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The Baby Boomer Corner

By Rick Bava

I recently spoke to Gramps Jeffery, a children's book author ["I Don't Want to Turn 3"], about his perspective on the role of Baby Boomers as mentors to younger generations. Gramps remembers celebrating his father's 60th birthday and thinking to himself, "he is an old man." Gramps pointed out something that I've also been noticing about our generation – that now that we are in our 60's and 70's and beyond, we just don't seem as old as our parents when they were our current age. As Gramps put it, "Perhaps it is caused by modern science or perhaps we just lose our eyesight and think we look better than we really do..."

Gramps told me he was glad that his father stuck around a few more decades because he got to see a different side of his dad as he aged. While Gramps was growing up his Dad seemed to prioritize work more than family, but later in life, after his Dad had more time to reflect, he seemed to realize how important and rewarding it was to spend more quality time with family.

Gramps Jeffery wants Baby Boomers to recognize that Grandparents are more important today than ever. "With many single parents raising our grandkids, and with the modern day stresses of work, social media, the Internet, peer pressure and now Covid, our kids need our help in raising a complete child. We need to make sure we take an active role in molding this newest generation, into a society that surpasses us baby boomers."

As the author of children's books, Gramps's passion is to get us to read to the grandkids. He points out that "reading helps create bonding with this new generation because it is a quiet way to spend time together and strengthen our relationships. It also supports listening skills, which as adults we know may be the most important skill we learn. It helps with cognitive and language development by expanding the number and variety of words they learn and use. And it helps develop a longer attention span which helps them improve key concentration and self-discipline skills."

Gramps emphasized how just spending quality time with kids can make a big difference. He believes that Baby Boomers are now "at the age where we cannot be selfish anymore. We need to share what the Greatest Generation taught us, and what we have all learned, as growing older turns into understanding to share our wisdom."

Rick Bava is the Author of "In Search of the Baby Boomer Generation."

TRIVIA

How many answers to the questions below do you know?

1. Atticus Finch is a fictional character in which Pulitzer Prize-winning novel?
2. By what name is Sir Percy Blakeney known?
3. Leopold Bloom is the fictional protagonist and hero of which 1922 novel?
4. "Be yourself and people will like you" is a quote from which book by Jeff Kinney?
5. Who wrote the 1877 novel *Black Beauty*?
6. Name the character of Truman Capote's 1958 novella *Breakfast at Tiffany's*?
7. Name the landmark 1967 novel by Columbian author Gabriel Garcia Marquez?
8. "It was a pleasure to burn" is the opening line of which book?

See next month for answers

www.FreePubQuiz.co.uk

LAST MONTH'S ANSWERS

1. Rosti, 2. Garlic, 3. Seaweed, 4. Carrots, 5. Thailand, 6. Ten, 7. Mushrooms, 8. Pilchards (note: the pie is associated with Cornwall), 9. Haricot bean

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"I DON'T WANT TO TURN 3"

'I don't want to turn 3' is a book by Gramps Jeffrey that explores the interaction between family that is happening in just about every household in the world.

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"I Don't Want To Turn 3"

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