A Study on Consumer Perception towards Social Media Advertising with Special Reference to Coimbatore City

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Abstract: Social media is changing the way information is communicated to and from people around the world. The rapid use of social media such as blogs and other social networking sites and media-sharing technology is changing the way firms respond to consumers needs and wants and changing the way they respond to their competitors. Marketers now have the opportunity to engage in broader and more innovative forms of online mass media communications by using the social media marketing tools. Social networking programs group individuals by interest, hometowns, employees, schools and other commonalities. Social networking is also significant target for marketers seeking to engage users.

Keywords: Consumer, Social Media Advertising, Indian consumers perception

1. Introduction

In today’s technology driven world, social networking sites have become an avenue where retailers can extend their marketing campaigns to a wider range of consumers. Social media advertising as a connection between product and consumers, offering a personal channel and currency for user centered networking and social interaction. The tools and approaches for communicating with customers have changed greatly with the emergence of social media; therefore, businesses must learn how to use social media in a way that is consistent with their business plan. This is especially true for companies striving to gain a competitive advantage. This review examines current literature that focuses on a retailer’s development and use of social media as an extension of their marketing strategy. This phenomenon has only developed within the last decade, thus social media research has largely focused on (1) defining what it is through the explanation of new terminology and concepts that makeup its foundations, and (2) exploring the impact of company’s integration of social media on consumer behavior. This paper begins with an social media advertisement, it is has become clear that studies are focusing on describing what social media advertisement is as well as examining what factors influencing consumer behavior relative to social media advertisement.

Understanding consumer’s perception towards social media advertising has always been one of the goals of advertisers. Advertisements that are successful in delivering its messages to its audiences can help to promote and build awareness on the company’s offerings. With the rapid development of information technologies worldwide in the past decade, social media advertising are increasingly relying on various modes of interactive technology to advertise and promote their products and services. Furthermore, the idea of executing a content that is current and entertaining could get consumers to interact electronically in an effective way. This powerful attribute can be seen as a future of advertising and may become more figurative in consumers’ minds than television advertising as a marketing.

Social network sites such as Facebook, Twitter, You tube, LinkedIn have become the popular medium of market practitioners to engage their marketing activities. Facebook-Facebook was founded by Mark Zuckerberg in the year 2004. This is one of the fastest growing social networks worldwide.

Twitter- Twitter was created in March 2006 by Jack Dorsey and Noah Glass and launched in July 2006. This service rapidly gained world wide popularity.

You Tube- You Tube was founded by Chad Hurley, Steve Chen and Jawed Karim it was activated on February 2005. LinkedIn- LinkedIn was founded on December 14 2002. It is a business and employment oriented social networking service that operates via websites.

2. Objectives of Study

- To study the consumer preference towards purchase of products via social media advertising.
- To study the factors influencing the consumer for the purchase of products through social media advertisement.
- To study the problems faced by consumer due to social media advertising.
- To offer suggestion for the problems due to social media advertising.

3. Methodology of Study

Area of Study
The area of study refers to Coimbatore city only.

Source of Study
The study covers 300 samples selected in the basis of convenience sampling method. To collect the primary data questions framed in a simple and understand way.

Sample Method
The sampling method used in convenience random sample method.
Statement of Problem
The increasing presence of social media in India gives an active advantage to consumers through advertisement, the Indian consumers perception towards these advertisement unexplored while presenting advertisement in social media it helps the people to understand easily about the product and it leads to sales promotion. The study aims in finding consumer perception towards social media websites face book, Linked In, twitter and you tube. This paper is focusing on thru perception of customer towards social media and its . For this purpose the following factors like product information falsity and image was employed in this study.

4. Limitations of the Study
The following are the limitations of the study:
- The research is geographically restricted to Coimbatore city only.
- The sample size is restricted to 300 respondents.
In this chapter the result of the study have been summarized and presented.

5. Findings and Suggestions Findings
The following are the findings of the study.
- Majority (51%) of the respondents are male.
- Most (43%) of the respondents belong to the age group of 20-30 years.
- Majority (59%) of the respondents are qualified at college level.
- Most (36%) of the respondents are employee and their income level is Rs10,000-.20000.
- Majority (53%) of the respondents have four members in the family.
- Most (33%) of the respondents use internet for one or two hours in a day.
- Most (38%) of the respondents log into the networking sites daily.
- Majority (50%) of the respondents use facebook.
- Majority (53%) of the respondents feel communication of advertisement is better in facebook.
- Most (42%) of the respondents have chosen social media advertisement for attractive advertisement.
- Majority (85%) of the respondents prefer branded products.
- Most (34%) of the respondents selected electronic gadgets.
- Majority (66%) of respondents chosen yes that social media advertisement is necessary for decision making.
- Most (48%) of respondents make decision due to attraction.
- Most (24%) of respondents prefer promotional stages for factors in advertisement.
- Majority (77%) of respondents chosen advertisement is informative.
- Majority (51%) of respondents refused that advertisement is unsuitable for people.
- Most (36%) of the respondents chose fake as a reason for unsuitable.
- Most (36%) of the respondents prefer advertisement is kind usefulness.

5.1 Suggestions
On the basis of result of study, the researchers brings out the following suggestion
a) Quality
It is understood from the study that quality which is advertised in social media are comparatively low. Hence it is recommended to manufacturer to ensure the quality besides bringing attractive advertising.

b) Fake Products
Among the problems faced by the respondents, the issue of fake products is a serious concern the customers are cheated and dissatisfied. So, the fake products advertisement should be banned for the customers welfare.

c) Advertisements
Most of the respondents make decision due to attraction of the advertisements. Most of them won’t consider the unattractive advertisement and they skip out. The very attractively advertisement only creates interest to watch and get memorized and they can recall it after a long time. So attractive is must.

d) Need For Promotion
Our majority of respondents suggested that promotion is important to watch the advertisement interesty. Updation of products on advertisement is necessary to watch it or else they get bored on seeing the same repeated advertisement.

e) Informative
Most of the respondents expects an informative advertisement they tries to gather some information or idea on seeing the advertisement. So the advertisement should be informative to reach it widely

6. Conclusion
In conclusion, The research has determined that quality which is advertised in social media are comparatively low. It is understood from the study that quality which is advertised in social media are comparatively low. Hence it is recommended to manufacturer to ensure the quality besides bringing attractive advertising.

References
Annexure
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Questionnaire

1) Name: ______________

2) Gender: Male □ Female □

3) Age: Below 20 years □ 20-30 years □ 30-40 years □ 40-50 years □ 50 years and above □

4) Marital status: Married □ Unmarried □

5) Educational Level: School Level □ College Level □ Professional Qualification □ Others Please Specify □

6) Occupation Status: Agriculture □ Business □ Employee □ Professionals □ Others Please Specify □

7) Monthly Income: Below Rs 10,000 □ Rs 10,000-20,000 □ Rs20,000-30,000 □ Rs30,000-40,000 □ Above Rs 40,000 □

8) State the number of members in the family? Upto 2 members □ 3 members □ 4 members □ Above 4 members □

9) How often you use Internet? Once a week □ 1 or 2 hours □ 2 to 3 hours □ More than 3 hours □

10) How often you log in those networking site? Daily □ 2 or 3 times a day □ Once a week □

11) How many social networking profile do you have? Mention the number here ______And tick the option: Youtube □ Facebook □ Twitter □ LinkedIn □ Others Please Specify ______

12) In which social networking sites do you find advertisement communicated well? Youtube □ Facebook □ Twitter □ LinkedIn □ Others Please Specify ______

13) Reason for choosing social media advertisement? Clothes □ Electronic gadgets □ Home appliances □ Cosmetics & perfumes □ Jewelleries & accessories □ Others Please Specify ______

14) What kind of product you prefer through social media advertisement? Branded □ Non-branded □

15) If branded, what kind of product you prefer? Attractive advertisement □ Better price □ Comfort □ Others Please Specify ______

16) Do you think social media advertisement is necessary for decision making? Yes □ No □

17) If yes, please specify: Attraction □ Necessity □ Celebrity □ Marketing strategies □ Others Please Specify ______

18) What are the factors in an advertisement which will make you change your brand-loyalty? Promotional strategies □ Vivid features □ Benefits □ Value for money □ Discounts □ Others Please Specify ______

19) Do you find the advertisements informative or annoying? Informative □ Annoying □

20) Does the contents of the advertisement may be unsuitable for people? Yes □ No □

21) If yes, please specify: Irritating □ Fake □ Unsuitable □ Unsecure □ Others Please Specify ______

22) How useful do you think that social media advertisement has been for the company? Very useful □ Kind useful □ Not very useful □ Useless □ Don’t know □

23) Tick the following statement according to the agreeability:
Social media advertisements influence consumer purchasing behaviour.
Social media is better than any other type of advertising.
The quality of product matches what is shown in social media advertisement.

SA – Strongly agree  A – Agree  N – Neutral  D – Disagree  SD – Strongly disagree

24) Suggestions if any _______________________________________________________.

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