We observe significant changes in parenting values, driven by social evolution, shifts in gender roles, an emphasis on individualism, and technological advancements. Inglehart and Baker (2000) note a transition from traditional to post-materialistic values, leading to more democratic parenting styles. Bourdieu (1984) indicates that values are rooted in culture and social class, emphasizing their connection to social changes.

Twenge (2017) and Bronfenbrenner (1979) highlight the impact of individualization and social structures on parental expectations and upbringing methods. Putnam (2000) records a shift in parenting values towards achievement at the expense of social skills. Foucault (1977) and Steinberg & Morris (2001) observe a trend towards supporting a child's autonomy.

Livingstone and Smith (2014) and Twenge and Campbell (2018) examine the impact of digital media on upbringing, indicating changes in expectations towards parenting and the promotion of digital competencies. Arnett (2002) and Kymlicka (1995) discuss educational challenges related to globalization and multiculturalism. Arnett (2002) introduces the concept of "emerging adulthood" in the context of globalization, illustrating how global cultural flows affect young people's values and create new challenges for parents in transmitting traditional values.

In summary, changes in parenting values reflect broad social and cultural shifts, requiring the adaptation of parenting methods to prepare younger generations for life in a changing world. Understanding this evolution requires an interdisciplinary approach that combines various fields of study.

### **Intergenerational Transmission of Parenting Values: From Baby Boomers and Generation X to Millennials and Generation Alpha**

In recent decades, generational awareness has become a key element of social, psychological, and educational analysis. Understanding the characteristics unique to each generation allows for better interpretation of family dynamics, especially in the context of the transmission of parenting values. This chapter examines how parents from the Baby Boomer and Generation X cohorts shaped the parenting goals of their Millennial daughters and how these daughters, now mothers, pass on values to their Generation Alpha children.

Over the last few decades, interest in generational studies has become a crucial component of social, psychological, and educational research. As noted by Howe and Strauss (2000), understanding the distinct characteristics and traits of each generation enables deeper insights into social changes, family dynamics, and the transmission of parenting values. This paper delves into how Baby Boomers and Generation X have shaped the parenting goals of their Millennial daughters and how these daughters, now mothers, pass on values to their Generation Alpha children.

#### **Baby Boomers: Foundation of Family Values**

Baby Boomers (born between 1946 and 1964) grew up in a post-war era of optimism, which often inspired strong trust in institutions and a belief in steady progress. Values such as teamwork, loyalty, respect for

authority, and the pursuit of economic stability were central to their upbringing. Raised in more traditional family structures, Baby Boomers often passed on to their children the importance of hard work, striving for security, and respect for hierarchy and social structures.

As described by Inglehart and Baker (2000), Baby Boomers' upbringing in a post-war period of optimism solidified their faith in continuous progress and respect for authority. Their approach to parenting, based on hard work and loyalty, reflected the societal expectations of their time.

### **Generation X: Independence and Adaptation**

Generation X (born between 1965 and 1980) came of age amid world-changing social and economic shifts. This generation is characterized by a greater skepticism toward authority and a stronger desire for independence. Their traits include adaptability, pragmatism, and the ability to cope with changing circumstances. In raising their Millennial children, Generation X often emphasized education, self-sufficiency, and adaptability to a rapidly changing world, while encouraging independent thinking.

Twenge (2006) describes Generation X as particularly independent and adaptable, a result of the need to adjust to rapid social and economic changes. In parenting, as Arnett and Fishel (2013) highlight, their emphasis on self-sufficiency and flexibility translates into promoting skills in children that help them navigate a changing world.

### **Millennials: Contemporary Values and Transmission to Generation Alpha**

Millennials (born between 1981 and 1996) are the generation that grew up alongside technological advancements and globalization. They stand out for their high levels of education, openness to change, and embrace of diversity. Values such as equality, sustainability, empathy, and work-life balance are particularly significant to them. As parents of

Generation Alpha children, Millennials strive to cultivate traits like creativity, collaboration, emotional independence, and adaptability, preparing their children for life in a rapidly changing world.

According to Howe and Strauss (2000), Millennials represent a highly educated and change-oriented generation. Their parenting approach, as Nelson and Quick (2012) assert, focuses on promoting creativity, empathy, and adaptive skills in Generation Alpha children, preparing them for life in a complex, global world.

### **Research Objectives**

The study aimed to examine how Baby Boomer and Generation X parents shaped the parenting goals of their Millennial daughters, and how these daughters, now mothers, are currently shaping values for Generation Alpha. Specifically, the research sought to explore how parenting values are transmitted and transformed across generations, which traits are prioritized in different historical and social contexts, and how the perception of the parental role evolves over time.

Drawing on the works of Howe and Strauss (2000), Inglehart and Baker (2000), and Twenge (2006), this study explored how parenting goals have changed across generations—from Baby Boomers through Generation X to Millennials—and how Millennials are now defining parenting goals for Generation Alpha.

### **Empirical Section Research Objectives**

The study aims to thoroughly examine the parenting goals promoted by parents, taking into account differences, evolution, and their impact on subsequent generations. Particular attention is paid to the following objectives:

1. **Understanding the parenting goals promoted by parents:** The study seeks to identify which personality traits fathers and mothers consider important in the upbringing of daughters, which parenting goals they value most, and how these preferences differ between fathers and mothers.
2. **Comparing the parenting goals of fathers and mothers:** The goal is to explore how the parenting goals set by fathers differ from or overlap with those set by mothers, identifying areas of common ground and divergence.
3. **Analyzing the parenting goals applied by adult daughters:** The study aims to understand how adult daughters, now mothers, implement the parenting goals inherited from their parents when raising their own children, focusing on both sons and daughters.
4. **Comparing the parenting goals applied to sons and daughters:** The objective is to determine whether and how parenting approaches differ depending on the child's gender, analyzing women's parenting goals for their sons and daughters.
5. **Understanding the evolution of parenting goals across generations:** The study seeks to examine how parenting goals are transformed, adapted, or rejected by subsequent generations, shedding light on the dynamics of change in parenting approaches.

In summary, the study strives for a deep understanding of the parenting goals promoted by parents, the differences between fathers and mothers, the ways in which adult daughters apply these goals in raising their own children, and the evolution of these goals across generations. The findings offer comprehensive insights into the transmission and adaptation of parenting values

### **Procedure and Sample**

The research was conducted via the USBO platform, where a survey on parenting goals was published. Two preschools from the Education Office list in each province were randomly selected, and parents



were informed about the study through the preschools' management via emails or announcements. Participants received online instructions detailing the procedures, survey duration, and methodology. Mothers were instructed to focus on one preschool-aged child to avoid mixing data from multiple children. The average time to complete the survey was 70 minutes, with response times to individual questions closely monitored.

The study included 402 mothers of children aged 3–6 years who fully completed the survey. The participants ranged in age from 21 to 50 years, with the majority falling within the 28–39 age range (the average age was 34 years). Most participants (84.8%), had higher education, which is significantly higher than the national average of 46.5% for women in this age group. Respondents mainly resided in large cities (43.8%), smaller towns (37.1%), and rural areas (19.1%). The research group was balanced in terms of the gender of the children, with a nearly equal number of mothers raising sons and daughters.

Most children (82.6%) attended preschool, while the remaining were homeschooled. Regarding family structure, 36% of the children were only children, 48% had one sibling, and 16% were part of larger families. Additionally, most mothers (82%) spoke about their eldest child, 12.2% about their second child, and 5.8% about their third or younger child.

## Research Instruments

The study utilized a modified version of the Discrepancy Scale (Szymańska) to analyze parental goals from the perspectives of parents and their adult daughters. This scale collected retrospective data, where women specified which personality traits were prioritized by their parents during upbringing. An open-ended section of the scale allowed participants to list three key traits that their parents emphasized. These traits were later rated on a scale from -7 to 7 in terms of their perceived importance to the parent and the extent to which the respondent possessed them.

Additionally, the original Discrepancy Scale was employed to assess parental goals from the women's own perspectives. Respondents listed three traits they focus on in raising their children and rated these traits on the same scale from -7 to 7. This scale enabled an understanding of which traits are valued by mothers and the extent to which they believe their child possesses these traits. Both scales provided insights into parental expectations and self-assessments of children's traits, enabling an analysis of the transgenerational transmission of parenting goals.

The Discrepancy Scale demonstrated satisfactory psychometric properties, including robust reliability metrics such as the intraclass correlation coefficient (ICC), construct reliability (CR) of 0.730, and the  $\gamma$  coefficient as assessed by Aranowska. These measures confirm the scale's reliability for research applications, particularly in analyzing discrepancies between parental goals and children's perceived development. Confirmatory factor analysis further supported the scale's validity, with fit indices such as CFI = 0.986 and RMSEA = 0.036, reflecting an excellent model fit (Szymańska, 2019).

### Data Analysis Method

The study employed semantic analysis, singular value decomposition (SVD), and text mining techniques to analyze data on traits valued by parents in the upbringing of daughters and the perception of these values by adult daughters (Szymańska & Aranowska, 2019).

**Semantic Analysis** was used to identify and categorize important character traits based on respondents' descriptions, revealing subtle differences in the perception of parental goals.

**Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)** facilitated the reduction of data dimensionality and the extraction of dominant patterns, enabling the visualization and interpretation of relationships between character traits and their perception by parents.

**Text Mining** processed textual data from respondents, extracting keywords and phrases for further analysis using semantic analysis and SVD. It enabled the identification of patterns, trends and allowed for a deeper analysis of valued character traits.

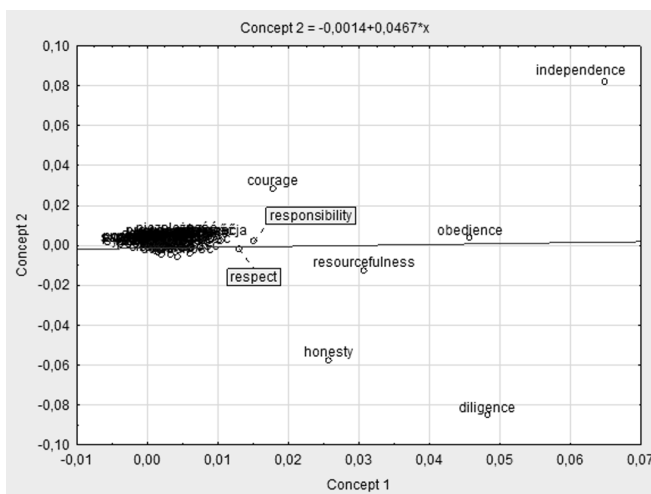
The integration of these methods, along with data visualization tools such as scatter plots, enabled a comprehensive approach to analysis and interpretation showing key traits valued by parents and intergenerational differences in the perception of these values.

## Results

### Semantic Analysis and Principal Components of Upbringing Goals Valued by Baby Boomers and Generation X Fathers in Raising Millennial Daughters

The study utilized semantic analysis and SVD, supported by text mining techniques, to identify the character traits valued by fathers in raising daughters and how these traits are perceived by adult daughters. Semantic analysis aided in understanding which traits are important to fathers, while SVD facilitated the visualization and evaluation of relationships between these traits. The scatter plot (Figure 1) illustrates how various character traits are perceived by fathers, with independence standing out as a particularly significant value.

**Figure 1. Distribution of Parental Goals of Fathers from Baby Boomers and Generation X Toward Millennial Daughters**



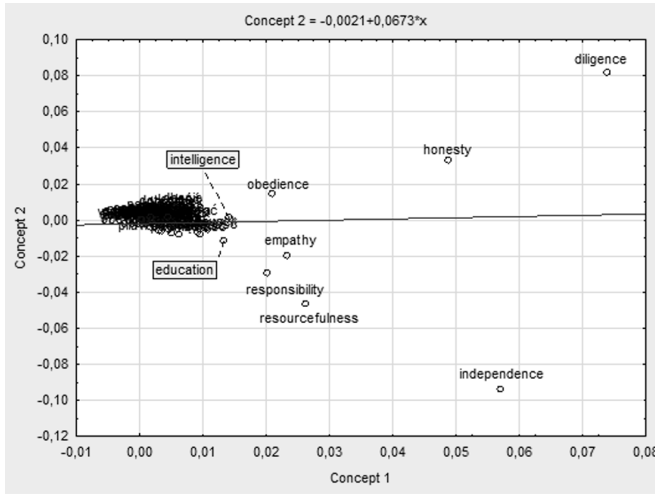
The analysis indicates that fathers primarily value traits such as independence, obedience, and diligence, along with courage and responsibility, although the latter traits are less emphasized. The findings suggest that fathers aim to raise well-rounded daughters who are capable of dealing with life's challenges. Concept 1 and Concept 2 represent gradients of trait importance, ranging from less to more dominant. Most traits are concentrated around the lower values of Concept 1, suggesting limited diversity in fathers' perceptions. The trend line indicates a weak correlation between the concepts, with independence and obedience standing out as traits of unique significance.

The scatter plot also shows a large number of traits clustered closely together, reflecting their equal significance in the eyes of fathers. Despite this diversity, these traits did not stand out individually and thus assumed similar values in the analysis, resulting in a dense grouping on the chart. While this clustering reduces readability, the traits were retained in the figure to illustrate that fathers also identified other values, even though only a few stood out clearly as distinct from the main cluster.

### **Semantic Analysis and Principal Components of Upbringing Goals Valued by Baby Boomers and Generation X Mothers in Raising Millennial Daughters**

Semantic analysis and SVD, supported by text mining techniques, were also applied to identify the character traits that mothers consider key in the upbringing of daughters. Text mining data represented on the scatter plot indicated traits within the framework of two main concepts of upbringing.

**Figure 2. Distribution of Parental Goals of Mothers from Baby Boomers and Generation X Toward Daughters of the Millennials Generation**



In the chart (Figure 2), Concept 1 and Concept 2 represent a range of traits from minimal to maximal values. Most traits are grouped at the lower end of Concept 1, suggesting their similar importance in upbringing. Concept 2, however, shows greater perceptual diversity among traits such as diligence and independence. The increased slope of the trend line (equation:  $\text{Concept 2} = -0.0024 + 0.0827 * \text{Concept 1}$ ) indicates a stronger correlation between the two concepts.

**Analysis and Comparison of Upbringing Goals Promoted by Baby Boomers and Generation X Fathers and Mothers in Raising Millennial Daughters**

A comparison of the scatter plots, which represent the upbringing goals promoted by fathers and mothers, reveals both commonalities and differences in the values emphasized by each parent in raising daughters.

**Common Traits**

**Independence:** Both fathers and mothers show a strong belief in the importance of independence, represented by the distinct positioning of this value away from the central cluster on both charts.

- **Diligence:** This trait is also distinguished on both charts, suggesting that both parents value it as an important aspect of raising daughters.

### Traits Distinguishing Fathers

**Courage and Resourcefulness:** These traits are more prominent on the fathers' chart, suggesting that fathers may place greater emphasis on these qualities in raising daughters.

- **Obedience:** Positioned further from the center on the fathers' chart, this trait indicates that fathers may assign more importance to conformity and adherence to rules in upbringing.

### Traits Distinguishing Mothers

**Empathy and Intelligence:** These traits are more isolated on the mothers' chart, which indicates that mothers may prioritize emotional and intellectual development more highly than fathers.

- **Education:** Clearly separated from the center of the chart, this trait may suggest that mothers particularly value education as a key factor in their daughters' success.

Semantic analysis reveals that both sets of values reflect beliefs in the importance of preparing young women for independent living. Universal values such as independence and diligence may reflect societal and economic expectations placed on women. Differences in values may stem from traditional gender roles, where fathers tend to promote traits such as courage and resourcefulness, while mothers might be more focused on raising empathetic and intelligent women to prepare daughters for the challenges of the modern world.

This analysis indicates that while there are some common parental goals, parents often differ in their emphasis on specific traits in the upbringing of daughters. Fathers may focus more on preparing daughters to face challenges, while mothers may strive to nurture well-balanced, empathetic, and well-educated women. These differences in parental goals could influence how daughters develop their personal traits and life skills.

The analysis also indicates that mothers particularly value traits such as diligence and independence, independence; however, most traits are clustered near the center of the chart, suggesting a balanced approach to upbringing. The prominence of empathy, intelligence, and responsibility, positioned close to the center, highlights their role in raising daughters. The findings suggest that mothers aim to raise daughters as well-rounded individuals prepared for life's challenges, with an emphasis on independence and diligence as key traits.

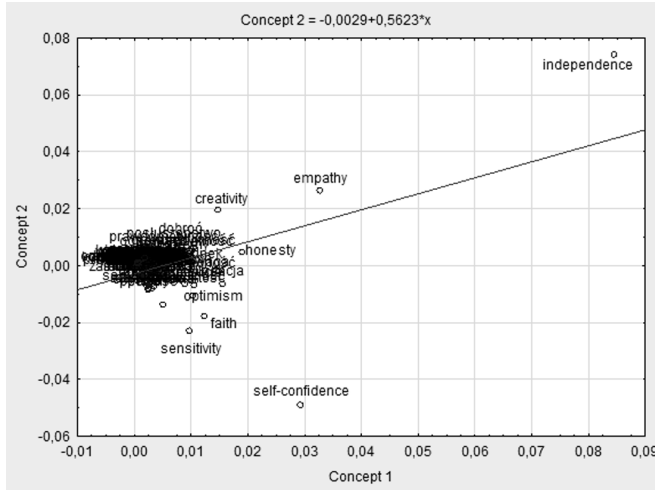
### **Semantic Analysis and Principal Components of Upbringing Goals Valued by Millennial Mothers in Raising Their Generation**

#### **Alpha Sons**

Semantic analysis revealed that independence, especially the ability to make autonomous decisions, is perceived as the foundation for the development of sons. Creativity promotes innovation, obedience underscores the importance of following commands, honesty is regarded as the basis of morality, optimism encourages a positive outlook, sensitivity emphasizes empathy and understanding, and self-confidence strengthens autonomy.

The chart suggests that mothers prioritize independence as a key trait for adulthood, while also nurturing their sons' emotional and social development by cultivating a wide range of values. This approach indicates a desire to raise young men who are not only independent but also moral, empathetic, and adaptable, reflecting contemporary expectations for men.

In the study, a scatter plot (Figure 3) was used to analyze the upbringing goals deemed crucial by adult daughters raised by Baby Boomer and Generation X parents. These daughters, now Millennial mothers, are currently raising Generation Alpha sons. The X-axis (labeled 'focus 1') and Y-axis ('focus 2') represent different dimensions of parenting values, with individual points on the chart symbolizing specific character traits.

**Figure 3. Distribution of Parental Goals of Millennial Generation Mothers toward their Alpha Generation Sons.**

**Principal Component Analysis** showed that independence is distinctly separated from other traits on the X-axis, indicating its significant importance to mothers. Traits such as creativity, obedience, honesty, optimism, sensitivity, and self-confidence are positioned closer to the center of the chart, suggesting that while they are valued, they are not as dominant as independence.

**Semantic Analysis** revealed that the trait of independence is perceived as the cornerstone of sons' development, emphasizing the ability to make autonomous decisions. Creativity promotes innovation, honesty is regarded as the foundation of morality, optimism encourages a positive outlook, sensitivity underscores empathy and understanding, and self-confidence strengthens independence.

The chart suggests that mothers prioritize independence as a fundamental trait for adulthood while simultaneously nurturing their sons' emotional and social development by cultivating a wide range of values. This approach indicates a desire to raise young men who are not only independent but also moral, empathetic, and adaptable, reflecting contemporary expectations of men.



## **Patterns and Expectations: A Comparative Analysis of Millennial Women's Upbringing Goals for Their Generation Alpha Sons in the Context of Their Baby Boomer and Generation X Parents' Upbringing Goals**

This analysis compares the upbringing goals of contemporary mothers for their sons with the values instilled by their Baby Boomer and Generation X parents. By examining the charts (Figures 1–3), we can observe how parental goals have evolved or remained consistent across generations. Fathers from the Baby Boomer and Generation X cohorts emphasized traits such as courage and responsibility, which are less prominent in the parental goals of contemporary mothers, where traits like diligence and independence prevail. This shift suggests that Millennial mothers may place a greater emphasis on practical skills and autonomy over traits like courage and responsibility. Mothers from the Baby Boomer generation and Generation X emphasized intelligence and education, which indicates a focus on intellectual development. In contrast, the upbringing goals of Millennial mothers, such as honesty and empathy, while still important, appear less dominant. This may reflect a greater emphasis on the balanced emotional and social development of their Generation Alpha sons, rather than focusing solely on intellectual growth.

### **General Conclusions**

Independence emerges as a key value across all charts, which underscores its universal significance.

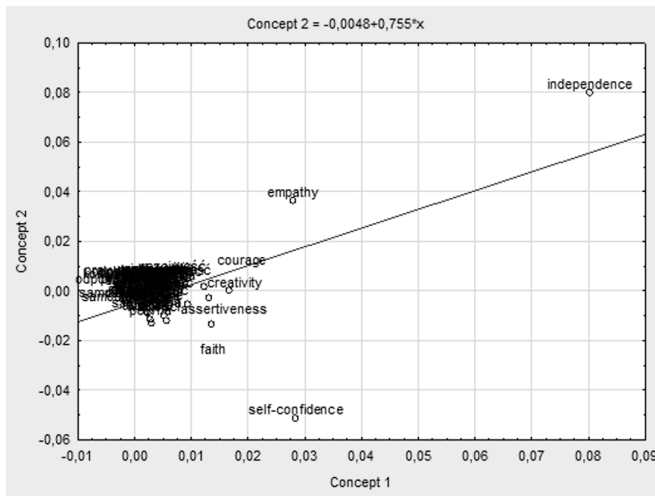
The differences in the upbringing goals of fathers and mothers of sons reflect an evolution of values: from traits such as courage and intellectual development to more balanced goals such as diligence and honesty.

The charts suggest that Millennial mothers draw upon the values instilled by their parents, adapting them to contemporary realities. In raising Alpha sons, they place greater emphasis on diligence and independence as key skills for today's society, while also nurturing personal development. The educational philosophy of Millennial mothers reflects a desire to balance practical and personal development in their Alpha sons.

## Patterns and Expectations: A Comparative Analysis of Millennial Women's Upbringing Goals for Their Generation Alpha Daughters in the Context of Their Baby Boomers and Generation X Parents' Upbringing Goals

The analysis of scatter plots reveals the evolution of parenting goals among Millennial women for their Generation Alpha daughters, compared to the goals of their Baby Boomer and Generation X parents. The plots depicting fathers from the Baby Boomer and Generation X generations (Figure 1), as well as mothers from the same cohorts (Figure 2), when contrasted with the goals of Millennial mothers (Figure 4), illustrate changing priorities over time.

**Figure 4. Distribution of Parental Goals of Millennial Generation Mothers toward their Alpha Generation Daughters.**



Fathers from the Baby Boomer generation and Generation X emphasized traits such as courage and responsibility. However, on the chart of mothers from these generations raising Millennial daughters, these traits are less prominent, which suggests a shift in priorities toward independence and empathy. Mothers from the Baby Boomer and Generation X eras stressed intelligence and education, pointing to a focus on

intellectual development. Among Millennial mothers, however, empathy is more pronounced, with less emphasis on education, which may indicate a greater focus on emotional development.

## General Conclusions

Independence is a consistent value across all analyses, demonstrating its unchanging role in upbringing. Millennial mothers tend to focus on empathy and independence, reflecting a shift towards developing independence and emotional intelligence, rather than traditional values such as courage, intelligence, and education. This shift may represent an adaptation to contemporary social challenges. These conclusions suggest an adaptation and evolution of parental goals among the new generation of mothers, who emphasize traits considered key to achieving success and building healthy relationships in today's world: independence and empathy.

### The Universality of Independence in Contrast with Gender Differences: A Comparative Analysis of Upbringing Goals Set by Millennial Mothers for Sons and Daughters

The analysis of scatter plots illustrating the parental goals set by Millennial mothers for their sons and daughters reveals both universal and gender-specific approaches to upbringing.

#### Similarities

- Independence is the dominant trait on both charts as a priority for both genders, highlighting mothers' emphasis on preparing children for independent living.

#### Differences

- **Sons:** Although independence remains central, empathy and creativity are also valued, though not as strongly emphasized. This suggests that these traits play complementary roles in raising sons.

- **Daughters:** Courage and assertiveness are distinctly emphasized, suggesting that the upbringing of daughters places greater emphasis on traits associated with strength of character.

### **Semantic Analysis**

For sons, empathy and creativity, while important, may not overshadow the central focus on independence. For daughters, courage and assertiveness take precedence, reflecting evolving social expectations and efforts to balance opportunities between genders.

The emphasis on independence demonstrates its universality as a core upbringing goal. However, the prominence of traits such as courage for daughters and empathy and creativity for sons may indicate the evolution of gender expectations and the pursuit of breaking traditional stereotypes. This comparison sheds light on how contemporary mothers shape parental goals in response to changing social realities and try to equip their children with the tools needed for life in today's world while promoting equality and strength of character.

### **Summary of Results**

The study reveals how parental upbringing goals evolve across generations and differ by gender, spanning Baby Boomers, Generation X, Millennials, and the youngest Generation Alpha.

#### **Mothers vs. Fathers**

The findings highlight differences in parental focus: fathers are more likely to emphasize courage and responsibility, while mothers prioritize empathy, intellectual development, and education, with independence and diligence as common values.

### **Sons vs. Daughters**

In raising sons, Millennial mothers promote independence and practical skills, whereas in raising daughters, they emphasize character strength, particularly encouraging assertiveness.

### **Intergenerational Transmission**

The research illustrates how upbringing values are transmitted and adapted by Millennial mothers raising Generation Alpha children. Some values, such as independence, remain consistent, while others, such as empathy, evolve.

### **Conclusions**

The findings underscore a diversified approach to upbringing, aimed at preparing children for various life situations by promoting adaptability and emotional intelligence. This opens new perspectives on the long-term effects of shifting upbringing values, which may be key to understanding future generations.

### **Interpretation of Results in the Context of Knowledge about Generations**

The evolution of parental goals among Baby Boomer and Generation X parents, compared to their Millennial children raising Generation Alpha, highlights significant changes in approaches to upbringing. The analysis of the study results reveals key areas where these generations differ in terms of upbringing priorities. Independence is highlighted as a key value by all generations, demonstrating its enduring importance in preparing children for a rapidly changing world. This mirrors a global trend toward enhancing life skills through more supportive, emotionally focused, and socially oriented upbringing strategies, particularly among Millennials.

Differences in upbringing goals between Baby Boomer and Generation X parents suggest an evolution from traditional gender roles, with fathers often emphasizing courage and mothers focusing more on empathy

and intelligence, reflecting changing expectations for emotional and intellectual skills. Millennial mothers raising Generation Alpha children are adapting and updating their parents' upbringing goals, aiming to dismantle gender stereotypes for more balanced development. Their increased focus on education and intellectual growth underscores the significance of these traits for career and life success. This analysis shows how societal shifts influence parental goals, underscoring the adaptability of parenting strategies while noting that some values, such as independence, retain their universal relevance as critical skills in a globalized world.

### Discussion of Results

This study delineates the evolution of upbringing values across generations, underscoring the impact of mothers in molding children's characteristics. Through the use of semantic analysis and Singular Value Decomposition (SVD), a shift from conventional values such as courage and obedience toward independence, empathy, and creativity was observed mirroring socio-cultural shifts. The research underscores how evolving social contexts modulate upbringing priorities while maintaining core objectives, such as fostering independence. This shift is particularly evident in gender-specific approaches to parenting, in which mothers aim to dismantle gender stereotypes by fostering adaptive skills and emotional intelligence.

The study echoes Twenge's (2017) findings on shifting generational attitudes towards individualism and Eagly & Wood's (2013) observations on gender-specific upbringing differences, showcasing a transition from traditional to modern values that emphasize personal growth across Baby Boomers, Generation X, and Millennials. Independence emerges as a universal trend, consistent with Howe and Strauss's (2000) assertion of its enduring significance across generations. Millennials, in particular, advocate independence as a pivotal value for raising Generation Alpha. This shift towards emphasizing education and intellectual growth among Millennials

reflects Twenge's (2013) analysis, suggesting generational adaptations in educational priorities due to changing global perceptions.

The generational progression from Baby Boomers to Generation Alpha unveils the dynamic evolution of social expectations and parenting goals. Each generation recalibrates its upbringing strategies to respond to unique societal and technological shifts, striving to balance traditional values with new challenges, as detailed by Howe and Strauss (2000), Inglehart and Baker (2000), and Twenge (2006). Furthermore, the study reveals varying upbringing approaches between fathers and mothers. Contemporary parenting strategies increasingly transcend traditional gender roles, supporting Eagly and Wood's (2012) findings on the convergence of educational values across genders. This generational scrutiny sheds light on the evolving landscape of social expectations and parental objectives, driven by a blend of value continuity and adaptations to novel societal and technological contexts.

This study introduces an innovative approach to analyzing the intergenerational transmission of parenting values, emphasizing the importance of individualization and equality in shaping modern parental attitudes. The analysis demonstrates that values such as independence and empathy are becoming universal foundations of upbringing. Thus, by expanding the perspective of social sciences, this work offers new tools and methodologies that may inspire future research and educational practices in a rapidly changing social reality.

## **Conclusions and Implications**

The study highlights generational shifts in education, emphasizing the importance of societal changes and parental decisions. It confirms that generational experiences shape attitudes toward upbringing, a crucial factor for educational policies and support initiatives.

The findings provide a unique insight into the evolution of parental values in an intergenerational context, illustrating how contemporary social and technological transformations are reshaping traditional approaches

to upbringing. Recent research on this topic demonstrates that these changes are particularly evident in mothers' parenting goals, especially for their daughters. Values such as self-confidence, self-reliance, and assertiveness have emerged as dominant goals, reflecting a drive toward empowering independence in girls and underscoring the changing role of women in society (Szymańska & Aranowska, 2023).

This emphasis on women's independence is poised to influence the character of future generations and the broader societal landscape. By utilizing advanced techniques such as semantic analysis and SVD, this study opens new avenues for interpreting the dynamics of parenting values in the context of shifting gender roles and societal expectations. It highlights the need for further research on how new generations of parents are adapting their approaches to upbringing—an area that may prove crucial for shaping future educational and social policies.

### **Practical Implications**

The findings suggest the importance of blending traditional and modern approaches to upbringing to prepare individuals for contemporary challenges. They emphasize the need to update parenting methods for comprehensive development, highlighting the importance of adapting education to the demands of a rapidly changing world.

### **Limitations and Perspectives**

The study's limitations include constraints in data interpretation and participant range. Future research should aim to include a broader range of participants and employ more diverse methodologies to gain a deeper understanding of the impact of parental values on child development and long-term well-being, potentially offering valuable insights



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