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Customer loyalty to a brand and the connection with Customer Experience

Interventions and systems that enhance customer loyalty. The conditions and practices for an improved Customer Experience. George Karlaftis writes.



by George Karlaftis*

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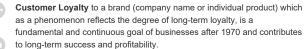
Most consumers understand what business incentives are and how to best use them in their purchases. But what was the cause that created this whole "industry" and when did it start?





Since the 1970s in most developed countries, the availability of products and services has exceeded demand for the first time. This meant that companies could no longer put a large number of products on the shelves expecting them to sell. Therefore, marketing and sales together began to evolve by giving incentives with the aim of influencing customer choices to increase demand and increase their revenues by emphasizing a continuous and dynamic "Customer Engagement".







Customer Experience (or CX), as well as the merging of the two into a single operational path.

Interventions and systems that enhance engagement

- Excellent customer service: Fundamental to building loyalty by engaging staff and solving problems or exceeding customer expectations that can boost loyalty
- <u>Personalization</u> by customizing products, but also experiences for practically personalized benefit of the buyers and development of the feeling of appreciation towards the customer base
- <u>High quality products/services:</u> Providing consistent quality and value that meets or exceeds customer expectations is fundamental to building

customer loyalty. Consistency in delivering quality is key, along with regularly seeking customer feedback for improvements.

- Creating emotional connections through storytelling, communication, and engagement by giving a sense of shared identity or emotional resonance to a brand, they are more likely to remain loyal, along with two-way communication, active listening to customers and addressing their concerns directly. This is combined with the continuous improvements of the services provided and the relationship with the customers.
- Finally, the implementation of devotion programs that offer rewards, discounts, exclusive access or other incentives can encourage recurring markets and maintain and increase market portion. Such programs create a sense of exclusivity and make customers feel that the business listens to their needs and desires, as well as rewarding their dedication.

The advanced CX ensures higher customer loyalty

The answer is affirmative. Improving customer experience / CX can lead to higher levels of commitment. A positive and unhindered customer experience can make a decisive contribution to building strong relationships between business and market with each consumer separately. When customers have a consistently positive experience with a company, they are more likely to develop a sense of confidence, satisfaction and dedication to this name. Here are some conditions, factors and practices that help improve CX and customer dedication:

Conditions for improved CX

- <u>Customer-centric culture</u>: An organization must have a customer-centric mindset embedded in its culture. Every employee must be committed to delivering exceptional customer experiences.
- <u>Data and insights (customer profiles)</u>: Collecting and analyzing customer data helps businesses better understand their customers. This information can be used to personalize interactions and tailor experiences to individual preferences.
- An additional CX-enhancing catalyst for developing customer engagement is the seamless omni-channel experience: Customers expect a consistent and seamless experience across different channels, including websites, mobile apps, social media and physical stores. Integrating them into market interaction and flexibility of use across all these channels is essential.

Practices for advanced CX

- Understanding the customer's journey through their relationship with each brand, from initial touchpoints to postpurchase interactions, helps identify dysfunctions. Mapping the customer journey enables businesses to create smoother and more efficient experiences.
- The implementation of dense "Voice-of-Customer" processes that allow customers to convey their opinions, such as surveys and feedback mechanisms or interaction in social networks, and allow businesses to collect customer opinions and assessments. This feedback can improve the context of the experience and make CX more effective.
- Evaluation of Indicators and feedback from customers: This is how areas that require improvement and communication of new proposals are identified by trained staff and digital channels upgrade CX as long as the above remain top priority actions.
- Proactive contact with customers where their needs are predicted through data and correlation analysis, providing relevant suggestions, useful for customers, significantly enhancing CX and consolidating their loyalty.



It is important to note that cultivating a climate of customer loyalty is not "built" easily and quickly. At the same time, the mechanism for improving CX must evolve in parallel and in a similar spirit, while it requires a deep understanding of customer needs and preferences, prioritizing how customer satisfaction is defined. Marketing executives are constantly working to improve the customer experience with the help of digital technology so that businesses can strengthen loyalty and give them a competitive advantage.

In conclusion, it is an ongoing process that requires a holistic approach by combining well-targeted strategies and consistently delivering the prescribed value to transactions while enhancing Customer Loyalty step by step.

* Founder/Entrepreneur

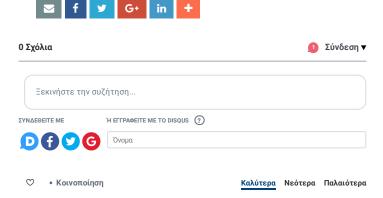
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