Activity: Parents - Them and Us
Themes: Health and Wellbeing

1. As a class, view the clip, Many Families, where Tara is embarrassed by her parents, who openly express their opinions and values. Discuss the ways in which the parents/carers' attitudes and opinions are different from their children. Have students suggest reasons why this may be the case. List these reasons on the board/IWB.

2. Facilitate a role-play task based loosely on what the students hear their parents say to them. You could title this session “In my day…” role-play. For students to better understand their parents/carers’ perspectives, it is advised that the students research the times in which their parents/carers grew up: the attitudes of the time, the family relationships, the aspirations, their fears and the technologies that informed them. This will require the students interviewing their parents/carers to acquire the necessary information. For example, by asking parents/carers the following questions:
   a. How did you get to school?
   b. What punishments did you receive?
   c. How did you get money?
   d. What jobs did you have?
   e. What did you do for fun?
   f. What did you do for holidays?
   g. What did you do for entertainment?

3. Have the students complete Student Activity Sheet E13.2: Leisure Activities - Venn Diagram to compare the differences between their life as a teenager today and that of their parents/carers. Advise them to focus on leisure activities or what their parents/carers did for fun. Using the Venn diagram in the activity sheet, ask students to map differences between parents/carers (category 1) and self (category 2) with the intersection between the two being the shared fun activities.

4. Discuss the ‘differences’ that they recorded in the class group and ask students to explain the similarities?
Download

- Student Activity Sheet E13.2: Parents – Leisure Activities – Venn Diagram

Useful resources

- Australian Institute of Family Studies: Families Then and now
- Australian Institute of Family Studies: AIFS Research Directions 2012-2015
Leisure Activities - Venn Diagram

In the circle on the left, write all of the activities you do for fun now.

In the circle on the right, write down all the activities your parents/carers did for fun at your age.

And in the overlap section in the middle, write down all the fun activities you have in common.