

Y Me?

It's really not about whether or not a place has a swimming pool or a pool table. Sometimes it's not even about money or benefits. It's about what I want to do with my time and where I see myself in 10 years.

My generation, usually referred to as "Generation Y" is constantly searching.

We search for authenticity, for the next great invention, for the best way to stand up for what we deserve and rebel against wrongdoing. Mainly, we work very hard to not become our parents, not compromising who we are, what we want, who we want to do it with and one important factor in that equation is where we want to work.

My parents always say that work doesn't define who you are. It's just work — it should be stable and rewarding, put food on your table, and give you the ability to pay the mortgage on a nice house in a quiet neighborhood.

These days, most of my waking hours are spent at work. How can I be happy if I don't enjoy those hours? Yes, work can be hard, demanding, and exhausting. There are great days and not so great days. Besides Forest Gump's mother, no one said life is like a box of chocolates. Regardless, work should be a place that allows you to evolve, think and create. It should challenge and intrigue you. These are some of the things that bring you joy and make you want to get out of bed and go to work in the morning. Of course there is also the work environment, your boss, your colleagues and if you have a nice office. But when did we forget about personal fulfillment?

They say my generation can't stay in one place for too long. That we get bored easily That we won't accept something just because someone said we should. We are always doubting, always asking Y. Why is that a bad thing? Why is wanting the best for yourself, doubting and asking questions frowned upon? Instead of encouraging us to want the best, they say we are spoiled, that nothing can please us. Generation Y is driven by guilt.

Our search is for excellence—both in our lives and in others. We may communicate in new ways that are sometimes interpreted as detached — but there are simply new ways of communicating today. People who are detached don't live in tents and go out on the streets to protest government policy. People who are detached don't constantly invent new ideas and try to make their stamp on the

world. Just because our words are written in WhatsApp messages and Facebook posts doesn't mean we don't care.

Our parents may have gotten married too young and some of them have lived in loveless marriages, but they wanted stability and certainty in life, while we constantly deal with the uncertain. In some ways, the fact that we keep asking questions keeps us alive where others have internally died.

I am looking for a new place to keep me alive. A new place to work and live — both are inseparable to me. I'm looking to be excited and challenged, to be encouraged to think and create. Some create in code. Some do it in design. I create through words.

At times I fear change. I like stability. But another great characteristic of my generation is that we are incredibly brave. We may hide behind screens, but we take chances in life. I could stay in my current place of work for another 5 years and convince myself that it is just a job. Yes, it is important to put food on the table but it is also important to be happy and fulfilled, to maximize potential and talent, to have a place to grow, and also to have fun. These values don't contradict each other.

Respectfully,
Einat Torres

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