HOW CAN BRANDS RESPOND TO THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

Threats & Opportunities for your Business

Jannet Wang, Executive Director MSU China

Jane Lattimore, APAC Leader MSU

Steven Naert, Global Solutions Leader Brand & Portfolio MSU

March 2020







- As COVID 19 is spreading across the globe, we can expect it to impact consumer behavior in the months to come.
 - Brands are hesitating to respond because they do not want to be seen as opportunistic.
 - How can brands respond to the this new reality?



AT THIS POINT PEOPLE SEEM UNSURE HOW TO REACT. IT IS LIKELY THAT IN A FEW MONTHS TIME MUCH OF LIFE AS WE KNOW IT WILL CONTINUE

Panic spreads faster than pandemics



But in absolute terms mortality rates are not extremely different to regular season's flu

AGE	DEATH RATE confirmed cases	DEATH RATE all cases
80+ years old	21.9%	14.8%
70-79 years old		8.0%
60-69 years old		3.6%
50-59 years old		1.3%
40-49 years old		0.4%
30-39 years old		0.2%
20-29 years old		0.2%
10-19 years old		0.2%
0-9 years old		no fatalities



A CHANGE IN CONTEXT ALSO MEANS THAT PEOPLE'S NEEDS AND BEHAVIOR WILL BE IMPACTED. HOW CAN BRANDS CONNECT WITH CONSUMERS DURING THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES?



When written in Chinese, the word 'crisis' is composed of two characters. One represents danger and the other represents opportunity.

— John 7. Kennedy —

AZQUOTES



DANGER

OPPORTUNITY



HOW ARE CONSUMERS CHANGING THEIR **BEHAVIOUR?**



IN THIS PHASE OF THE CRISIS, GOVERNMENTS ARE TRYING TO CONTAIN THE VIRUS, MAINLY TO SLOW DOWN THE OUTBREAK



THIS WILL INEVITABLY LEAD TO SOCIAL DISTANCING

EVEN IN COUNTRIES THAT HAVE NOT BEEN HIT YET, PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY STARTED AVOIDING SOCIAL CONTACT

	AUS	CAN	FRA	DEU	ITA	JPN	RUS	UK	US
Washing hands more often	49%	61%	45%	49%	48%	69%	62%	48%	57%
Avoiding all air travel	33%	32%	29%	27%	21%	17%	31%	22%	36%
Using more disinfectants	29%	31%	22%	25%	28%	32%	30%	25%	38%
Avoid large gatherings of people	28%	26%	27%	31%	23%	68%	45%	21%	31%
Avoiding any other kind of travel	19%	20%	6%	14%	13%	33%	19%	10%	20%
Avoiding shaking hands with others	17%	23%	15%	17%	9%	26%	17%	16%	28%
Wearing a face mask	11%	7%	11%	5%	9%	62%	24%	6%	13%
None of the above	30%	27%	32%	31%	29%	7%	20%	34%	24%

Which of the following actions are you taking today to protect yourself from the Coronavirus?

7- Source: Ipsos Corona Virus Wave 2 (February 2020)



AS A RESULT PEOPLE WILL BE SPENDING A LOT MORE TIME ON THEIR OWN OR WITH THEIR CLOSE FAMILY

This leads to both welcomed & unwelcomed consequences

More time with the family



More time for yourself



But also stress, anxiety and a sense of isolation





WE EXPECT THIS TO HAVE A DIRECT IMPACT ON CONSUMER BEHAVIOUR, WITH MANY CATEGORIES SUFFERING





CHINESE CONSUMERS PURCHASED MORE MEDICAL CARE, F&B, ONLINE SERVICES DURING CNY; WHILE LESS APPARELS AND BEAUTY PRODUCTS Category purchase change% (purchase more% - purchase less%)

Staying at home has become most people's normal lifestyle...



Source: China Consumer Survey of COVID 19 N=1104 (Health care/Epidemic prevention products) 38 Medical Purchase more (Rice, Flour, Grain, Oil, Seasoning 36 /Fresh/Convenience Food) Food (Online Education/Entertainment/Medical) 19 **Online services** (Dairy/Packaged drinks/Wine) 13 Dairy/Beverage Maternal and Infant/Pet supplies -3 Personal care products (Beauty makeup/Personal -4 less cleaning and care products) Purchase -6 **Tourism Products** Mobile Phone Digital/Car/Real estate -7 /Luxury/Financial products -9 Beauty products and services Offline activities -10 Sports/clothing -17



PEOPLE MAKE MORE USE OF HOME DELIVERY



Meituan, one of the biggest food delivery companies in China, it is receiving four times the number of orders it got during the same period last year. And while food delivery in China is generally used by people who eat alone, the company noted a big increase in orders meant for more than one person.*

Source: *Business Insider



MEDIA STREAMING OFFERS A GREAT WAY TO PASS SOME TIME

Netflix and other stay at home streaming services can be expected to benefit









PHYSICAL EXCERCISE AT HOME

Indoor exercise boom amid efforts to curb novel coronavirus outbreak

province, conducted a free 90-minute fitness course online late last month. The outbreak of the novel corona-

virus has kept millions of Chinese activities since late January, so says Fan. indoor exercise has become an The fitness coach adds that the The Chinese sports community, from individuals like Fan to the 300.

sports authorities at all levels, have been actively promoting indoor around the country have already Jan 29. demic.

China's General Administration pictures and videos. of Sport has called upon sports For example, the Beijing Municipal

coach with Jinan Hot Blood Fitness mote simple and scientific exercis-Studio in East China's Shandong es at home and further fitness knowledge, and advocate a healthy lifestyle via various media during the epidemic.

"I believe that regular physical exercise can protect against illness, like Fan from partaking in outdoor especially in a time such as this,"

> number of participants viewing his courses have increased to more than Sports Bureau released a complete local social sports instructors to

In fact, sports departments released a series of indoor exercise programs with accompanying texts,

I believe that regular physical exercise can protect against illness, especially in a time such as this."

Fan Dongquan, a fitness coach in Jinan, Shandong province, who conducts a free fitness course online

set of at-home workouts, including demonstrate the methods on vidstretching and strength training, on eo, so that citizens can follow the

Rizhao Municipal Sports Bureau of Shandong province has also home. released instructions for tai chi Yantai of Shandong province also and equipment.

ancient Chinese exercise, baduan- net, issued a new Healthy China

Baduanjin, literally meaning "eight-section brocade" is one of the tics, including tai chi and qigong, most common forms of Chinese qig-which channels the body's inner Beijing Sport University recently

issued a video of baduanjin via their WeChat account and had more than the Health Qigong Management

The Chinese Health Qigong Association released a combination of Chinese exercises on WeChat. Qigong, a Chinese system of prescribed experts to learn how to work out at physical exercises or movements efforts to promote qigong, so that performed in a meditative state, is more people can benefit from it," Sports bureaus in Qingdao and free of restrictions such as venue says Cui. and yoga. Meanwhile, they invited released the health-promoting The State Council, China's cabi-

jin, with detailed instructions on guideline in July 2019, which promised support for fitness programs with Chinese characterisenergy to achieve physical and mental harmony. Cui Yongsheng, a staff member at

Center of the General Administration of Sport, notes that practicing qigong will play a positive role in the fight against the epidemic.

"In the future, we will make more



PEOPLE ARE SPENDING MORE TIME CLEANING THEIR HOME

People's homes have never looked cleaner, as people use the extra time at home to make sure everything looks tidy & neat





THE EXTRA TIME AT HOME IS USED FOR COOKING & BAKING





STAY AT HOME CLUB NIGHTS TIK TOK DEEJAY SETS





HUMOR AS COPING MECHANISM

The Corona virus has inspired a lot of social media jokes



Corona sei Dank: Mann wäscht sich erstmals seit 20 Jahren Hände nach Toilettengang

www.der-postillon.com

Most used emoji in Italy









The news: Corona virus can only be transmitted by human contact.

Gamers:





AN EXTRA STIMULUS TO PURCHASE A CAR

IMPACT OF CORONA-VIRUS TO NEW CAR PURCHASE IN CHINA

NEW CAR PURCHASE INTENTION IS INCREASING AMONG CONSUMERS WHO CURRENTLY DO NOT HAVE A CAR, DUE TO LACK OF TRUST OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

CHINESE CONSUMERS WHO CURRENTLY DO NOT HAVE A CAR (n=601)

72%

(Strongly) enhanced purchase intention

INCREASED INTEREST IN MAKING SUSTAINABLE CHOICES



In China we see an evolution in people's attitude towards sustainability. They expect to look for more organic products, show an increased concern about pollution, and want to protect nature



HOW SHOULD BRANDS **RESPOND?**

"Brands are **nervous about appearing to profit** from this crisis. The conversation is being had in many client and agency organizations, but they have to **be absolutely sure** they are helping people not just making money from it, or being seen to make money from it."

Owen Lee, chief creative officer of FCB Inferno (The Drum)



WHAT CAN BRANDS DO?



AVOID BEING SEEN AS OPPORTUNISTIC



Dutch consumer electronics webshop Coolblue has stopped all marketing and has increased prices as they are expecting supply problems



GIVE COMFORT

Every paused journey will eventually restart. Louis Vuitton hopes you and your beloved ones stay safe and healthy

按下暂停键的旅行, 终将再次启程。

路易威登祝愿您与您所爱之人
平安健康

LOUIS VUITTON





ACTS OF KINDNESS



Lush is inviting everybody to come into the store and wash their hands. The increased footfall is of course a nice side-effect.

Many airlines, including Virgin Atlantic, British Airways and KLM-Air France, are waving costs to rebook flights in the next few months.





Amazon makes sure nobody is profiteering from Corona virus after suppliers have raised prices for masks and sanitizers by up to 2000%



GET THROUGH THE CRISIS IN STYLE









THINK VIRTUAL FIRST



Google has cancelled the physical part of Cloud Next '20, it's largest annual conference with C. 30k attendees. It will now be hosted as on online event.



More automakers are selling cars online in China as worried consumers stay away from showrooms to stop the spread of the coronavirus.



Many museums and art galleries are creating intercave exhibitions, so people can enjoy art without having to leave their homes.



INSPIRE PEOPLE ON HOW TO SPEND THEIR TIME

TV channel stimulates people to avoid the virus by staying at home and binge watch their content

SAFETY FIRST ;) BLIJF GEZELLIG THUIS EN BINGE BLIND GETROUWD ZO HOEF JE NIET NAAR THE GOOD DOCTOR

TRANSLATION **Safety First** ;). Stay at home and binge **Married at First Site** so you don't have to go see **The Good Doctor**





Home fitness equipment & services like Peloton are seeing an uptake in membership as people are looking for different, more exciting ways to exercise at home.



LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE. BUT HOW FAR CAN BRANDS GO?





It's ok when consumers do this, but of course brands need to be careful not to offend.



CONTINUE TO INVEST: BRANDS CAN GROW IN DISTRESSING TIMES EXAMPLES FROM THE GREAT RECESSION (2008)











KEY TAKEAWAYS



996

The Corona virus is impacting both short and long term behavior

Brands should empathize & provide solutions to help cope with this situation

Ipsos can help our clients navigate through these challenging times

BE SURE. ACT SMARTER.



