HOW MILLENNIAL PARENTS DIFFER FROM GEN-X AND BOOMERS

Chances are, the topic of “Millennial parents” is going to be hitting your eardrum really soon, if it hasn’t already. The reason:Time magazine is diving into the hot topic in its October 26th issue, with a handful of stories ([one](http://time.com/4073237/jemima-kirke-parenting-control-is-futile/) written by Girls star Jemima Kirke) analyzing how Millennial parenting attitudes and values differ from Gen-Xers and Baby Boomers…and what that might mean for the kids they’re raising.

First things first: You might be asking yourself “Am I a ‘Millennial parent’?” It sort of depends on whom you ask. The Timearticles define the generation as “those 20- and 30-somethings born from the late ’70s to the late ’90s.” Meanwhile, Babycenter’s annual State of Modern Motherhood Report, which we [previously wrote about](http://www.mothermag.com/millennial-mom-statistics/), narrows it down a bit more, saying you’re a Millennial mom if you are currently between the ages of 18 and 32 and have a kid (or are expecting).

For Time‘s investigation, it looked at pre-existing studies on changing parenthood mores, and also polled 2,000 parents with children under 18 to come up with some fresh stats. Here are the takeaways we found most interesting:  
-Nearly 90% of Millennials use social media (compared with 76% of Gen X-ers and 59% of Boomers).  
-46% of Millennials posted a pic of their youngest child either while in the womb or before the baby was 1 day old (compared with 10% of Gen-Xers).  
-Millennial parents are concerned with the pressure to appear a certain way, thanks to the images posted by their peers on social media.  
-30% of Millennials are concerned with their friends judging what their kids eat, compared with 17% of Gen-Xers and 11% of Boomers.  
-The average age of a first-time mother is now 26, up from 21 in 1970.  
-60% of Millennial parents wanted to choose a baby name that was unique, compared to 44% of Gen-Xers and 35% of Boomers.  
-More Millennials are “stay-at-home parents” than past generations (23.2%, compared to 16% of Gen-X and 22% of Baby Boomers).  
-61% of Millennial parents believe their kids need more unstructured playtime, according to a 2013 report by FutureCast, and only 21% view their children as “overscheduled.”  
-Compared to Boomers, Millennials are twice as likely to look to Google for advice and half as likely to turn to books.  
-58% of Millennials found all of the parenting information out there to be “overwhelming,” compared to 46% of Gen-Xers and 43% of Boomers.  
-Millennials are less likely to put marriage before the baby carriage, with 42% saying it’s “very or extremely important” to do so. Meanwhile, 51% of Boomers and 49% of Gen-Xers valued marriage before kids.  
-Helicopter parenting is frowned upon by Millennials, with Time describing the new technique as “’drone -parenting’—the parents still hover, but they’re following and responding to their kids more than directing and scheduling them.”  
-“Open-minded” “Empathetic” and “Questioning” are the qualities Millennial parents most want for their children.