

# **SURVEY SHOWS HOW THE NEW GENERATIONS SEE FOOD**

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Food has always been a part of a country's cultural heritage. People have been cooking their local and traditional food for centuries. Yet, times are changing and new generations are coming. We created a survey and asked people some questions. Now let's see what they think of food and the heritage that comes with it. For this survey, we used a sample of 20 people of different origins and different cultures. We gathered 12 Egyptians, 6 French, 1 Algerian, 1 British; 10 girls and 10 boys.



**We started by asking them how they came to know about the cooking associated with their heritage.**

Out of 10 girls, 10 replied that they learnt it with their family especially their mothers and grandmothers. However only 4 in 10 boys said the same thing, the other 6 learnt it by themselves. Does this confirm the stereotype that cooking is associated with women?

**We then asked them if they could cook and if they could, how they had learnt it.**

100% of the people answered they could cook. Out of the 12 Egyptians, the majority of them said that they started cooking by learning with their family. On the other hand 2 out of 6 French learnt cooking by themselves. We observed that in Egypt, cooking is more of a family ritual.

**We proceeded to ask them what their favourite ingredient was based on their country.**

Most of the Egyptians answered mulukhiyah, a traditional dish in Egypt. Whereas the French answers were really diverse. We notice that in Egypt, they are really attached to one dish in particular, in contrast to France.

**Afterwards we asked them if they felt food was part of a country's identity**

100% of the respondents answered that they do think food is part of a country's history. It shows even though our sample is a new generation, people still believe that food is an important part of their country's history.

**We asked them after that about what they think of mixing different cuisines.**

On this question, both genders had similar answers. 8 in 10 boys prefer testing mixed cuisines to try something new. We have similar answers with the girls where 7 out of 10 responded they also prefer mixing cuisines. The men and women agree with the mixed cuisine to have more diversity in food.

**We went on and asked them if food could impact immigration.** Most French people believed so.

**We questioned them about their countries' attitudes to food.**

75% of the people agreed with the fact that their country is really proud of their food. Also, 15% shared the opinion that their food is affordable and accessible for everyone. The majority of people are really proud of their food and its heritage. Nevertheless there is still a minority that thinks about how cheap and affordable their food can be.

**We went ahead and asked them for a dish from their culinary heritage that other countries don't understand.**

The majority of Egyptian answered with mulukhiya. The French answered by saying their "cliché" food like snails or frogs. On this last question, we can confirm the stereotypes about some countries, for example France, where its people all answered with cliché local food.

**To conclude**, this survey has allowed us to see that even though people might share the same land and heritage they have different views towards food. We have seen some questions where the answers were really diverse which confirm that food is subjective and that everyone has their own opinion. Yet, other answers are very similar because culture is something taught and present in our hearts and can never be changed, whether it be in Egypt or in France.