

Millennial Generation's Attitudes Toward Social Inclusion

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Background

- Millennials as compared to older generations:
 - More educated and racially/ethnically/nativity diverse.
 - Far more likely to be in poverty and without property in young adulthood.
 - Weaker ties to marriage and childbearing.
 - More progressive and liberal in terms of
 - Openness to inclusive national identity.
 - Voting patterns.
 - Gender, family, and LGBTQIA rights.

Milkman's (2017) Greater Militancy Thesis

- Millennials uniquely approach social justice issues from an intersectionality perspective:
 - Digital natives with labor market precarity in a context of widening income and wealth inequality.
 - Witness to continuing discrimination across multiple axes of race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, class and nativity identities.
 - Participants of four formative social justice movements about social inclusivity: "Dreamers," Occupy Wall Street, movements against sexual assault; Black Lives Matter(BLM).

Fraser's (2010) Social Inclusion

- True civic or social participation (i.e., social inclusion) is multi-faceted and encompasses economic, cultural, and political components:
 - Redistributive:** whether society institutionalizes wealth, income, labor, and leisure equalities.
 - Recognition:** whether society expresses respect for all members of society irrespective of social category.
 - Representation:** whether political and media institutions and structures permit all social actors to have a voice and fair chance in governance.

Data and Methods

- 2016 General Social Survey, National Opinion Research Center (NORC).
- Full probability sample of non-institutionalized, English-speaking U.S. adult population.
- Ballots A and B, n=1,380.

Social Inclusion: Redistribution

- Redistribution:** Government's responsibility to (1) reduce income differences between the rich and poor, (2) promote equality between men and women; in favor of (3) government financing of projects to create new jobs; and (4) government spending more for education. ($\alpha=.60$)

Social Inclusion: Recognition

- Recognition:** (1) Disagree that better if man is the achiever outside of home, woman takes care of home and family, (2) working mothers can establish just as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work, and (3) disagree that preschool child is likely to suffer if his or her mother works. ($\alpha=.70$)

Social Inclusion: Representation

- Representation:** Government should (1) allow organizing public meetings to protest against the government, (2) organize protest marches and demonstrations, and (3) allow people who want to overthrow the government by revolution to hold public meetings to express their views. ($\alpha=.69$)

Means

	Social Inclusion	Redistribution	Recognition	Representation
Millennials	17.20 ***	10.74 ***	6.28 ***	7.05 ***
(Std. Dev.)	(3.66)	(2.01)	(1.80)	(2.08)
Generation X	16.17	10.23	5.94	6.98
(Std. Dev.)	(3.90)	(2.44)	(1.84)	(2.04)
Boomers	15.55	9.78	5.82	6.84
(Std. Dev.)	(4.44)	(2.70)	(1.97)	(2.27)
Older Cohorts	12.83	9.55	4.88	5.31
(Std. Dev.)	(4.14)	(2.41)	(1.79)	(2.56)
n=	1,251	1,288	1,814	1,328
*** < .001				

Multivariate Results (β)

	Social Inclusion	Redistribution	Recognition	Representation
Millennials (Reference)				
Generation X	-.10***	-.07**	-.08***	-.01
Boomers	-.17***	-.15***	-.12***	-.04
Older Cohorts	-.31***	-.15***	-.21***	-.23***
n=	1,246	1,287	1,813	1,320

** < .01 *** < .001 Note: Models contain full set of covariates: gender, race/ethnicity, foreign born, urbanicity, marital/relationship status, parenthood, income, and education
Social Inclusion is a sum of all redistribution recognition, and representation indicators.

Conclusions

- Millennials are uniformly more progressive on an index of *social inclusion* and *redistribution* and *recognition* sub-indices.
- Millennials are substantially more progressive about *representation* than older cohorts, but not significantly different than Generation X and Boomer cohorts.
- Overall evidence of greater desire for social inclusivity among Millennials, at least for U.S.-focused indicators.

Limitations

- Uses a cross-sectional analysis, rather than trend or panel.
- Fails to operationalize key facets of the *redistribution*, *recognition*, and *representation* concepts.
- Assesses a national rather than international perspective on social inclusion.

Future Research

- Develop a better conceptualized measures of *redistribution*, *recognition*, and *representation* for trend studies.
- Create indicators that assess international perspectives on social inclusion.
- Study age and period changes in Millennials' social inclusivity attitudes.