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Paper citation:

Zhang, Y. B., & Lin, M.-C. (2009). Conflict-initiating factors in intergenerational relationships. *Journal of Language and Social psychology*, 28, 343-363.

Abstract:

This study examined American young adults' written accounts of intergenerational communication with a focus on factors that initiate conflict. Analysis of the conflict scenarios in intergenerational relationships revealed seven types of initiating factors. Results also indicated that the type of relationship with older adults was associated with the frequency distribution of five of the seven initiating factors. Specifically, young adults perceived they were criticized and rebuffed by nonfamily elders more frequently than by family elders, whereas young people tended to disagree with and rebuff family elders more than nonfamily elders. Furthermore, young people reported more incidents of illegitimate demand from family elders than from nonfamily elders. Results are discussed with respect to intergenerational communication research and the Communication Predicament of Aging Model.

Keywords: *intergenerational conflict; young; old; family; nonfamily*

Text of paper:

(Full-text available December 2010)