Equity, Positioning and Emotional Branding

Brand Equity (BE)

- Sum of the intangible assets and liabilities linked to a brand that add or subtract from its value
- Depends on the perspective for what the brand is worth
- FBBE Finance based BE
 - o The 'economic value' of brands to firms
 - Incremental cash flows that accrue to branded products over unbranded products
- CBBE Consumer Based BE
 - The differential effect that brand knowledge has on a consumer response to the marketing of that brand
 - o The value of a brand in the eyes of the consumer
 - Consumer perspective equity is based on consumer attitudes about positive brand attributes and favourable consequences of brand use
 - IMPORTANT cannot be effective until you understand the consumers needs and wants
- Brand champions work to marry the consumers view with the financial view of BE
- Brands are a reflection of the past and are therefore investments, not expenses
 - Quality NOT quantity
- Everything the firm does can enhance or detract from brand equity
- BE difficult to define, and therefore to measure lack of agreement

3 Components to CBBE

- Differential effect of brand
- Customer brand knowledge
- Customer response to brand marketing

Advantages of BE

- 1. Improved perceptions of product performance
- 2. Less vulnerability to competitive marketing actions and marketing crises
- 3. Larger margins
- 4. More elastic customer response to price decreases and inelastic customer responses to price increases more robust in terms of pricing, wont be hit as hard by price wars issues
- 5. Greater trade or intermediary cooperation and support
- 6. Increased marketing communication effectiveness
- 7. Additional licensing and brand extension opportunities
- 8. Greater customer loyalty

How strong brands create BE



- Trade acceptance
- Higher price points ⇒ GREATER PROFITABILITY
- · Higher margins
- · Low price elasticity

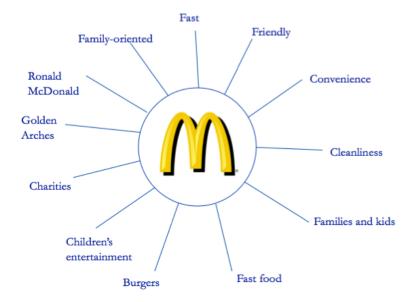


How to build a strong brand:

- Customer must be taught to
- 1. Identify the brand
 - a. Label, name and other elements
- 2. Learn brand meaning
 - a. Functional, emotional and symbolical
- 3. Know the brand difference from other similar product brands
 - a. Performance/image and non-product related considerations

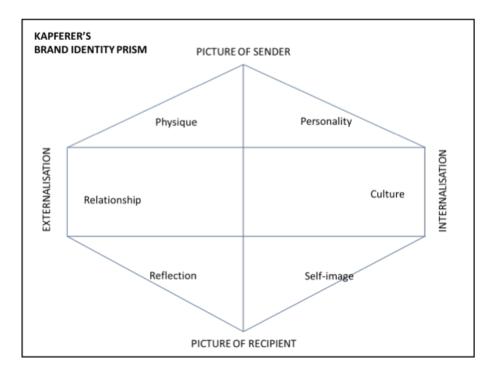
Brand Knowledge is KEY

- Consists of a brand node in the consumers memory with a variety of associations with it
- Need to ensure the consumer is remembering the identity you want to get across
- 1. Brand awareness
 - a. Brand recognition
 - b. Brand recall
- 2. Brand image how consumers perceive the brand, TYPE of associations
 - a. Brand attributes
 - i. Product related, colour, size, design features
 - b. Brand benefits
 - i. Overall evaluation attitude
 - c. Measure favorability, strength and uniqueness of these associations



Brand Identity versus Brand Image

- Brand identity
 - The contribution of all the brand elements to create awareness and image
 - A company's brand identity is how that business wants to be perceived by consumers
- Brand image
 - o Is *how* the consumers *actually* perceive the brand



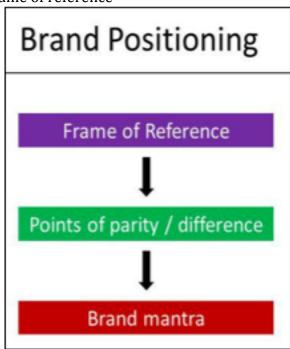
Brand Positioning

- Requires defining desired or ideal brand knowledge structures and establishing POD and POP
- Identify your target market

- All have different knowledge, different perceptions and different preferences for your brand
- Targeting a consumer segmentation assigns the competition (direct and indirect)
- Unique, meaningful POD provide a competitive advantage and the 'reasons why' consumers should buy the brand
- Want to be able to differentiate to create a sustainable competitive advantage

Developing Brand Positioning

- Frame of reference
 - Category membership of a product or which product category a brand competes with
- It is the framework used by consumers to make sense of the brand/product in question and explains the context in which this sensemaking takes place
- First identify the frame of reference used by the TA in evaluating the product or service
 - Then, marketer will position the product or service in line with that frame of reference



Point of Parity (POP)

- Not unique to the brand itself but shared by others in the product category
- Minimum category barrier EG: Nivea Deodorant, YES I will save you from social embarrassment AND we are gentle on skin
 - o EG drink YES I am thirst quenching (POP) and also healthy (POD)
- Provides another perspective in how to make or keep a brand relevant
- Kev MUST HAVE
- Point of difference a competitor has over your brand that needs to be counteracted

- Category point of parity
 - o Necessary category features a brand must have
- Competitive point of parity
 - Designed to negate a competitors point of parity
- Correlational point of parity
 - Potentially negative associations that arise from the existence of other more positive associations

Point of Difference (POD)

- In terms of attributes, benefits or values relevant, distinctive and believable
- Important to establish a POD, it is equally important to nullify the competition by matching them on the POP
- Something about the brand that makes it difference
 - And this difference is valued by consumers
- Generally defined in terms of customer benefits
- Benefits that consumers strongly associate with a brand, positively evaluate, and believe they could not find to the same extent with a competitive brand
- Points of different will not matter without the requisite point of parity
- EG: NRMA

