

## Chapter 2 Consumer Behavior In A Services Context Unibg

What is the exact nature of the consumption function? Can this term be defined so that it will be consistent with empirical evidence and a valid instrument in the hands of future economic researchers and policy makers? In this volume a distinguished American economist presents a new theory of the consumption function, tests it against extensive statistical material and suggests some of its significant implications. Central to the new theory is its sharp distinction between two concepts of income, measured income, or that which is recorded for a particular period, and permanent income, a longer-period concept in terms of which consumers decide how much to spend and how much to save. Milton Friedman suggests that the total amount spent on consumption is on the average the same fraction of permanent income, regardless of the size of permanent income. The magnitude of the fraction depends on variables such as interest rate, degree of uncertainty relating to occupation, ratio of wealth to income, family size, and so on. The hypothesis is shown to be consistent with budget studies and time series data, and some of its far-reaching implications are explored in the final chapter.

In services marketing, it is important to understand why customers behave the way they do. How do they make decisions about buying and using a service? What determines their satisfaction with it after consumption? Without this understanding, no firm can hope to create and deliver services that will result in satisfied customers who will buy again. *Understanding Service Consumers* is the first volume in the *Winning in Service Markets Series* by services marketing expert Jochen Wirtz. Scientifically grounded, accessible and practical, the *Winning in Service Markets Series* bridges the gap between cutting-edge academic research and industry practitioners, and features best practices and latest trends on services marketing and management from around the world.

*Essentials of Consumer Behavior* offers an alternative to traditional textbooks for graduate students. Shorter than competing books, but no less rigorous, it includes unique material on vulnerable consumers and ethics. Balancing a strong academic foundation with a practical approach, Stephens emphasizes that consumer behavior does not simply equate to buyer behavior. She examines the thoughts, feelings, and behaviors that shape consumers' attitudes and motivations in relation to brands, products, and marketing messages. Providing a concise guide to the discipline, the author covers key themes such as vulnerable consumers, new technologies, and collaborative consumption. The book is supported by a rich companion website offering links to videos and podcasts, surveys, quizzes, further readings, and more. It will be a valuable text for any graduate student of consumer behavior or marketing, as well as any interested consumers.

*Sensory Evaluation Practices* examines the principles and practices of sensory evaluation. It describes methods and procedures for the analysis of results from sensory tests; explains the reasons for selecting a particular procedure or test method; and discusses the organization and operation of a testing program, the design of a test facility, and the interpretation of results. Comprised of three parts encompassing nine chapters, this volume begins with an overview of sensory evaluation: what it does; how, where, and for whom; and its origin in physiology and psychology. It then discusses measurement, psychological errors in testing, statistics, test strategy, and experimental design. The reader is also introduced to the discrimination, descriptive, and affective methods of testing, along with the criteria used to select a specific method, procedures for data analysis, and the communication of actionable results. The book concludes by looking at problems where sensory evaluation is applicable, including correlation of instrumental and sensory data, measurement of perceived efficacy, storage testing, and product optimization. This book is a valuable resource for sensory professionals, product development and production specialists, research directors, technical managers, and professionals involved in marketing, marketing research, and advertising.

The fragmented information that consumers receive about the nutritional value and health risks associated with fish and shellfish can result in confusion or misperceptions about these food sources. Consumers are therefore confronted with a dilemma: they are told that seafood is good for them and should be consumed in large amounts, while at the same time the federal government and most states have issued advisories urging caution in the consumption of certain species or seafood from specific waters. *Seafood Choices* carefully explores the decision-making process for selecting seafood by assessing the evidence on availability of specific nutrients (compared to other food sources) to obtain the greatest nutritional benefits. The book prioritizes the potential for adverse health effects from both naturally occurring and introduced toxicants in seafood; assesses evidence on the availability of specific nutrients in seafood compared to other food sources; determines the impact of modifying food choices to reduce intake of toxicants on nutrient intake and nutritional status within the U.S. population; develops a decision path for U.S. consumers to weigh their seafood choices to obtain nutritional benefits balanced against exposure risks; and identifies data gaps and recommendations for future research. The information provided in this book will benefit food technologists, food manufacturers, nutritionists, and those involved in health professions making nutritional recommendations. This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under grant #SES-8410190. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation. This support was crucial to the completion of this project, and we are grateful for it. As is usually the case when doing academic research, we are also indebted to a number of individuals. Robert Gillingham, John Greenlees, Jack Triplett, and Paul Harte-Chen freely gave of their time to share their ideas concerning income-based cost of living indices. Seminar participants at the BLS, the University of Karlsruhe, and Tilburg University provided insightful comments on preliminary portions of the manuscript. Bill Stober provided encouragement, and Desmond Lo and Albert Tsui read parts of the manuscript. We owe a special thanks to Bert Balk for providing detailed handwritten comments on a preliminary draft. Evelyn Buchanan and Audrey Abel did an excellent job of typing and retyping numerous drafts of the manuscript. Finally, a very warm thanks to our wives, for enduring. CONTENTS Page PREFACE PART I.

Consumer behaviour.

*Emotion and Reason in Consumer Behavior* provides new insights into the effects that emotion and rational thought have on marketing outcomes. It uses sound academic research at a level students and professionals can understand.

The Social Psychology of Consumer Behavior brings together the most promising and theoretically fruitful research developments by internationally renowned scholars, whose work is at the cutting edge of research. Experts from both fields – social psychology and consumer behavior – provide an informed, up-to-date overview, from an original integrative perspective. The aim of this volume is two-fold. On the one hand, the application of social psychology to consumer behavior is meant to broaden the horizon of social psychologists. On the other hand, students and researchers of consumer behavior will be offered an advanced account of relevant theories tailored to their interests. While the range of topics is rather broad – including the construal of judgments and decisions, affective and cognitive feelings, social and media influences, and goals and self-regulation – each chapter is focused on one specific theoretical or methodological perspective and thereby gives a comprehensive and penetrative account of the relevant issues and the respective research. The volume provides an invaluable resource to students, researchers, and instructors in social psychology, consumer psychology, consumer behavior, and marketing.

This book covers fundamentals as well as the core schema of digital technologies and consumer behavior. While reading the book, the reader can connect from the primary to advanced level of digital technologies and consumer behavior. This book will prove to be useful for all the professionals and students of professional courses. This book enriches the marketing management know-how and enables in formulating the marketing strategies in the current digital age.

No time in the history, consumption is considered to be as important as in today's world. It defines who we are, how well/perfect we perform our multiroles within the society (buying the most expensive clothes means being the best mom for instances), what symbolic meanings we attribute to our belongings, and how rich/clever/fashion conscious or innovative we are. Due to multidisciplinary and multimethod character of the concept of consumer behavior, it is appropriate to study it accordingly in order to understand the subject with its different aspects and holistically. Especially with the cultural, social, and technological changes within today's world, this issue becomes prominent. This book is a modest try for that end.

This concise introduction presents a rigorous analysis of consumer choice from the perspective of consumer behavior analysis. Gordon Foxall provides a deeper understanding of what consumers actually buy and the nature of the utility that shapes and maintains patterns of consumption.

Offering a comprehensive view of a field that is evolving at an unprecedented pace, *Essentials of Services Marketing*, Third Edition, is a concise, reader-friendly guide to marketing and managing services. Encompassing pioneering service concepts and the latest developments, academic research as well as managerial insights, this book combines a practical, real-world focus with rich visual pedagogy to present an engaging and exciting look at the world of the service economy. Features:

- The book uses a systematic learning approach. Each chapter has clear learning objectives, an organizing framework that provides a quick overview of the chapter's contents and line of argument, and chapter summaries in bullet form that condense the core concepts and messages of each chapter.
- Opening vignettes and boxed inserts within the chapters are designed to capture student interest and provide opportunities for in-class discussions. They describe significant research findings, illustrate practical applications of important service marketing concepts, and describe best practices by innovative service organizations.
- Contains the most relevant contexts of services marketing based on the Indian perspective in the form of relevant examples, theoretical questions, practical exercises, activities and references.
- A simple demonstration of concepts with appropriate figures/images for better understanding.
- The book also shares an overview of other global services marketing aspects along with examples in a lucid manner.

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The *Evolutionary Bases of Consumption* by Gad Saad applies Darwinian principles in understanding our consumption patterns and the products of popular culture that most appeal to individuals. The first and only scholarly work to do so, this is a captivating study of the adaptive reasons behind our behaviors, cognitions, emotions, and perceptions. This lens of analysis suggests how we come to make selections such as choosing a mate, the foods we eat, the gifts that we offer, and more. It also highlights how numerous forms of dark side consumption, including pathological gambling, compulsive buying, pornographic addiction, and eating disorders, possess a Darwinian etiology. Engaging and diverse in scope, the book maps consumption phenomena onto four key Darwinian modules: survival, reproduction, kin selection, and reciprocal altruism. As an interesting proposal, the author suggests that media and advertising contents exist in their particular forms because they are a reflection of our evolved human nature - negating the notion that they exist through the reverse causal link, as proposed by social constructivists. The link between evolutionary theory and consumption behaviors is detailed throughout the book via an examination of (among many others): appearance-enhancing products and services; financial and physical risk-taking; use of sexual imagery and the depictions of women in advertising; and television programs, movies, songs, music videos, literature, religion, and art. *The Evolutionary Bases of Consumption* will appeal to evolutionists who desire to explore new areas wherein evolutionary theory can be applied; consumer and marketing scholars who wish to learn about the ways in which biological-and evolutionary-based theorizing can be infused into the consumer behavior/marketing/advertising disciplines; as well as other interdisciplinary scholars interested in gaining knowledge about the power of evolutionary theory in explaining a wide range of behavioral phenomena.

In today's increasingly connected business world, there is new pressure for local brands to go global, and a need for already global corporations to cater to new audiences that were previously ignored. *Islamic Perspectives on Marketing and Consumer Behavior: Planning, Implementation, and Control* brings together the best practices for entry and expansion of global brands into Islamic countries. This book is an essential reference source for professionals looking to incorporate the laws and practices of Islam into the global presence of their company and presents a cutting edge look at worldwide retail for marketing researchers and academics.

Abstract: "This book discusses the indispensable value of understanding consumer activities and the crucial role they play in developing successful marketing strategies by focusing on concepts such as consumer perceptions, consumption culture, and the influence of information technology"--Provided by publisher

Consumer Behavior in Action is a down-to-earth, highly engaging, and thorough introduction to consumer behavior. It goes further than other consumer behavior textbooks to generate student interest and activity through extensive use of in-class and written applications exercises. Each chapter presents several exercises, in self-contained units, each with its own applications. Learning objectives, background, and context are provided in an easy-to-digest format with liberal use of lists and bullet points. Also included in each chapter are a key concepts list, review questions, and a solid summary to help initiate further student research. The author's practical focus and clear, conversational writing style, combined with an active-learning approach, make this textbook the student-friendly choice for courses on consumer behavior.

Models of Buyer Behavior, Chapter 2A Theory of Family Buying Decisions Marketing Classics Press Essentials of Services Marketing, 3e Pearson Education India

Cutting edge and relevant to the local context, this first Australia and New Zealand edition of Hoyer, Consumer Behaviour, covers the latest research from the academic field of consumer behaviour. The text explores new examples of consumer behaviour using case studies, advertisements and brands from Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. The authors recognise the critical links to areas such as marketing, public policy and ethics, as well as covering the importance of online consumer behaviour with significant content on how social media and smartphones are changing the way marketers understand consumers. \* Students grasp the big picture and see how the chapters and topics relate to each other by reviewing detailed concept maps \* Marketing Implications boxes examine how theoretical concepts have been used in practice, and challenge students to think about how marketing decisions impact consumers \* Considerations boxes require students to think deeply about technological, research, cultural and international factors to consider in relation to the contemporary consumer \* Opening vignettes and end-of-chapter cases give students real-world insights into, and opportunities to analyse consumer behaviour, with extensive Australian and international examples providing issues in context

This wide-ranging yet focused text provides an informative introduction to consumer behavior supported by in-depth, scientifically grounded coverage of key principles and applications.

CONSUMER BEHAVIOR, Second Edition, devotes ample attention to classic consumer behavior topics, including consumer information processing, consumer decision making, persuasion, social media and the role of culture and society on consumer behavior. In addition, this innovative text explores important current topics and trends relevant to modern consumer behavior, such as international and ethical perspectives, an examination of contemporary media, and a discussion of online tactics and branding strategies. This versatile text strikes an ideal balance among theoretical concepts, cutting-edge research findings, and applied real-world examples that illustrate how successful businesses apply consumer behavior to develop better products and services, market them more effectively, and achieve a sustainable competitive advantage. With its strong consumer-focused, strategy-oriented approach, CONSUMER BEHAVIOR, Second Edition, will serve you well in the classroom and help you develop the knowledge and skills to succeed in the dynamic world of modern business. Important Notice: Media content referenced within the product description or the product text may not be available in the ebook version.

This particular research is aimed at finding the marketing implication of influence of social class on consumer behavior for Sainsbury. Social classes differ in respect of behaviors, attitudes, and preferences. To investigate the consumer behavior and social class relationship, triangulation methodology has been adopted. A sample of 75 consumers of Sainsbury has been selected through convenience sampling. A questionnaire has been designed to collect data from sample. The findings showed that most of the respondents belonged to middle and lower social classes. The research found that middle and lower classes spend major part of their income on food and necessities of life whereas upper class spends its income on luxuries. It has been found that upper class uses internet for getting information about products and services of Sainsbury. Middle class uses televisions and newspaper for getting information about products and services of company. Upper class has more intentions of online shopping as compared to other classes. Upper classes have more attitude of investing in profitable projects. It has been found that lower and middle classes use credit cards for shopping and take bank loans for fulfilling their needs. Marketers can identify needs and preferences of different social classes from results of this particular research. Research has been limited to the findings only which have been collected from a small sample.

Containing original and previously unpublished theoretical and empirical studies, Consumer Behavior in Travel and Tourism will give professionals, professors, and researchers in the field up-to-date insight and information on trends, happenings, and findings in the international hospitality business arena. A great resource for educators, this book is complete with learning objectives, concept definitions, and even review questions at the end of each chapter. From this book, readers will understand and learn the needs and preferences of tourists and how to investigate the process of destination and product selection to help provide customers with products and services that will best meet their needs. In today's highly competitive business environment, understanding travel behavior is imperative to success. Consumer Behavior in Travel and Tourism brings together several studies in one volume, representing the first attempt to explore, define, analyze, and evaluate the consumption of tourist and travel products. This guide offers essential research strategies and methods that enables readers to determine the wants and needs of tourists, including: discussing and evaluating the main factors that affect consumer behavior in travel and tourism, such as travel motivation, destination choice, and the consequent travel behavior exploring the various decision-making processes of consumers that leads to consequent destination choices through case study analysis and marketing suggestions determining customer expectations of products through a variety of research techniques in order to find ways of improving satisfaction examining selected research tools, such as product positioning and repositioning and using perceptual maps, to evaluate the market implications of using qualitative and/or quantitative research techniques detecting and analyzing the relative roles individual, environmental, socioeconomic, and demographic factors play in choosing travel destinations Full of detailed charts and graphs, Consumer Behavior in Travel and Tourism illustrates key points to give you a better understanding of important facts and findings in the field.

Consumption is the primary economic activity in our post-industrial society. We are consumers, not producers. Consumer behavior analysis is leading heterodox marketing scholarship and innovative applied behavioral work, with much to offer both constituencies. This volume shows how consumer behavior analysis fits within a larger-scale approach to marketing, consumer

psychology, behavior analysis and organizational behavior management. Describing both theoretical analyses and empirical studies including laboratory experiments in e-commerce, in-store experiments in grocery shopping, and an analysis of the counterfeit goods market, this book is a working example of translational research. It contains tools and studies to help understand contemporary consumer behavior, particularly for those in marketing. Scholars will appreciate the theory and real-world applications evident in each chapter when considering their own research direction. All students of marketing theory, behavior analysis and consumer choice will find this collection a thought-provoking tool for further understanding of a new behavioral approach to marketing strategy, consumer decisions and marketing firms. This book comprises articles originally published in the Journal of Organizational Behavior Management. Praised for its no nonsense approach to engaging students and conveying key learning outcomes and for striking a good balance between sociological and psychological aspects of consumer behaviour, the new edition now features increased coverage of social media, digital consumption and up-to-date marketing practice. Written from a European perspective, international in its scope and with an array of global international examples and cases from a variety of geographic locations and different industry sectors threaded throughout the text, students' understanding and retention of the subject is encouraged through innovative learning features including: 'how to impress your examiner' boxes - ideas and tips for what an examiner may be looking for to help students get the best possible grades in their assessments. 'consumer behaviour in action' boxes – focus on consumer decisions allowing students to focus on the applications of the concepts and theories underpinning the motivations of consumers – something they are likely to do in their future careers as marketers. 'challenging the status quo' boxes – encouraging students to think outside the box, think critically and exercise their problem solving skills. The book is complemented by a companion website featuring a range of tools and resources for lecturers and students, including PowerPoint slides, multiple choice questions, case studies, interactive glossary, flashcards, multimedia links and selected author videos to make the examples in each chapter come to life. Suitable for Undergraduate students with little or no background knowledge of consumer behaviour.

Globalization is a leading force for industry worldwide, especially the new technology sector. This presents both problems and opportunities in the emergence of a new type of consumer and the effects of globalization on industry in terms of culture, economics, marketing, and social issues at every scale from local to global. The main aim of the book is to enhance the reader's knowledge – especially from a multidisciplinary perspective rather than from an individual functional perspective – of international consumer behaviour. It also explores the role of globalization in the evolving world of the new technology sector and provides an overview of the development of international consumer behavior from historical, geographical and social perspectives, while focusing on new technology products and services. Professionals, students and researchers working in the fields of new technologies and information and communication technologies (ICT) as well as specialists of marketing and management are the target audience for this book. At the same time, the book will be pitched at a level so as to also appeal to a more general readership interested in globalization.

Handbook of U.S. Consumer Economics presents a deep understanding on key, current topics and a primer on the landscape of contemporary research on the U.S. consumer. This volume reveals new insights into household decision-making on consumption and saving, borrowing and investing, portfolio allocation, demand of professional advice, and retirement choices. Nearly 70% of U.S. gross domestic product is devoted to consumption, making an understanding of the consumer a first order issue in macroeconomics. After all, understanding how households played an important role in the boom and bust cycle that led to the financial crisis and recent great recession is a key metric. Introduces household finance by examining consumption and borrowing choices Tackles macro-problems by observing new, original micro-data Looks into the future of consumer spending by using data, not questionnaires

Over the past two decades, the face of the world consumer has truly changed. Goods are more available, information about these goods is more open and accessible, and the ability to buy these goods from any corner of the earth has become possible. As a result, international marketing is more important now than ever before. In this book, Josh Samli explores the challenges facing modern international marketers. He explains what it is to have successful communication with the target market: using social media to share consistent information about products and services, communicating directly with culture-driven consumers who already communicate online amongst themselves and with competitors, and mastering people-to-people communication with both privileged and non-privileged consumers. Any company dealing with international marketing must learn how to handle these new challenges in order to survive in the 21st century. The Routledge Companion to Consumer Behavior Analysis provides a unique and eclectic combination of behavioral, cognitive and environmental perspectives to illuminate the real-world complexities of consumer choice in a marketing-oriented economy. Edited by a leading authority in the field, the contributing authors have created a unique anthology for understanding consumer preference by bringing together the very latest research and thinking in consumer behavior analysis. This comprehensive and innovative volume ranges over a broad multi-disciplinary perspective from economic psychology, behavioral psychology and experimental economics, but its chief focus is on the critical evaluation of consumer choice in the natural settings of affluent, marketing-oriented economies. By focussing on human economic and social choices, which involve social exchange, it explores and reveals the enormous potential of consumer behavior analysis to illuminate the role of modern marketing-oriented business organizations in shaping and responding to consumer choice. This will be of particular interest to academics, researchers and advanced students in marketing, consumer behavior, behavior analysis, social psychology, behavioral economics and behavioral psychology.

This book compares consumer behavior in two nineteenth-century peripheral cities: Melbourne, Australia and Buenos Aires, Argentina. It provides an analysis of domestic archaeological assemblages from two inner-city working class neighborhood sites that were largely populated by recently arrived immigrants. The book also uses primary, historical documents to assess the place of these cities within global trade networks and explores the types of goods arriving into each city. By comparing the assemblages and archival data it is possible to explore the role of choice, ethnicity, and class on consumer behavior. This approach is significant as it provides an archaeological assessment of consumer behavior which crosses socio-political divides, comparing a site within a British colony to a site in a former Spanish colony in South America. As two geographically, politically and ethnically distinct cities it was expected that archaeological and archival data would reveal substantial variation. In reality, differences, although noted, were small. Broad similarities point to the far-reaching impact of colonialism and consumerism and widespread interconnectedness during the nineteenth century. This book demonstrates the wealth of information that can be gained from international comparisons that include sites outside the British Empire.

This title describes the state of the art in all areas of spatial marketing, discussing the various constituents which make up the geography of markets. Demand varies according to location and can be measured according to revenue, the number of households, spending patterns and lifestyles. Supply is also dependent on position, because prices, services, products and available shops rely on location, while the difference between supply and demand is the rationale for the role of the trader. The book also covers the way geographic techniques help to solve marketing problems and contains chapters written by contributors with extensive experience in this field; given that it is crucial for companies to direct their marketing correctly at their target audience, this will be indispensable reading for those involved in this area.

CONSUMER BEHAVIOR combines a foundation in key concepts from marketing, psychology, sociology, and anthropology with a highly practical focus on real-world applications for today's business environment. The new edition of this popular, pioneering text incorporates the latest cutting-edge research and current business practices, including extensive coverage of social media influences, increased consumer power, emerging neuroscience findings, and emotion in consumer decision making. In addition, the Sixth Edition includes an increased emphasis on social responsibility and ethics in marketing. With even more real-world examples and application exercises, including new opening examples and closing cases in every chapter, CONSUMER BEHAVIOR provides a thorough, yet engaging and enjoyable guide to this essential subject, enabling students and professionals alike to master the skills they need to succeed. Important Notice: Media content referenced within the product description or the product text may not be available in the ebook version.

The author is concerned with whether or not surveys of consumer anticipations can improve predictions of purchase behavior relative to predictions that use only objective variables obtainable at the same date. The basic objective of the study is improved predictions of changes over time. Originally published in 1964. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.

For advanced courses in economic analysis, this book presents the economic theory of consumer behavior, focusing on the applications of the theory to welfare economies and econometric analysis.

By establishing the parameters of international consumer behavior patterns, Dr. Samli provides the foundation to develop successful international marketing strategies.

In modern business practices, marketing dimensions are changing with new opportunities appearing in consumer behavioral contexts. By studying consumer activities, businesses can better engage and retain current and new customers. Socio-Economic Perspectives on Consumer Engagement and Buying Behavior is a comprehensive reference source on new innovative dimensions of consumer behavioral studies and reveals different conceptual and theoretical frameworks. Featuring expansive coverage on a number of relevant topics and perspectives, such as green products, automotive technology, and anti-branding, this book is ideally designed for students, researchers, and professionals seeking current research on the dimensions of consumer engagement and buying behavior.

William Wilkie has succeeded in writing a book on consumer behavior that is stimulating, provides clear explanations, and is a pleasure to read. Considering such issues as why people buy some products and not others, why some consumers spend frugally while others run up large debts, what role the marketing system plays in consumer behavior, and how a marketer actually influences a consumer, it includes the best and useful frameworks and marketing "rules of thumb" that tie concepts together and apply them to the reality of the marketer's role. In this Second Edition, topical coverage has been organized more clearly and coverage of market segmentation has been greatly expanded. A section on organizational buying behavior had been added, and the expanded "notes" section has been placed at the back of the book for easy access.

Consumer behaviour is more than buying things; it also embraces the study of how having (or not having) things affects our lives and how possessions influence the way we feel about ourselves and each other - our state of being. The 3rd edition of Consumer Behaviour is presented in a contemporary framework based around the buying, having and being model and in an Australasian context. Students will be engaged and excited by the most current research, real-world examples, global coverage, managerial applications and ethical examples to cover all facets of consumer behaviour. With new coverage of Personality and incorporating real consumer data, Consumer Behaviour is fresh, relevant and up-to-date. It provides students with the best possible introduction to this fascinating discipline.

The increasing division and specialization of labor between the market and the nonmarket sector is a central stylized fact of long-run economic development. Over time, a large share of activities which had formerly been carried out by the private household itself has become replaced by market alternatives, raising at the same time the demand for consumer goods. The neoclassical economic framework of household production theory relates the increasing demand for household technology to rising wages and opportunity costs of time: the higher the wage rate, the more costly it is to spend time in unpaid housework activities. Consumer products are thus purchased to make household production processes more efficient and to substitute capital goods for the household's time (time substitution hypothesis). Although this hypothesis sounds plausible at first sight, it cannot capture the essential phenomena underlying the complex process of the mechanization of the home over the past 200 years. Its major weakness lies in the treatment of consumer preferences, whose explanatory potential is explicitly factored out. Using the washing of clothes as a microcosm of household economics, this book examines long-term changes in cleanliness consumption patterns from the perspective of an evolutionary economic, psychologically informed consumer theory. Woersdorfer shows how the historical evolution of cleanliness consumption over the past 200 years is the result of the interplay of supply and demand side factors, namely, technical change in washing technology on one side and motivational driving forces and consumer learning capabilities on the other. Hence, not changing relative prices but innate consumer needs and consumer learning processes, leading to a growing understanding of how to satisfy those needs, are the essential driving forces behind the rising technological endowment of the home and the corresponding demand for household appliances. The Evolution of Household Technology and Consumer Behavior, 1800–2000 will be of interest to researchers in the field of evolutionary economics, history of technology, economic history, innovation economics and sociology.

Inhaltsangabe:Abstract: The idea of understanding consumer behaviour as a sequential decision-making process is one that is common in marketing. The decision-making process itself is presented as a logical flow of activities, working from problem recognition to purchase to post-purchase evaluation. This decision-making process is affected by a number of other more complex influences. Some of these influences relate to the wider environment in which the decision is being made while others relate to the individual who makes the decision. In this context, .. [o]ne of the most widely accepted notions in consumer behavior is that word-of-mouth communication (hereafter WOM) plays an important role in shaping consumers' attitudes and behaviors. More specifically, WOM communications between consumers are a topic of interest in both the pre-purchase and post-purchase decision-making literature. Research into the diffusion of innovations has focused on modelling the role of WOM in product adoption at various stages of the diffusion process. WOM has also been studied as a mechanism through which consumers convey both informational and normative influences in the product evaluation. Finally, WOM has been identified as an important post-purchase complaining option. Although WOM plays an important role in consumer pre-purchase and post-purchase decision-making, research into this phenomenon has been fragmented. Importantly, relatively little attention has been directed at understanding key issues with respect to WOM recommendation sources and the factors that influence their use. The aim of the present work is to add to this small body of empirical research. The main part of this paper is divided into two chapters. Chapter 2, that follows an introduction to the work, is a theoretical one. It is a review of the literature on consumer decision-making and the individual and environmental influences on it. Emphasis is being placed on WOM communication and its role in understanding consumer behaviour. Chapter 3 focuses on the choice of WOM recommendation sources. Empirical research is presented which explores the influences on the choice over WOM recommendation sources. Finally, concluding remarks and recommendations for further research can be found in chapter 4. Inhaltsverzeichnis:Table of Contents: Chapter 1: Introduction1 Chapter 2: Literature Review3 2.1Consumer Decision-Making3 2.1.1The Decision-Making Process4 2.1.1.1Problem [...]

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