

From Skedaddle to Selfie: Words of the Generations

Allan Metcalf



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From baby boomers with 'groovy' and 'yuppie,' to Generation X with 'whatever' and 'like,' each generation inevitably comes to use certain words that are particular to its unique time in history. Those words not only tell us a great deal about the people in those generations, but highlight their differences with other generations.

In this entertaining compilation, Allan Metcalf, author of *OK: The Improbable Story of America's Greatest Word*, shows that each generation--those born within the same roughly 20-year time period--can be identified and characterized by its key words. Metcalf tells the story of the history and usage of these words, starting with the American Revolution and ending with the post-Millennial Homeland generation. With special attention to the differences in vocabulary among today's generations--the sometimes *awkward* Millennials, the *grunge* music of Generation X, *hippies* among the Boomers, and *bobbysoxers* among the Silents--*From Skeddadle to Selfie* compiles dozens of words we thought we knew, and tells the unheard stories of each and how they accompanied its generation through its time.

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