# Continuing with the Mind: Attitudes, Emotions and Judgement & The Mind in the Marketplace



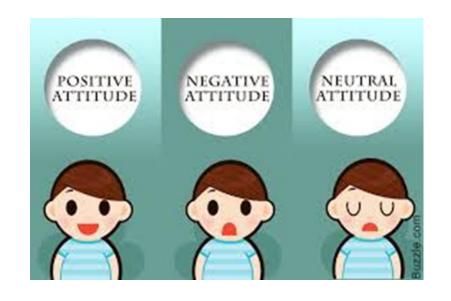
# Attitudes, emotions, judgements



### What is an attitude?

Attitude is the predisposition to evaluate an object/symbol/person/situatio n either favorably or unfavorably

An opinion then again is a verbal expression of an attitude.





### Why do we have attitudes?

- Attitudes make it easier to cope within the world and act in our lives. This is because we hold on to our attitudes for longer times.
- Ones they are established, they guide our decision making now and in the future: because of our attitudes we make decisions more rapid and effortlessly than without them



# Why do we have attitudes? FOUR FUNCTIONS.

#### 1. INSTRUMENTAL / UTILITARIAN FUNCTION

> Evaluations of benefits and tradeoffs, punishment/reward

#### 2. EGO-DEFENSIVE FUNCTION

Protecting yourself from "harsh truths" about yourself / world

#### 3. VALUE-EXPRESSIVE FUNCTION

> Satisfaction from expressing attitudes that cohere with values and sense of self

#### 4. KNOWLEDGE FUNCTION

Making sense of 'the universe', meaningful understanding



### Attitudes = affect + behavior + cognition

Affect: emotions, core feelings of like/dislike

**Behavior:** intentions to act, actions undertaken

Cognitive: beliefs, understanding of object's characteristics (e.g., how the object breaks down, what it relates to...)

Attitudes organize into VALUE SYSTEMS



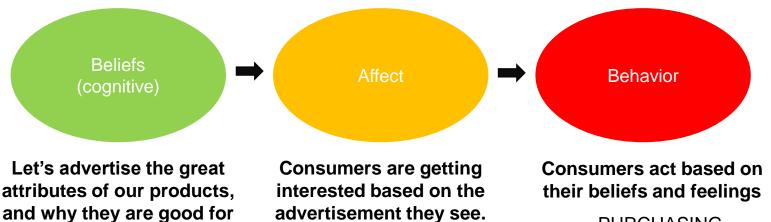
## Example of affect + behavior + cognition

I believe going to the gym is good for me (cognitive), so I intend to go to the gym at least 3 times a week (behavior). But I hate actually going to the gym (affect)."





### Marketer perspective? High involvement contexts



= BUILDING AWARENESS

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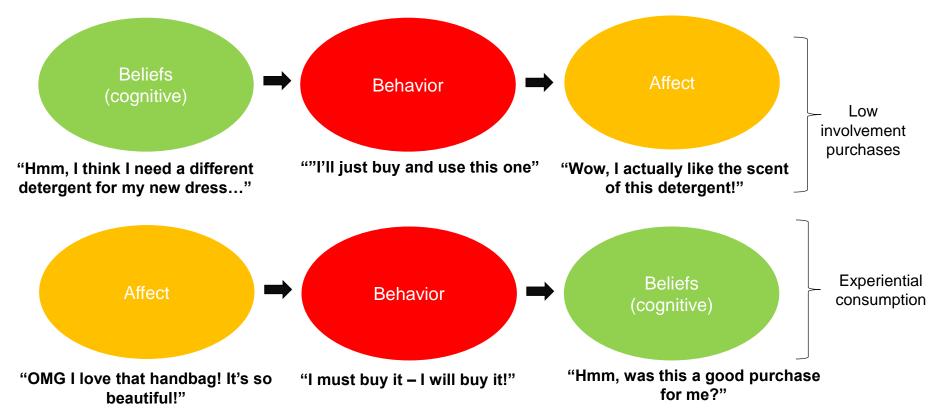
They start feeling certain ways towards the product.

= GETTING INTERESTED

= PURCHASING



### But the process can work in multiple ways...





# What is happening here?





### Implications to marketers and researchers

If you want to predict specific behaviors through consumer research, you need to ask about consumers' attitudes towards specific behaviors, not their general attitudes towards larger domains of interests

- E.g. Which attitude would be the most likely to predict what consumers do with their old keyboard, when they buy a new computer
- a. What is your attitude towards the environment?
- b. What is your attitude towards recycling?
- c. What is your attitude towards recycling old electronics?



### The consistence principle

- Consumers seek harmony among attitudes and behaviors whenever they can and change components to maintain consistency
- COGNITIVE DISSONANCE → "People experience psychological discomfort when there is an inconsistency between "cognitions (attitudes, beliefs, values, opinions, knowledge) about themselves, about their behavior and about their surroundings" (Festinger 1957)
- Consumers take action to resolve dissonance when their attitudes and behaviors are inconsistent: they adjust either one of them
- Alignment not always easy!



#### The attitude-behaviour gap in sustainable tourism



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#### ABSTRACT

This study investigates why people who actively engage in environmental protection at home engage in vacation behaviour which has negative environmental consequences, albeit unintentionally. The environmental activists participating in the study were highly aware of the negative environmental consequences of tourism in general, but all displayed an attitude–behaviour gap which made them feel uncomfortable. Participants did not report changing their behaviour; instead, they offered a wide range of explanations justifying their tourist activities. Gaining insight into these explanations contributes to our understanding of why it is so difficult to motivate people to minimize the negative environmental impacts of their vacations, and represents a promising starting point for new interventions to reduce environmentally unsustainable tourism behaviours.



### **Attitude commitment**

#### INTERNALIZATION

 Highest level: deep-seeded attitudes become part of consumer's personal value system

#### **IDENTIFICATION**

 Mid-level: attitudes formed in order to conform to another person or group

#### COMPLIANCE

 Lowest level: consumer forms attitude because it gains rewards or avoids punishments



Can you give personal examples of internalization (consistent attitude), identification (you starting to like something due to group/peer influence), compliance (rewards/punishments)?



Can you recall a time when your attitude has been fundamentally changed? Or a thing that you used to believe and now don't?



# Making judgements



# Social judgement theory

We assimilate new information about attitude objects in light of what we already know/feel. In other words, we perceive and evaluate an idea by comparing it with out current attitudes.

### Three parts to the theory:

- 1. Lattitude of acceptance
- 2. Lattitude of rejection
- 3. Lattitude of noncommitment



# Social judgement theory

- 1. Lattitude of acceptance
  - 1. The range of ideas that we see as reasonable or worthy of consideration
- 2. Lattitude of rejection
  - 1. The range of ideas that we see as unreasonable or objectionable
- 3. Lattitude of noncommitment
  - 1. The range of ideas that we see as neither acceptable or objectionable



# Social judgement theory

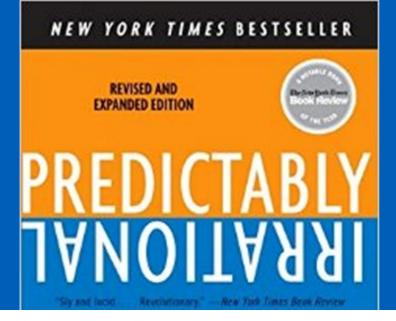




# Continuing with the mind...

The mind and the marketplace





CHAPTER 9



Why the Mind Gets What It Expects



# What can we learn from the Coca Cola vs. Pepsi experiment?





The brain activation of the participants was different depending on whether the name of the drink was revealed or not.

The reaction of the brain to the basic hedonic value of the drinks (essentially sugar) turned out to be similar for the two drinks. But the advantage of Coke over Pepsi was due to Cokes's brand—which activated the higher-order brain mechanisms.



#### EXPERIENCE VS. EXPECTATIONS

The moral is that if you tell people up front that something might be distasteful, the odds are good that they will end up agreeing with you—not because their experience tells them so but because of their expectations.

WHEN WE BELIEVE beforehand that something will be good, therefore, it generally will be good—and when we think it will be bad, it will bad.



# The power of presentation



VS.

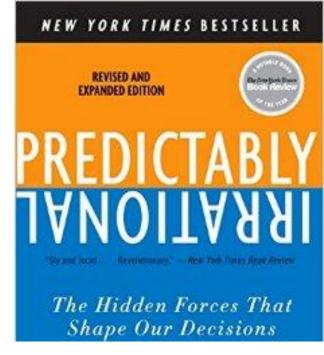


Implications for designing customer experiences?



# Why a 50-cent aspirin can do what a penny aspirin can't

- The power of the placebo effect
- Price of products as the guiding principle for the placebo effect



CHAPTER 10

#### The Power of Price

Why a 50-Cent Aspirin Can Do What a Penny Aspirin Can't



# Marketing implication?

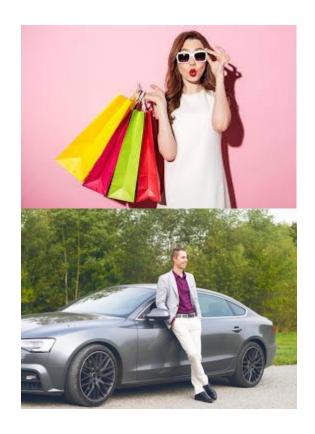
"Placebos pose dilemmas for marketers, too. Their profession requires them to create perceived value. Hyping a product beyond what can be objectively proved is —depending on the degree of hype —stretching the truth or outright lying."





# Self-control and temptations





"Resisting temptation and instilling selfcontrol are general human goals, and repeatedly failing to achieve them is a source of much of our misery."



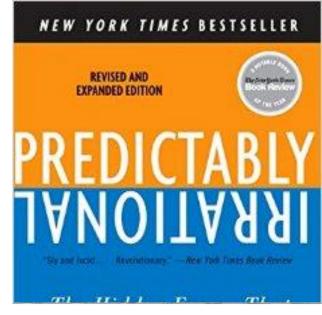


## Why is self-control so hard?

"The road to hell, they say, is paved with good intentions. And most of us know what that's all about. We promise to save for retirement, but we spend the money on a vacation. We vow to diet, but we surrender to the allure of the dessert cart. We promise to have our cholesterol checked regularly, and then we cancel our appointment."

- PROCRASTINATION = giving up long-term goals for immediate gratification
- Decision-making under hot emotions vs. cool states





CHAPTER 6

### The Problem of Procrastination and Self-Control

Why We Can't Make Ourselves Do What We Want to Do

### Indulgence and self-control

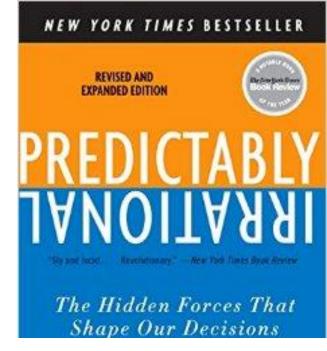
- SELF-CONTROL: abstaining from action with short-term benefits in lieu of action with bigger long-term benefits
- Idea of consumption as release, reward, and indulgence strong in marketing

Las Vegas: Another Name for Indulgence



### **Options as distractions?**

"In a modern democracy people are beset not by a lack of opportunity, but by a dizzying abundance of it. In our modern society this is emphatically so. We are continually reminded that we can do anything and be anything we want to be. The problem is in living up to this dream. We must develop ourselves in every way possible; must taste every aspect of life; must make sure that of the 1,000 things to see before dying, we have not stopped at number 999. But then comes a problem—are we spreading ourselves too thin?"



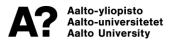
CHAPTER 8

### Keeping Doors Open

Why Options Distract Us from Our Main Objective



## Marketing implications?





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# Thank you!

